

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

455 MARKET STREET, SUITE 228
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
FAX (415) 904-5400
TDD (415) 597-5885



Th7a8a

**Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 &
Coastal Permit No. 9-20-0603**

NOVEMBER 17, 2022

CORRESPONDENCE

From Interested Parties



WALD RUHNKE & DOST
ARCHITECTS LLP

2340 Garden Road
Suite 100
Monterey, CA
93940-5347
T: (831) 649-4642
F: (831) 649-3530
www.wrdarch.com

ATTN: Mr. Tom Luster
California Coastal Commission
Energy and Ocean Resources Unit
445 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94101

Sent by email to: Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov

Regarding: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Mr. Luster,

Wald, Ruhnke & Dost Architects urges you to recommend the approval of the desalination plant to complete the Monterey Water Supply Project.

As architects, we know that consistent and sustainable water supply is absolutely vital to the continued success and growth of the Monterey community. We believe that the approval of CDP Application No. 9-20-0603 is necessary to provide a steady supply of water to the Monterey Peninsula.

California has been through over 3 years of droughts, which are becoming commonplace. Reservoir levels are at an all-time low; Rivers and creeks are dried up. Due to climate change, we are running out of water quickly, and continuously drawing from our aquifer is not safe or sustainable. The only clear, long-term solution to this water crisis is the desalination plant.

As demand for water increases, our water supply is rapidly declining. We must approve the desalination plant to ease this burden on our current resources.

Sincerely,

Henry Ruhnke (Principal)

November 1, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Members of the Coastal Commission,

As the managing Director for the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry is the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions of dollars and thousands of jobs in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and our local economy. Without a consistent water source, housing and labor shortages continue to plague the hospitality industry, while threatening our ability to put visitor dollars and hotel taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Chris Sommers
Managing Director
Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa



October 24, 2022

Mr. Tom Luster
California Coastal Commission
Energy and Ocean Resources Unit
445 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94101

Re: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Mr. Luster,

Please register my endorsement of California American Water's desalination project proposal. It has been a long time in coming and is our best option for providing a sustainable (and hopefully abundant) water supply for now and future decades. Our area cannot afford to put off having such a water supply any longer. The powers that be agreed years ago that the peninsula's water needs would be best supported by a "three-legged" stool approach. The only leg that's sustainable through any season and any drought, is desalination. Only in more recent years have a group of NIMBY activists managed to take over the Water Management District board, resulting in an effort to eliminate Cal Am's proposed plant.

It is encouraging that the Commission recently approved a very similar plant in Orange County, except Cal Am's plant will be under CPUC-regulated private ownership. Ownership should make no difference in the decision; the technology and environmental sensitivity of the project, having been found appropriate on the California Coast, should take precedence.

I am a small businessman, an architect, and have seen our community and businesses flounder, and many never even see the light of day, because the limited water supply takes precedence over land use directives. One client waited 10 years for their turn in line for water to build their home in Pacific Grove, finished about a decade ago. That's not even possible now under current restrictions.

It's important that the Coastal Commission approve this project, and let the land agencies govern land use, not the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Douglas Roberts", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Douglas Roberts,
Principal Architect
JHW Architects, Inc.



October 25, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As the Executive Director for Visit Carmel, the destination marketing organization for Carmel-by-the-Sea, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry is the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions in dollars and thousands of jobs in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and our local economy. Without a consistent water source, housing and labor shortages continue to plague the hospitality industry, while threatening our ability to put visitor dollars and hotel taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Amy Herzog, Executive Director
Visit Carmel
Amy.herzog@carmelcalifornia.com



HALF MOON BAY
CYPRESS INN ON MIRAMAR BEACH

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
CANDLE LIGHT INN
CARRIAGE HOUSE INN
SVENDSGAARD'S INN
WAYSIDE INN

October 20, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

I'm writing you today to voice my strong support for the approval of Cal-Am's application to build a desalination plant so the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project can provide critical new source water for the Monterey Peninsula. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to ensure economic security in our region.

Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis here on the Monterey Peninsula, a crisis that threatens our hospitality and tourism economy, which is the number one industry here in our water district. Without a consistent water source, housing and labor shortages continue to plague the hospitality industry, while threatening our ability to put visitor dollars and essential hotel taxes back into the community.

Currently, the lack of replacement water from the cutback of the Carmel River allocation has extended the Cease-and-Desist Order on the Monterey Peninsula for going on 10 years and has put our region significantly behind, unable to construct affordable housing for our workforce and communities, as mandated by the RHNA housing cycle. I fear that if Cal-Am fails to get your approval, their project will die, and ratepayers will get stuck with the tab of all the work that has been done to date, with no progress made toward our crucial need for a solution.

Further, it is estimated it might be another 10-12 years to put a new desalination project together, with no end in sight of our current drought, and no viable path for meeting RHNA requirements or improving our housing crisis.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Respectfully,

Tom Reiser, Owner
Inns-by-the-Sea, Inc.



2NW of 4th Avenue on San Carlos Street, P.O. Box 1195, Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921

831-624-2745 (phone), 831-624-0159 (fax)

October 20, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a long-time business owner and resident in Carmel-by-the-Sea, I am writing in support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region and I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable. Chronic drought and water shortages also hurt our workforce. Consider that a lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our housing crisis in the region, increasing housing costs and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Carrie Theis

President

Hofsas House Hotel



October 11, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Members of the Coastal Commission,

Like many regions in California, the situation is dire here on the Monterey Peninsula. This drought, decades long, is fracturing our economy and community, providing even more uncertainty in these uncertain economic times.

For far too many years this community has debated over what to do and, frankly, should have moved much more quickly. The problem has grown worse and worse, which is why we now desperately need the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. So I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project.

I am a second-generation business owner on the Monterey Peninsula. My father was an immigrant from south Asia who came here with nothing. Since then, my entire family has worked for the last 70 years to build successful businesses and to make the Monterey Peninsula a better place to live. I now employ more than 350 people through my restaurants and other businesses.

My family's success story all happened because when my parents moved here, they had a chance to buy a home and start a business. But both are out of reach for almost all immigrants today due to the artificially high cost of housing and unavailability of business opportunities resulting from the Monterey Peninsula's decades long self-imposed water shortage.

Instead, most of my employees must travel from out of the area to work because of the housing prices and without more water, the housing crisis here will only worsen. That will lead to more cars on the roads (the highways around here seem to be constantly clogged), more gas use, and more air pollution. And what of the people? Working-class people deserve and should be able to live here too. Our schools, local businesses, everybody is impacted by this.



California Coastal Commission Members
Page Two

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

The Monterey Peninsula's water problem has been festering for more than 25 years. We are under constant threat of water rationing, a continued moratorium on new housing, shuttered hotel rooms, and economic problems for everyone. This water project will protect the Carmel River and supply the water our community so badly needs. Please approve this project.

Thank you,

Chris Shake,
CEO Chris Shake Enterprises

CS:klr



Mr. Tom Luster
California Coastal Commission
Energy and Ocean Resources Unit
445 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94101

October 19, 2022

Re: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Mr. Luster and Commissioners,

I am writing you on behalf of Quail Lodge which is the oldest resort property on the Monterey Peninsula with the exception of The Lodge at Pebble Beach.

We have been involved as an active participant in the State Water Resources Control Board process since the early 1980s in an effort to obtain a long-term water supply for our community. We were a party to the process in 1995 where the State Water Resources Control Board ordered the community to obtain a new water supply and stop over pumping the Carmel River. For over 30 years, our community has failed to find a new water supply for the residents and businesses of the Peninsula, not because there wasn't a solution to that problem but because there are a large number of residents of the community who are willing to sacrifice the Carmel River so long as the lack of replacement water supply means that they can prevent new housing opportunities, new job opportunities, and maintain their "quality of life" as they have enjoyed it.

This has created an extreme hardship for businesses like ours that is already having a difficult time finding qualified employees in a post-pandemic market, and once hired, those employees are forced to drive extreme distances to come to work because of the lack of available housing on the Monterey Peninsula. Since it is not always sustainable for them to do so, the turnover alone makes it difficult to ensure the viability of the business. For decades we have heard "we would love to approve more housing but we just don't have the water".

For three decades one solution after another has failed, first because the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District didn't want a solution, then when we did obtain approval for a replacement dam on the Carmel River the voters turned down the bond issuance, then because the state legislature precluded California American from proceeding with the replacement dam, then because the first approved slant well desalination plant failed due to a dispute which arose between the County and the Marina Coast Water District.

California American has proceeded in good faith for almost a decade to obtain permitting and environmental analysis for a water supply project that will provide a secure long-term and reliable source of water for the Monterey Peninsula. Based on our history it is not that there are significant elements in the community that are trying to prevent the latest attempt to provide a water supply from reaching a successful conclusion.

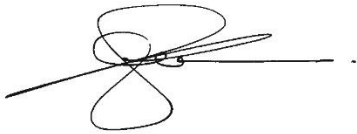


On behalf of Quail Lodge and our almost 200 employees, we implore you not to add this project to the list of failures of our community to provide a water supply which will meet the needs not just of the people who are living here, but the people who work here and the visitors who drive our economy.

I hope you will consider the fact that there is always one more project that is a better alternative and one more reason that we don't need a solution that has prevented our community from having a reliable water supply and prevented our river from recovering.

On behalf of Quail Lodge and its employees, we respectfully request that you approve the coastal development permit for the intake wells for California America Water Company so that this 35-year debate can end and our community will finally have a water supply.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a stylized, looped design that resembles a quail's head and neck, followed by a horizontal line.

Kai Lermen
General Manager



November 2, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a Restaurant in Pacific Grove, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry are the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions in dollars and thousands of jobs in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and our local economy. Without a consistent water source, housing and labor shortages continue to plague the hospitality industry, while threatening our ability to put visitor dollars and hotel taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Meral Alpay
Alpay/Fishwife Restaurant

November 1, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Members of the Coastal Commission,

As the managing Director for the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry is the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions of dollars and thousands of jobs in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and our local economy. Without a consistent water source, housing and labor shortages continue to plague the hospitality industry, while threatening our ability to put visitor dollars and hotel taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Chris Sommers
Managing Director
Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa

01 November 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

My name is John Galante. I am the Director of Operations for Alvarado Street Brewery in Monterey County, and I am writing on behalf of our business and our 200+ local employees in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP).

As a business operating (3) breweries and (3) restaurants all in Monterey County, the existing water crisis in Monterey County is of incredible concern for our industry and our local community and we are in dire need of a reliable water source.

Alvarado Street Brewery briefly looked at some opportunities for expansion in the city of Marina but decided against that option. It is unfortunate to say, but the decision not to develop a new business in Marina was made easier by the lack of water availability and the uncertainty of a future water source.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities. The MPSWP will also directly impact business decisions on where to operate and grow throughout Monterey County.

There is no beer without water, hence there is no brewery business without water. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

John Galante, Director of Operations
Alvarado Street Brewery

November 1, 2022

California Coastal Commission

Re: Denial of California American Water's Application 9-20-0603 for a Coastal Development Permit

Please deny California American Water's application for a Coastal Development Permit as not being in the public interest. In my prior letter, I pointed out that the application was not in the public interest for at least the following reasons:

- a) the water production projections for California American's desalination plant ("the desalination plant") are outdated and far exceed the projected water demand over the life of the desalination plant; b) there is an environmentally superior alternative available; and c) there is a lower cost alternative available.

These points are still correct despite the facts that political pressure has been applied for approval of desalination projects and that Cal Am keeps trying to use misdirection to obscure the fact that the project is not in the public interest.

Certainly, the governor does intend blanket approval of all desalination projects, and would not support a misguided, expensive, environment unfriendly, and unneeded desalination plant. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion ("PWME") Project meets the projected water demands for the Monterey Peninsula, while mitigating the effects on the environment and costing less than the desalination plant.

Cal Am's interest appears to be directed more to providing profits for its shareholders than to providing the most environment friendly, lowest cost water to its customers. Cal Am attempts to misdirect the conversation by proposing a phased introduction of the desal plant. However, the CPUC said no to the proposed 4.8 million gallons per day plant, because such a plant would increase the cost of water. The CPUC recognized the smaller plant is not in the public interest, and so should the Commission.

The PWME Project is projected to produce less greenhouse gases than the desalination plant. Thus, the desalination plant is not in the public interest. In general, desalinization requires substantially more energy than the purification process used by the PWME project. The excessive energy use of the desal project further harms the environment, and so is not in the public interest.

The cost to build and operate this desal plant has not been updated in six years. The projected cost of another infrastructure project—high speed rail—increased from \$64.2 billion in 2016 to \$113 billion in 2022—a seventy-six percent increase. How can the Commission even consider this project without having an accurate and up-to-date cost estimate? Is there any reason to expect that the six-year-old cost estimate will not increase by over fifty percent, and maybe even by seventy-five percent?

While the true cost to build and operate the desal plant is not known, the cost is certainly significantly more than the information before the Commission. Even the outdated projections result in excessive costs for unneeded water generation capacity that will saddle the Monterey Peninsula with yet another handicap in maintaining and further developing an economically diverse population. Cal Am argues that affordable housing and economic recovery is not feasible without the desal plant. This totally ignores that costs associated with the desal plant and its costly water will take money away from everyone that could be used for other purposes such as sustaining the economy and affordable housing. The negative effects of unnecessary costly water can be mitigated by denying California American Water's application for a Coastal Development.

Clearly, the desalination plant is not in our community's interest. It benefits Cal Am shareholders, while creating unnecessary environmental damage and unnecessary financial burden for the Monterey Peninsula. I ask you to deny this permit.

Forrest Gunnison
Carmel, CA

From: [H. Hur](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny CalAm desalination project permit
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 10:58:22 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners,

I have been a resident of Marina since 2018 and I'm proud to live in this growing city full of diversity. I'm a professor and researcher. I have recently heard of CalAm desalination project, which will take away Marina's natural resources and even damage Marina's environment. I'm completely against this project.

Regardless of our skin color, educational, and economic background, we desire to live in a clean and healthy environment and would like to preserve the gifts we have around us, which include what was given to us by the surrounding nature. Any projects that cause damage to these gifts should be reconsidered and removed.

As a citizen, loving Marina, I truly hope that the Coastal Commission will deny CalAm desalination project permit.

Thank you for reading this email.

Regards,
Hyunsoo Hur



California Coastal Commission,

Please support the City of Marina's decision to **DENY the permit** to build a desalinization plant on pristine ESHA coastline when a more feasible and environmentally friendly alternative is available. Pure Water Monterey, the Monterey Peninsula's recycled potable water project, was one of 11 projects recently receiving a national award for outstanding engineering achievement.

Although the unapproved desalinization project has already burdened Marina residents with millions in legal expenses, The California Coastal Commission has an opportunity to once again balance the scales of justice for our small under resourced city and its residents.

My family is a military working-class family that has settled in Marina, in-part because of the the residents who care deeply about the environment and the California Coast. Despite historically being over burdened by all of the region's industrial complexes (the landfill, sewage treatment, etc.) the people of Marina still have the courage to speak up for Environmental Justice.

Respectfully,

Brian McCarthy & Haze Campbell (Residents of Marina)



From: [Christine Allen](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Fwd: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 12:26:58 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff:

My name is Christine Fernandez-Allen and I have lived in Marina with my husband, Doug, for three and a half years. We are both retired law enforcement and after working for twenty-five years in public service, we finally bought our dream retirement home in Sea Haven. We are both very active in our community and enjoy volunteering in various local entities, such as The Food Bank of Monterey County and the Monterey County SPCA. We enjoy spending time on our beautiful coastline and often walk our dog along the walking trails here in Marina and of course, on our gorgeous beaches.

We are unable to speak at the November meeting so we are writing to ask the Commission to deny the Cal-Am desalination project that will harm Marina's coastline and have a significant effect on our city's drinking water. Our city will have no benefit from this project and we do not support for profit programs that threaten our coastal habitats and our access to the coastline here in Marina.

Please deny the CalAm Slant well project!

Thank you,

Christine Fernandez-Allen and Douglass Allen

I



From: [Mark Rhodes](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project - Marina, CA
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 10:18:45 AM

Dear Coastal Commissioners, executive director John Ainsworth and Staff,
Greetings Honorable Commissioners and Staff, my name is Mark Rhodes, my wife (Hope) and I reside at 2731 Bungalow Dr in Marina. We are both retired on fixed incomes. We have become aware of this this continuing issue (ongoing for more than two years now). What is going on? The Coastal Commission rejected this two years ago! Has the science changed any? (Not to my knowledge!). Why don't we put forth a desalination plant similar to SoCal? This using or affecting the ground water is UNACCEPTABLE!

You will harm Marina and its residents if the current project moves forward. Please reject the current blueprint as presented.

Mark and Hope Rhodes



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Daren Dillon](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal-Am Desalination Project
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 9:17:22 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My wife and I, Daren and Nancy Dillon, are residence of the City of Marina.

We have lived in Marina for many years and have fallen in love with this community and its people. We help support many local functions and do our best to look out for and protect the community with live in. I'm an engineer and my wife a spa owner. As an engineer, I see how the process of desalination works and why it can be a useful tool for water needs. My issue is with the slant wells that Cal-Am is proposing to be used in Marina. These slant wells, as designed, will have a grave impact on the water supply of Marina. If things go south with this project, as they surely will, Cal-Am will simply walk away and leave the City of Marina left to deal with the fallout.

**** Please Deny the Cal-Am project.



Sincerely,

Daren & Nancy Dillon

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From: [Kamille Stevens](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 9:01:45 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Hello CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,
My name is Kamille Stevens, and my husband's name is Travis Jobe; We are both lifelong residents of Marina, CA. Travis (Korean American) and I (African American and Puerto Rican) enjoyed growing up in this culturally and ecologically diverse area. I work at CSU Monterey Bay as a Budget Analyst, and he works for the Naval Postgraduate School as a Mailroom Clerk.

Last year, Marina residents made it very clear that we do not want CalAm on our beautiful coastline, especially north of our sanctuary beach, which would disrupt its delicate ecosystem. Unfortunately, my husband and I may not be able to speak at the Nov 17 meeting, so we are making it known again that we **do not** support the CalAM Slant Well Project. We ask that you make the right decision for Marina residents and wildlife. **Please deny the CalAm Slant Well Project.**



From: [Galia Baron](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Program
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 8:52:54 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director and staff,

We really don't need a desal plant on our beautiful beach. Our town should not be treated as the backwaters and dumping grounds (literally) of Monterey, Carmel, and Asilomar.

I live in Marina, a walking distance from the beach, and enjoy it every day. I was happy to see the last sand mining operation on continental US closing and the manmade lake finally filling up with sand.



Here are some of the photos I took yesterday on my walk on the beach. A desal plant will destroy all of it. Our beach and ocean and their rightful inhabitants (some of which are endangered) are all protected and should remain protected.



Thank you for doing the right thing: denying the CalAm Slant Well Project and protecting our beaches.

Thank you,

Galia Baron
Marina CA

From: [Kellie Wood](#)
To: [John Aisworth](#)
Subject: [Long Beach Desalination Project Issues](#)
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2014 10:14 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioner, Executive Director John Aisworth and staff:



My name is Kellie Wood and I have lived in Marina for two years in the Sea Haven development. Previously my husband and I lived in Carmel and raised three children on our beautiful Monterey Peninsula. I am retired from CUSD and my husband is a contractor that has built and remodeled many homes in our area. We love to walk on Marina beach and see the Sooty Plover thriving in its sensitive habitat. We cannot speak at the November meeting, but hope that you will protect our water, beaches, and rights. Please deny the CalAm Water Well project.
Thank you,
Kellie Wood
Sent from my iPad

From: [Myra malaga](#)
To: [California Coastal Commission](#)
Subject: [Fwd: Cal Am Slant Well Project](#)
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 7:52:11 PM

California Coastal Commissioners, John Ainsworth and staff.

Nadine Corn and I, Myra Maedo-Malaga have lived in Marina for a long time. We have raised our respective families and our children are productive members of this society. We request your assistance in keeping Marina a sustainable community for our grandchildren's future. I have 3 and Nadine has 8 plus great grandchildren.

What does sustainable mean to me?? It means investing in the future so my family can enjoy Marina, with free access to the beaches, identifying the fauna and flora of our sand dunes, bicycle paths in abundance, camping etc etc. Our natural resources are limited.

Please vote NO to CalAm's application for a desalination/ slant well plant.

Respectfully,
Myra Maedo-Malaga
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: myra malaga <myra.malaga@gmail.com>
Date: October 30, 2022 at 8:00:21 PM CST
To: myra malaga <myra.malaga@gmail.com>
Subject: Cal am



From: [Steve](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please Deny the CalAm Desal Project Permit
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 1:30:06 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff,

We are Steve & Liz Barnett and we have been residents of Marina for the past five years. We are recently retired and spend our time volunteering at our local church and helping our family. We also spend many hours each week cleaning our local beaches, parks and neighborhood. We care deeply about our community and the people who live here.

We are requesting that you deny the CalAm Desal Permit application based upon the following reasons:

1. Our community of Marina and the surrounding environmentally sensitive habitats would be disproportionately and unjustly negatively impacted, while receiving none of the purported benefits.
2. Our community of Marina is already negatively impacted and disproportionately burdened by a landfill, sewage treatment plant, Cemex plant, Fort Ord cleanup, etc.
3. The cost of the proposed CalAm Desal project is excessive and will be passed on to ratepayers.
4. There is a viable and sufficient option in Pure Water Monterey, which can be expanded.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steve & Liz Barnett
244 9th St
Marina, CA 93933



James Kendall <jkendall@mahoneycommercial.com>

To:

- Luster, Tom@Coastal
Sun 10/30/2022 11:25 AM

To Whom it May Concern

As a lifelong resident of the Monterey Peninsula, I fully support the construction of Cal Am's Desal Plant in Marina and urge you to do so as well.

By trade I am a commercial real estate agent in Monterey County and daily have conversations "educating" property owners and tenants about our area's strange water restrictions. I often work with commercial property owners who have the perfect building for a residential conversion (thereby adding units to our Regional Housing Numbers as mandated by the State of California) but are unable to because of the water restrictions. Our state-wide housing shortage is even more acute in Monterey County than elsewhere due to these water restrictions. The housing crisis is a simple "supply and demand equation" - prices are thru the roof because difficulty in building due to red tape in California, and more specifically in our area also because of our water restrictions artificially restricting supply. With more units available, prices will come down in both rents and home sales.

Having a "boots on the ground" perspective being in commercial real estate has demonstrated to me that there is plenty desire to add more housing units to our area; the desire and market conditions are there. But until we solve our water issues for the long term (Monterey One Water is only kicking the can down the road and not a long-term solution) our area will continue to suffer and the American Dream of home ownership will only become more and more out of reach.

Therefore, I plead with you to approve Cal Am's Desal Plant in Marina to allow more housing to be built. Our area is in desperate need of it. This letter to the Editor of the Carmel Pine Cone about our water needs sums up the issue well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Letters to the Editor

The Pine Cone encourages submission of letters which address issues of public importance. Letters cannot exceed 350 words, and must include the author's name and home town. We reserve the right to determine which letters are suitable for publication and to edit for length and clarity.

The Pine Cone only accepts letters to the editor by email. Please submit your letters to mail@carmelpinecone.com

How much water we need

Dear Editor,

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District would have you believe we have plenty of water for current and future demand and therefore a desal plant is not needed. This is totally false. Anybody with even a little common sense can understand that our water demand has been artificially restricted by a 25-year permit moratorium, drought conditions and tiered water rates.

First, the moratorium we have been under for more than 25 years has created a huge pent-up demand. We haven't been allowed to remodel, build on lots of record, expand a business or build desperately needed affordable housing. With a desal plant we can lift the moratorium and meet current and future water demand.

Second, drought conditions aren't going away. We have all been very careful to use as little water as possible — just look

at all the brown lawns in your neighborhood. The desal plant will help us live with drought conditions and, while not wasting water, we can return to some sort of normal water use.

Third, the tiered water rates put added pressure on all of us to use less. Most of Cal Am's costs to provide us water are fixed, so if Cal Am provides more, the cost per gallon goes down. We all complain about the increase in the price of gasoline, and desal water is going to go up, too, but we can minimize the increase by getting rid of the tiered rates.

Please email the coastal commission at tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov with your support for Cal Am's application for the desal plant, or attend the coastal commission hearing in Salinas on Nov. 17.

Jack Angel, Monterey

What school board lacks

Dear Editor,

Letter writers Ted Knight, Bill Schrier and Lisa Brazil must know that the big problems with our government-run educational system are not isolated issues.

For instance, the members of the Carmel Unified School District board earlier this year held a public board meeting. They suddenly left the room full of parents for a secret executive meeting. Fine. But they did not inform the parents as to when they would return. The board members had retreated to an adjacent classroom, staying there for hours.

Finally, some parents came looking for them. Several parents found them simply

See LETTERS page 30A

James Kendall
DRE# 02010395

W: (831) 646-1919 Ext. 112
C: (831) 275-0129
E: jkendall@mahoneycommercial.com
www.mahoneycommercial.com
501 Abrego St. | Monterey, CA 93940



I have not verified any of the information prepared by other parties and contained/attached in this email transmission. Please satisfy yourselves as to the issues discussed in these documents.

From: egoldstone@me.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 12:52:49 PM

Hello,

I am Elaine Goldstone a newish resident of Monterey County and East Garrison, Marina. I'm very concerned about the future of our water quality and available sources. I am opposed to the building of the CalAm desalination plant on Marina's sensitive coast line. I work as a State Park Volunteer cleaning up the Fort Ord Dunes SP and it's sensitive habitat. Please stop this permit and project. It will not service Marina and it's residents, but only pose harm the local habitat and water sources.

Thank you,
Elaine Goldstone



From: [FREDRICK IGNACIO](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 6:13:46 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:



I'm Fred Ignacio. I've lived in Marina since 1970. My dog and I often go for walks and runs on the beach in Marina.

Not only will CalAm's planned Desal Project ruin the beach in Marina, but Marina isn't even served by CalAm--we won't get to use any of the desalinated water. If they insist on building a desal plant, let them build it in an area that is served by CalAm.

Please deny the CalAm Desalination Project in Marina.

Thanks,
Fred Ignacio and his dog, Kai

From: [anne.vallone](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am Desalination Project Permit
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 4:12:41 PM

Dear Coastal Commissioners,
Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:

My name is Anne Vallone. I moved to Marina from So Cal 6 years ago and have enjoyed this beautiful area.

I love the beaches in Maria and take pictures almost daily to share on social media. I would hate to see these pristine beaches change.

Please deny the Cal Am Slant Well project!

Thanks you

Respectfully,
Anne Vallone



Anne Vallone
Annes Nature Shots
<https://annevallone.smugmug.com>

From: arthur@katchdata.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Give Pure Water Monterey a Chance - No on Cal AM Desal Project
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 9:37:36 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Hi!

I am writing to you to get your NOT to approve the Cal AM Desal Plant in Monterey County.

First you should know two things:

1. I have worked on desal projects in the past, so I understand the tech and economics
2. I was generally in favor of desal given the long-term aridification of CA and our need for water to support current needs and future growth.

However, having studied the situation, I would ask you NOT to approve the Cal Am Desal plant for the following reasons:

1. Pure Water Monterey is approved and can deliver almost as much water as Cal Am Desal at lower cost (see image below)
2. The environmental impacts of the desal plant are much more significant than Pure Water Monterey, especially on coastal dunes and habitat, as well as CO2 emissions.

I am not saying never build the plant – it may be needed in the future. But right now, let's give Pure Water Monterey a chance to deliver on current needs. If it isn't sufficient, then we can reconsider the Cal AM Desal project.

Feel free to reach out to me for further feedback.

Thank you

Arthur Coleman

ONLINEMATTERS.COM

Arthur L. Coleman
CEO
13289 Middle Canyon Road
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
650-867-8565
Skype: onlinematters

Comparison of Pure Water Monterey Expansion & Cal Am Desal

COST & DEMAND ISSUES

PURE WATER MONTEREY EXPANSION	CAL AM DESAL
Current annual demand for Monterey Peninsula: 5-Year average is 10,109 AFY, 3-year average is 9,788 AFY.	
Adds 2,250 acre-feet per year (AFY) to water supply. Total available water supply 11,700 AFY.	Adds 6,252 acre-feet per year (AFY) to water supply. Total available water supply 15,602 AFY.
Estimated cost per acre-foot \$2,077.	Cost per acre-foot is \$6,094 (at 86% capacity). If capacity drops, cost rises \$7,300-\$8,300 per AF.
Cost with O&M over 30 years is \$190 million. Lower cost from non-profit public agency.	Cost with O&M over 30 years is \$1.2 Billion. Substantially raises ratepayer costs.
Produces enough water for 40-50 years of growth. Historic demand for new development is 16.4 AFY.	Oversized for current need of 10,109 AFY (5 yr. avg.) Exaggerates future demand.
Meets peak demand.	Meets peak demand.
	Cost of replacing fresh water drawn from Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin to meet Agency Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

PURE WATER MONTEREY EXPANSION	CAL AM DESAL
Expands existing approved project. No coastal impact.	Destroys 7 acres of coastal dunes and habitat. New construction in coastal and inland areas.
Energy consumption is 5,819 megawatt hours per year. (12 MWh - PG&E / 5,807 MWh - landfill biogas.)	Energy consumption is 37,954 megawatt hours per year (PG&E).
Produces 2 metric tons of CO2 per year (46 MT CO2 over 30 years).	Produces 4,993 metric tons of CO2 per year (149,776 MT CO2 over 30 years).
Protects against seawater intrusion.	Project must create seawater intrusion to work.
Captures and purifies existing wastewater for indirect potable use and stores it in Seaside Groundwater Basin. Improves water quality in Basin. Provides drought reserve. Reduces current discharge to Bay.	Draws 16,000 AFY of groundwater from Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin with experimental slant wells. Adds brine discharge to Bay.

Brian LeNeve
P.O. Box 1012
Carmel, CA 93921

California Coastal Commission
Tom Luster Senior Environmental Scientist
California Coastal Commission
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, California 9410

Via Email tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov

RE: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

October 28, 2022

Dear Mr. Luster,

I am writing in support of Cal Am's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

I believe there is additional information you must analyze before you make the staff recommendation. With the additional information, this project in combination with other projects is the only way to secure a long-term drought-proof water supply to replace illegal water from the Carmel River.

I have been involved in Monterey Peninsula water issues for over 25 years working with the Carmel River Steelhead Association and with Salinas Valley water issues as a part of the Working Group that set up the Salinas Valley Ground Water Basin Sustainability Agency. This gives me a unique perspective on the water problems of both areas.

Those opposed to the desal plant are betting on Pure Water Monterey to solve the peninsula's water shortage and therefore betting that the Salinas Valley will not try and claim the water used for Pure Water Monterey for the Salinas Valley.

The idea that Pure Water Monterey can provide the Peninsula with enough water is just not realistic. When the permit for the water used in Pure Water Monterey comes up for renewal the Salinas Valley will most surely claim that water for themselves to supplement the critically over drafted Salinas Valley Ground Water Basin. We must also consider what a continuing drought will have on the supply for Pure Water Monterey as well as potential changes in farming practices that will affect that water supply. In short, Pure Water Monterey is not a long-term drought-proof water supply.

Furthermore, I do not believe that even with Pure Water Monterey Phase II the peninsula will have enough water for the now required future growth. MPWMD, in their "Supply and Demand"

analysis, used the best possible (but likely unachievable) prediction for future available water when for 20 years we have not produced what MPWMD projects. An example of that is MPWMD claims of 1,300 AF of water from ASR when the 20-year average is under 650 AF and, considering we are predicted to continue with drought conditions, even 650 AF may not be achieved, so we are starting with a 650 AF water deficit from what MPWMD predicted. MPWMD also used the lowest possible growth predictions which will be exceeded. SB 9 where countless homes on the peninsula can now build "granny units" is a good example of that. And now, the state is mandating that every city and county build a large number of new housing units, which will dramatically increase the amount of water actually needed. The Monterey Peninsula cannot base water needs on faulty supply numbers or low demand numbers; we must plan for realistic events if not the worst possible events.

I am imploring you and the Coastal Commissioners to put an end to decades worth of searching for a water source for the Monterey Peninsula. The Monterey Water Supply Project is the only new water source for the Monterey Peninsula that will permanent.

Please have the staff recommend supporting the desal plant and please see this letter gets to all commissioners.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian LeNeve", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian LeNeve

From: [Judy Strojny](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 4:09:45 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff,

I am Judy Strojny. Below is my photo with my granddaughter Claudia shortly before my husband and I moved to our current home in Marina just over three years ago.



The overall purpose of this email is to personally request you deny the CalAm Desalination Project.

I could list all the scripted points, which you are undoubtedly already familiar with:

- Imposition on Marina's water rights
- Marina receives no benefits, during this illegal sucking of ground water (unfair and harmful)
- Negative environmental and habitat impact (including Western Snowy Plover population disruption)
- Stanford AEM presentation shows harm to ground water reserve
- Future unaffordable water to our area
- Feasible less damaging alternative is available (Pure Water Monterey recycled water)
- etc.

At the end of the day, my goal is thriving in life rather than just hanging on to survive. As retired federal employees (living on fixed incomes), my husband I recently moved from large metropolitan areas to experience the joys of life provided by living in the beautiful and tranquil Marina located on the Central California Coast. I believe, Marina can thrive as a community while enjoying the natural beauty of our open landscape and wildlife (both on the ground and in our coastal waters). This thriving promise and hope of the future is definitely preferred over the option of a forced survival mode imposed by the illegal take over by a large corporation of our most treasured commodity, water. In conclusion, I was present during your September 17, 2020, hearing and I am pleased with the thoughtful consideration you gave to our concerns. Please deny the CalAm project that will harm Marina's future.

Thank you,
Judy Strojny,
Citizen of Marina

From: [Alex Stewart](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: DENY CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 4:01:23 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Alex Stewart and my family moved to Marina in 1968. My brother and I were raised here (Del Mar, Los Arboles, Seaside High) and when our folks died I bought his half of the house out and have lived here since 2001. I was a single father and my son was in the third grade when we moved here in 2001, so he went to J.C. Crumpton elementary, Los Arboles Middle School and Marina High.

I am retired, now, but worked in commercial printing plants for 44 years. My son teaches Special Ed (degrees at MPC and CSUMB) and he and his girlfriend live in Marina. We love living here, where diversity isn't just a catch-word. Going through the Marina schools is a wonderful education in 'people'. Sometimes he was the only white kid in his class and that is a great way to grow up!

Please do not approve Cal Am's permit for slant wells and a desalinization plant. Pure Water Monterey's recycled water project will meet our water demands, is already functioning, leaves the beach unharmed and is much, much less expensive. Plus there is the environmental justice aspect.

As a boy I could go from my backyard to the beach before the freeway was constructed in 1973. As a father, I took my son to the beach numerous times and walked up to the lagoon where CEMEX is. I was so happy when the closing of the CEMEX deal was cemented (ha!) and part of the deal was that the beach would be restored to it's natural state. The thought of having all that open coastline between Marina and Moss Landing was uplifting.

The coastline is special and irreplaceable. Please do not let Cal Am needlessly industrialize that portion.

Thank you,
Alex Stewart



From: [Nancy Fortman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal-Am Desalination Project Permit
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 3:50:32 PM

Dear California Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff.



My name is Nancy Fortman; I am a 33 year resident of Marina. I am a retired private school teacher. I will not be able to speak at the November 17th meeting as I will be in the Chicago area helping with the care of my 95 year-old mother. I am a single woman grateful to be living in such a beautiful area. Our small town has its own unique character and is welcoming to all. I am extremely concerned about the CalAm Slant well desalination project proposed for Marina. There are so many levels of injustice surrounding this proposal.

I am sharing my concerns with you and asking you to deny the Cal-Am Slant Well Desalination project.

On March 8, 2019 you unanimously adopted the Environmental Justice Policy.

Environmental justice is defined as “the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies...which amended the Coastal Act and gives the Commission new authority to specifically consider environmental justice when making permit decisions.”

Marina qualifies as a disadvantaged community from the perspective of diverse census population, poverty levels, overburdening of regional projects of landfill and sewage plant, and high regional affordable housing requirements. Permitting Cal-Am's projects once again subjects the citizens of Marina to yet another harmful project of an illegal water grab that will negatively impact the sole source of water for Marina. **This does not support environmental justice.**

In 2017, the CEMEX sand mining settlement agreement, championed by the CCC, was to preserve and enhance a disadvantaged community's access to coastline, and

ensure low-cost recreation opportunities. What is now proposed is to establish yet another industrial facility on the same site of the soon-to-be-closed Cemex plant. **This does not support environmental justice.**

The absence of equitable sharing of benefits, risks and harm in a non-regional water initiative in which no desalinated water is to be distributed to Marina, while Cal-Am will degrade Marina's water source and will cause permanent damage to a unique coastal environmentally sensitive habitat area **does not support environmental justice.**

Equal access to decision-making processes has been undermined by Cal-Am's complete disregard for community outreach and education in Marina. Only recently have they held two meetings in our community. Lack of fair review of Marina's community values with Cal-Am's exclusive focus only upon the high-income Monterey Peninsula residents, with total disregard for water needs of the area from which water is to be illegally extracted **does not support environmental justice.**

Cal-Am's proposal is a water grab from Marina. Cal-Am's proposal provides no water for residents of Marina. Cal-Am's proposal prevents access to beautiful coastline beaches. Cal-Am's proposal will create disruption to transportation when major roads in Marina will be dug up to place pipes. Cal-Am's proposal destroys environmentally sensitive habitat areas. Cal-Am's proposal comes in spite of Monterey County voters passing Measure J to instruct the Monterey Peninsula Water Management to undertake a feasibility study on the public takeover of California American Water's System. Cal-Am's proposal has cost the city of Marina over \$8,000,000 in legal fees. **This does not support environmental justice.**

I ask you to **show your support of environmental justice** by voting to deny the Cal-Am permits for their proposed projects in Marina.

Your decision will be setting a precedent for future injustices to small disadvantaged cities being unfairly treated by large out of town companies using their money and power for their personal gain.

Thank you,
Nancy L. Fortman



From: [JANA YOUNG](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal; [JANA YOUNG](#)
Subject: Deny calAm desalination project permit
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:42:13 AM

Dear Ca Coastal Commissioners,exec director John Ainsley and staff

My name is Jana Young. I am a resident of Marina and longtime resident of the peninsula. I moved here in 1972 because it was so beautiful. The beauty was the forests and the ocean with the incredible coastline. I am a retired RN. I went to MPC and graduated from Hartnell college RN program in 1979. I worked at CHOMP and at SVMH. Marina has a very beautiful, largely unspoiled coastline and beach and now that the chemex plant is leaving it is to be restored. This proposed Cal Am project is a LAND GRAB AND WATER STEAL PROJECT that will impact our community so adversely with no benefit to us at all. And with the price they will charge the rest of the peninsula seems no benefit to anyone but the bottom line of Cal Am. There is also the issue of salinity from waste discharge into the ocean off our coast. To proceed with this project would be an absolute disaster for our community and the perfect example of SOCIAL INJUSTICE!



PLEASE DENY THE CAL AM PROJECT THAT WILL HARM MARINA
Thank you, Jana Young.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Marianne Gawain Davis](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [Lwv Monterey County](#)
Subject: Coastal Permit Application - California American Water Coastal Development
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:45:25 PM



Chair Brownsey, Commissioners and Staff

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105- 2219

RE: Coastal Permit Application - California American Water Coastal Development

October 26, 2022

The League of Women Voters of Monterey County (LWVMC) urges the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to deny the California American Water (Cal Am) application for a Coastal Development Permit for intake slant wells and desalination infrastructure because the Pure Water Monterey Expansion (PWMX) project is a vastly superior alternative in both environmental and economic terms.

Three recent developments should be considered at your November 17 hearing:

1. CPUC action on the Pure Water Monterey Expansion for 2250 acre-feet of additional water is on the verge of approval. The Proposed Decision, announced in late September, recommends approval of the Water Purchase Agreement for Cal Am to place costs into rates. The only objections are from Cal Am, which is arguing for more costs to be approved. No capacity or operational objections have been filed by Cal Am.
2. Cal Am announced new parameters for its MPWSP desal about four weeks ago. It has proposed a capacity reduction from 6.4 mgd to 4.8 mgd, which Cal Am claims will reduce costs to ratepayers. This idea and its implications have not been discussed at Cal Am's recent community meetings.
3. This change in Cal Am's plans raises another fundamental issue: Cal Am has not provided any new information about costs since the last known update in 2017. At minimum, inflation adjustments should have been revealed to the public. Now with Cal Am's revision to a smaller desal that purportedly "will lower costs," Cal Am has still not provided any cost information. As late as its community meeting on October 24, 2022, in Marina, no cost information was provided, despite numerous requests to Cal Am staff for that very information.

LWVMC has studied local water issues numerous times over the last few decades. The League completed separate studies and updated its position in 1982, 1995, 2003 and 2007. Among many positions, the League supports maximizing conservation and reclamation for all water uses.

As a reminder, LWVMC opposed Cal Am's desal in favor of PWNX in two previous letters to the CCC dated October 16, 2019, and August 26, 2020.

LWVMC supports PWMX as the most environmentally sound project available. It is by far the most sensible and affordable supply. It is located completely outside the coastal zone. And it is on the verge of CPUC approval.

Respectfully,

Marianne Gawain

President, LWVMC

From: [Francis Duda](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Fwd: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:47:56 PM
Attachments: [icon.png](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 27, 2022 at 4:45 PM
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)
To: <frduda@gmail.com>



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to **calammonterey@cosstal.ca.gov** because the domain cosstal.ca.gov couldn't be found. Check for typos or unnecessary spaces and try again.

[LEARN MORE](#)

The response was:

DNS Error: DNS type 'mx' lookup of cosstal.ca.gov responded with code NXDOMAIN
Domain name not found: cosstal.ca.gov Learn more at
<https://support.google.com/mail/?p=BadRcptDomain>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Francis Duda <frduda@gmail.com>

To: calammonterey@costal.ca.gov

Cc:

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 27 Oct 2022 16:44:56 -0700

Subject: Desal permit

Have we considered the success of Pure Water Monterey Expansion? Do we really need a \$300 or \$400 million project?

Cal Am tends to overspend with other people's money.

Francis Duda

,

From: [Christopher Valadez](#)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)
Subject: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project--Support
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:11:35 PM

Members of the California Coastal Commission:

On behalf of the region's growers, shippers, processors, harvesters, and allied support businesses, I write to express support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

Salinas Valley is "the Salad Bowl of the World" and with agriculture serving as Monterey County's largest economic and employment sector, years of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that puts our entire industry and livelihoods at risk. Without a more resilient and diverse water supply, many operations that grow, pack and ship fresh produce will be forced to locate, where feasible, outside of this region. Farmworkers, families, and the region's economy are all interdependent, requiring insightful decision-making that prioritizes securing a reliable water source.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive approach to creating a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture, and water recycling, thus serving as a supply of new water for housing and jobs and improving coastal access for local communities.

MPWSP will serve the peninsula, but it will also provide drinking water supplies to Castroville, reducing groundwater pumping and helping reduce seawater intrusion in our coastal groundwater basins that are vital to our county's agricultural bounty.

The California Coastal Commission is encouraged to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,



Christopher Valadez
President

www.growershipper.com

From: [Michael Owen](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: reject calam desal project permit
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:13:40 PM

I've been a Marina resident for 33 years - Michael M Owen 3247 Estrella del mar way,

Served on the Marina Tree Committee for 30 years & the Public Works Commission for a dozen.

Now retired. Basically joining the rest of my neighbors in opposing the permit at issue on 17 Nov 2022.

Salute



From: [Alyssa Phillips](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:33:46 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff:



My name is Alyssa Phillips and my boyfriend Javkhlan Bayarmaa and I are proud residents of Marina. This is a photo of us from Halloween of 2020. We are both college students and workers in the community. We live with a roommate and have two cats that we spoil at home. We both love the beach and the natural environment of the Marina beaches, and understand that the Desalination project would bring immense harm to this precious coastline, while damaging the habitats of 14+ endangered species. I likely cannot speak at the November meeting, but I hope that you will make the best decision for Marina residents and the environment: Deny the CalAm Slant Well Project.

Thank you,
-Alyssa Phillips

--

Alyssa Phillips (*she/her*)
California State University, Monterey Bay
Journalism and Media Studies | [HCOM](#)
Visual and Public Art Minor ([VPA](#))
Environmental Studies Minor ([ENSTU](#))

From: [Marianne Gawain Davis](#)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#)
Cc: [Lwv Monterey County](#)
Subject: League of Women Voters Monterey RE Cal Am Coastal Development Permit
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:10:19 PM



Chair Brownsey, Commissioners, and Staff

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105- 2219

RE: Coastal Permit Application - California American Water Coastal Development

October 26, 2022

The League of Women Voters of Monterey County (LWVMC) urges the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to deny the California American Water (Cal Am) application for a Coastal Development Permit for intake slant wells and desalination infrastructure because the Pure Water Monterey Expansion (PWMX) project is a vastly superior alternative in both environmental and economic terms.

Three recent developments should be considered at your November 17 hearing:

1. CPUC action on the Pure Water Monterey Expansion for 2250 acre-feet of additional water is on the verge of approval. The Proposed Decision, announced in late September, recommends approval of the Water Purchase Agreement for Cal Am to place costs into rates. The only objections are from Cal Am, which is arguing for more costs to be approved. No capacity or operational objections have been filed by Cal Am.
2. Cal Am announced new parameters for its MPWSP desal about four weeks ago. It has proposed a capacity reduction from 6.4 mgd to 4.8 mgd, which Cal Am claims will reduce costs to ratepayers. This idea and its implications have not been discussed at Cal Am's recent community meetings.
3. This change in Cal Am's plans raises another fundamental issue: Cal Am has not provided any new information about costs since the last known update in 2017. At minimum, inflation adjustments should have been revealed to the public. Now with Cal Am's revision to a smaller desal that purportedly "will lower costs," Cal Am has still not provided any cost information. As late as its community meeting on October 24, 2022, in Marina, no cost information was provided, despite numerous requests to Cal Am staff for that very information.

LWVMC has studied local water issues numerous times over the last few decades. The League completed separate studies and updated its position in 1982, 1995, 2003 and

2007. Among many positions, the League supports maximizing conservation and reclamation for all water uses.

As a reminder, LWVMC opposed Cal Am's desal in favor of PWNX in two previous letters to the CCC dated October 16, 2019, and August 26, 2020.

LWVMC supports PWMX as the most environmentally sound project available. It is by far the most sensible and affordable supply. It is located completely outside the coastal zone. And it is on the verge of CPUC approval.

Respectfully,

Marianne Gawain

President, LWVMC

From: [Just Water Marina](#)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal); [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz_Noaki@Coastal)
Cc: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj_Sumi@Coastal); [Kathy Biala](#); [Liesbeth Visscher](#)
Subject: CalAm's Community Outreach - Update from Citizens for Just Water
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 5:56:52 PM

To: Tom Luster and Noaki Schwartz

Cc: Sumi Selvaraj

From: Citizens for Just Water

Date: 10/25/2022

Sent by email to Tom Luster <tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov>, Noaki Schwartz
<noaki.schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>

Re: CalAm's MPWSP Community Outreach - Update from Citizens for Just Water

Dear Tom and Noaki:

Last evening, CalAm hosted the final Community Forum about the MPWSP. Earlier workshops had been held at the Embassy Suites in Seaside, at CSUMB (which also is located in Seaside), and at Hartnell College in Salinas (three different locations). Only the final two meetings were held in Marina proper: October 17 at the Marina Library, and October 24 at the Springhill Suites.

All CalAm's community meetings had almost no visitors, except the few Public Water Now, Marina Coast Water District, and Citizens for Just Water members attending for the purpose of monitoring. The only exception was the Community Forum on August 9 at CSUMB. Almost all of the people who showed up at that event were supporters from Public Water Now and Citizens for Just Water who came to PROTEST CalAm's proposed desal project!

Here are two examples of photos that CalAm displays of that 08/09/2022 forum on their MPWSP website under "Community Meetings". People who don't know better, would think that these are residents who are interested in hearing more about an exciting project and that all the other community meetings were well attended...



But here is one of our photos that shows those attendees with **protesting signs** outside the CSUMB Student Union building before the start of CalAm's Community Forum! Almost 100 people were there in this meeting to protest the project. It is important to note that the CSUMB campus is generally not familiar to most Marina residents; many had difficulties finding the location on campus.



Just like all other Community Forums/Workshops that CalAm has hosted, last night's event did not have any directional signs outside or inside the hotel. And just like all other events (except August 9), almost all attendees were from Public Water Now (3), MPWMD (1), MCWD (2) and Citizens for Just Water (2). There were only two other guests, at the beginning of the evening.



This photo from the final 10/24/2022 workshop shows one CalAm rep with a PWN member on the left, several CalAm reps outside, and PWN/Just Water members on the right. This one photo is representative of CalAm's outreach to Marina and the Monterey Peninsula.

Just like in 2020, Citizens for Just Water is informing residents at the weekly Farmers' Market in Marina, every Sunday 10 AM - 2 PM. Cal-Am also reserved a table for three Sundays (Oct. 2, 16 and 23) and was there part of the four hours. Again, with almost no one stopping to talk, except for those who had visited Just Water's booth first!



This last Sunday, the CalAm table happened to be located across from our booth. The photo shows people getting informed at our booth, while the CalAm table in the background has no visitors.

Last Sunday was CalAm's last time at the Marina Farmers' Market. Citizens for Just Water will continue to have our booth there all four hours, every Sunday (rain or shine) until the November 17 hearing, because every week we speak with many Marina residents who have not yet heard about the harms and risks that CalAm's proposed desal project will cause for our town, and how this project will ruin Marina's chance to get a pristine beach with easy access at the Cemex site, after having had an industrial facility there for more than 100 years!

We have printed hundreds of contact information sheets for visitors to fill out, and hundreds of flyers to explain the proposed project and the Environmental Justice issues. We have no budget and have a donation jar at our booth to try to recoup some of our printing expenses. Our volunteers have knocked on many doors and we will be hosting a Community Forum in the Marina Library, on Thursday, October 27, which will also be livestreamed. We are spending countless hours to inform as many Marina residents as we can. They agree that we need to Stop CalAm!

In conclusion, we wish to communicate to you that these Cal-Am communities were not effective in "outreaching to our communities":

- Not held in Marina proper, only 2 of the last venues were in Marina. Three were held in Salinas where people have no direct stake in the project.
- Many were difficult to find, with no signage; one meeting in Marina was held outside because the library door was locked.
- Time of the 10/01/2022 meeting was erroneously reported on the MPWSP website.
- Parking on the CSUMB campus was not pre-planned until Just Water inquired about obtaining free parking permits at CSUMB.
- Cal-Am gave only deceptive or irrelevant information (highly contested information).
- Cal-Am solicited feedback from attendees but never answered pointed questions about the project.
- The meetings added another burden to concerned citizens who had to attend these forums to monitor the event.
- It is apparent that these community meetings were only held to confirm that outreach had taken place, with no true intent to engage with the community.

Up to now, there have been zero contacts with Marina citizens, except when CalAm had to appear before the Planning Commission for a CDP application. Due to a technical loophole, even Marina City Council was bypassed and did not have the opportunity to weigh-in! During the past entire 5 plus years, no constructive input from Marina was ever solicited by Cal-Am. When the project is fully developed, what is the purpose of such community meetings for a project that will devastate our community, except to persuade a harmed city, at the 11th hour, that they will not be harmed? This is how Marina residents feel about these shameful community meetings.

Thank you,
Liesbeth.

--

Liesbeth Visscher

From: [Wandzia Rose](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [Marvin Rose](#)
Subject: DESAL IS NOT NEEDED!
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 12:05:43 PM
Attachments: [2022-10-24 Letter to Coastal Commission.png](#)

Marvin and Wandzia Rose
6000 Brookdale Drive
Carmel, CA 93923

24 October 2022

California Coastal Commission
725 Front Street #300,
Santa Cruz, CA 9506
VIA email: CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov

Dear California Coastal Commission Members:

DESAL IS NOT NEEDED! Please **stop the California American Water Desalinization project** as it is not needed and very costly monetarily and environmentally to the residents of Monterey County, Carmel Valley and the flora and fauna of the Carmel River.

When completed in two years, the next phase of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Pure Water Monterey project will solve the Monterey Peninsula's long-standing water supply problems. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion will provide all the water needed for housing and growth for the next 30 years, drought or no drought. This project provides a clean, safe and sustainable source of water for Monterey County. In addition, it emphasizes advanced water recycling technology, replenishment of the groundwater supply and protection of the environment.

In January of this year, Pure Water Monterey reached its initial goal of producing enough water to allow Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River. As residents of Carmel Valley and property owner on and in the Carmel River, we need the Pure Water Monterey project to return the river to its previous flow rates year-round. The river on our property dries up for three to six months of the year stopping the migration of protected and threatened species of Central California Coast Steelhead.

Upon completion of the new Pure Water Monterey Expansion two years from now, it will provide enough water to lift the cease-and-desist order on the Carmel River and deliver all the water we need. **NO DESAL NEEDED!**

Respectfully,


Marvin A. Rose
Registered California Civil Engineer


Wandzia Rose

From: [gabriel.gandia Sr.](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 10:06:31 AM

Dear California Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Gabriel Gandia Sr. and I am a 40+ year resident of Marina, California. I proudly served at Fort Ord in 1972 and returned in 1979. Marina has always been home to me and my family.



I am twice retired, initially from the U.S. Army (20 years) and secondly from the Federal Civil Service system for an additional 20 years. Marina has always been home to me and my family.

I am deeply concerned of the harm the CalAm Slant Well Project will bring to our diverse city. It is a matter of utmost importance that you deny the CalAm Slant Well permit that will harm Marina. Thank you!

Respectfully,
Gabriel O. Gandia Sr.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Gaye Gandia](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 9:43:26 AM

Dear California Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

Hello, my name is Gayanne Gandia, resident of the beautiful and often forgotten city of Marina. My family has lived here since 1979 where my husband served with the U.S. Army, Fort Ord. Our ethnicity is Asian. I am a retiree of the Civil Service system. I gratefully served for 40 years. My career began in Germany, continued to the former Fort Ord, the Presidio of Monterey-Defense Language Institute the Naval Postgraduate School, and other states in between, but Marina has always been "home".

My husband and I are raising our precious 10 year old grandson and we are very concerned for his future if the damaging CalAm Slant Well project is approved.



Please, please make the right decision for Marina. Please do all you can to deny the harmful CalAm Slant Well project!

Thank you so very much,

Gayanne Gandia

From: [not stated](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Hearing on approval of Cal Am deal plant construction
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 10:34:16 AM

10-21-22

Dear Coastal Commission,

If Monterey One has its figures right, and I believe it has, we no longer need it, especially as planned by Cal Am.

Also, the slant wells in Marina legal issues regarding damage to the beaches and dangers to increased salt water intrusion are NOT resolved. The time is not right for building the plant. Cal Am has been acting like a bully in my opinion. Their eye is on one thing, profits for shareholders. Once they got the full ownership rights several years ago they have pushed forward on their own for their most profitable outcome.

Please take seriously the Monterey One facts and think about the effort this community has taken, the legal buy out approval, after a lengthy study and vote. I know Governor Newsom wants more desal plants approved but the issues for or against deal by Cal Am at this time have been going on for more than 5 years. Please support our community and ensure water will be affordable in this area for years to come. I trust our county employees successfully working on the water issues

Please give greater consideration to the efforts/ success of Monterey One and deny the permit approval for Cal Am.

If water becomes too expensive under Cal Am. Folks that have families will not settle here, or will move away. The schools will suffer. Providing affordable housing whether rentals or owned will be a useless project. The other affordable options are already in place and in two years will be expanded to provide all we need into a long future. Cal Am was too slow to deliver the deal plant and now it is no longer needed.

Please not let this company and its shareholders have their way. WE DONT NEED THE DESAL PLANT. I trust Monterey One and do not believe CAL AM has or had our best interest in their plans, EVER.

Thank you for considering my opinions.



WATER SOLUTIONS

Christina Holston, 44 Granite Street, PG, CA
831-646-1903 or tinah003@gmail.com



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& TOURIST CENTERS

14 October 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

On behalf of the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, representing over 350 local businesses and organizations, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

Water shortages hurt our workforce. A lack of reliable water has resulted in a decades-long building moratorium, exacerbating our ability to provide affordable workforce housing in the region, increasing costs and forcing workers to drive long distances between their jobs and where they can afford to live. The uncertainty of a reliable water source directly threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses from agriculture to hospitality to the construction industry all need water to remain viable.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive, responsible approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem and supply new water for housing and jobs.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of drought-proof, reliable water supplies for decades. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region is already facing water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Stay well and thank you,

Jenny MacMurdo
President & CEO
Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce

October 13, 2022

Mr. Tom Luster
California Coastal Commission, Energy and Ocean Resources Unit
445 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, California 94101

Sent by email to: Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov

Regarding: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Mr. Luster,

This letter is written to urge the approval of the desalination plant to complete the Monterey Water Supply Project.

This project is necessary to enable our community to fulfil its commitment to reduce the pumping of the Carmel River to the legal amount thereby providing for fish spawning, renewal of the conditions needed to protect endangered species, watershed vibrancy as nature intended.

The plant provides the only water supply not impacted by drought to feed the Seaside Basin Aquifer at a time it requires sustained recharge to remain a healthy, reliable water supply system for the people of the water community.

That community benefits by finally being able to provide homes for workers who now travel twice daily to and from the Peninsula by automobile. The carbon emissions of those workers is replaced by people who have a better quality of life by eliminating commutes.

When the goals of mitigating prolonged drought, aquifer sustainability, reduction of carbon emissions and housing needs all are satisfied by one project I urge you to approve that project.

Gratefully,

John Tilley
Pacific Grove, California

October 13, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a resident and business owner in Pebble Beach, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help bring water access to disenfranchised communities, support local conservation efforts, and protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The MPWSP is designed to protect our natural resources and benefit the environment. It will provide a reliable drought-proof water supply to replace our historic reliance on the Carmel River. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses and workers from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable. Lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our housing crisis in the region and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, further pressure on local habitats and river shed, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Kim Donlon
Owner, Designer, Realtor
Monterey Peninsula Home Team
Simply Detailed

From: [Ron Weisman](#)
To: [w@montereyherald.com](#)
Subject: Lead Article: on Water, in Today's Herald
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 4:43:47 PM

All: For local responses to this article, please see the two letters on water in today's Herald, which I'll send in a few minutes. One item missing here: The originals project was for a plant producing over 9 million gallons of water per day; the current 6.4 plant was Alternative 5a of that project. The 4.8 proposal was not included as an alternative in either the first or second, modified proposal. –Ron

WATER SUPPLY

Cal Am says desal plant will happen in phases



The Cemex site in Marina.

By Tom Wright

twright@montereyherald.com

MONTEREY >> California American Water has shifted its plans for a desalination plant on the shores of Marina, announcing it will now seek to build the project in multiple phases.

“Phasing the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project strikes the right balance to meet the critical need for sufficient and reliable drought-proof water supply to meet demands in the near term while allowing for additional supply as it becomes needed over the next 30 years,” said Josh Stratton, a Cal Am spokesman, in an email. “In addition, as we heard from the community, phasing the project with the possibility of expanding the project to accommodate future regional water supply needs through public participation is important. This is a win-win for the region that provides an opportunity to help the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project be part of future water supply solutions for our customers and nearby communities.”

The first phase of the desalination facility would produce 4.8 million gallons per day, with plans to later expand to the originally planned 6.4 million gallons per day. Rather than seven slant wells stretching under the seashore at the Marina Cemex site, the new plan calls for four slant wells to intake saline water. Cal Am said reducing the size of the initial project will help control construction costs but should not impact the construction timeline in a significant way. When asked for a timeline of the phases after the initial desal plant is completed, Stratton said the “subsequent phases can be added when additional water sources are needed.”

The shift to a phased approach, which Cal Am announced in a press release last week, comes as it prepares to bring its application to the California Coastal Commission for approval Nov. 17.

“We have provided correspondence to the Coastal Commission and expect the project to be heard in November,” Stratton said when asked if the change will affect the application coming up at next month’s meeting.

The city of Marina and the Marina Coast Water District have expressed opposition to the desal plant, which would provide fresh water for other Monterey Peninsula cities but not Marina, over claims it would harm the city’s drinking water and cause environmental justice issues.

Cal Am pointed to historic water shortages caused by state-mandated reductions in the use of water from the Carmel River that were made worse by historic drought conditions as reasoning for the need for the project.

“Without a new, reliable, drought-proof source of water we run the risk of more rationing, economic hardship and a continuing housing crisis,” Stratton said. “Most people recognize that the project is needed for a reliable water supply.”

Public Water Now, the group behind a 2018 ballot measure in which voters approved seeking a public takeover of Cal Am, said the drought is a smokescreen that Cal Am is throwing up.

“Cal Am is using the drought and the need for new housing to scare people into supporting its \$322 million, investor-owned desal plant. Most don’t know the facts, so it’s easy to fool them with a lie,” Melodie Chrislock, the director of the nonprofit Public Water Now, told The Herald last month. “The truth is the Pure Water Monterey expansion will give us all the water we need for new housing for decades, drought or no drought.”

From: [Sam Callaway](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: The Monterey Peninsula does not need a Desal Plant built and operated by Cal Am Water
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 2:20:00 PM

It is my opinion that the desal plant that Cal Am is seeking for the Monterey Peninsula is too expensive for the return.

Question that I would be sure to follow up on is why did they propose one plant and now are requesting a smaller facility. Sounds like they just want to spend our money and build any plant they feel the commission will approve.

I am very concerned about how the Cal Am plant is going to effect the current Marina plant. If there is Any possible that the new plant could cause issues with the Marina plant you should say no to Cal Am's plant. If the Cal Am plant causes issues, how much will us Monterey Peninsula residents be liable for? Who knows but it sounds like a blank check for Cal Am.

I think the treatment of our waste water to drinking water is a better option.

Sam Callaway

From: [Alice Ann Glenn](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 1:31:37 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula I OPPOSE Cal Am's Desal Project for the following reasons:

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion will provide water for housing and growth for the next 30 years at a fraction of the cost.

The Expansion of Pure Water Monterey will cost \$45 million. Cal Am's desal will cost \$300 to \$400 million.

Pure Water Monterey is a proven project. It has been providing us with water for two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

Pure Water Monterey is an innovative and sustainable model of water re-use and conservation in a time when water supplies are becoming more scarce.

Recycled water is drought proof – since 2014, during some of the driest years on record the municipal wastewater supply to Monterey One Water that creates our recycled water has only dropped 5%. New growth will bring more recycled water.

There are also strong justice reasons to OPPOSE Cal Am's Desal Project:

The cost of water is an Environmental Justice issue. According to current CPUC data, Cal Am's \$322 million desal project is estimated to increase water bills by about 70%. Common usage on the Peninsula is 5,500 gallons, which currently costs \$150 a month. A 70% increase would raise water bills by \$105 a month.

The cost to build and operate this desal plant has not been updated in six years, so costs could be much higher. It's possible that Cal Am's desal project if built could double water bills.

Desal is energy intensive and creates higher water costs per household driving low-income wage earners out of the region.

Lastly, there is an environmental issue to OPPOSE Cal Am's Desal Project:

I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions the Desal Plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely,
Rev. Alice Ann Glenn
Monterey

From: lisa.vandersluis
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal issue
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 12:09:08 PM

I've lived on Monterey Peninsula since 1955 and I really hope we can get water in the hands of the public and not owned by distant corporation working for shareholders! Please help by not allowing Cal Am to build a desal plant. Even if we will need one in future it shouldn't be built while Cal Am can charge the public even MORE for a (hoped for) public "buy out"! Please help us with this! Thank you. Lisa van der Sluis, Carmel, CA

From: [Karen Uribe](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal - Am Project - Vote NO
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 11:47:54 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:
My name is Karen Uribe and I am a resident on Drew St in Marina, Ca.
I have lived in the community for over 20 years and work for the City of Monterey. I
love our beautiful coast and my City.
Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Uribe

--

From: [Anna Thompson](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 10:04:23 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Victor Thompson,
Carmel

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Joyce Matzen](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 8:25:30 AM

Please let Monterey solve their own water situation as advised by our water board
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Stephen Los](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: wonderful
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 7:10:47 AM

Thank you for the email blast.

I'm so glad there are ways to avoid the costly de sal plant!

I did not know that there was an alternative til this email.

s

--

stephen a los dds

Dentist at Los Gatos Quality Dental

14830 Los Gatos Blvd, ste 103, Los Gatos, CA 95032

President of The Flying Doctors aka Los Medicos Voladores, Bay Area Chapter

Community Services Committee, Santa Clara County Dental Society

Member Of County of Santa Clara Emergency Medical Services

Ask me about Teamsmile, Canvasback missions, CDA cares or Tzu Chi Volunteer opportunities

From: [Barbara Kennedy](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 6:00:55 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Barbara Kennedy
Huntington Beach CA, 92646

Tom Rowley <TomR2004@hotmail.com>

• Luster, Tom@Coastal
Mon 10/31/2022 9:21 PM

To: Tom Luster CCC & Members of the California Coastal Commission / INFO: Sumi Selvaraj & John Ainsworth, CCC Staff

1. I am the Vice President of the Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association (MPTA), and I was tasked by our former President Ronald J. Pasquinelli in the early 1990s to "check out" what the MPWMD is up to... Mr. Pasquinelli passed away almost 10 years ago, but I have during the past 30 + years observed the failure of the MPWMD to achieve the development of a reliable and sustainable water project that truly meets the needs of the Monterey Peninsula Community at large. As a representative from MPTA, I was privileged to participate on an Ad Hoc Task Force for a new Water Project in the early 2000s that produced a game plan for a proposed new desalination water project for the Monterey Peninsula (MP) under the joint 3-way control of CAL-AM Water (CAW), the MCWMD, and MCWRA. Unfortunately, felonious conduct by the MCWRA representative who was then involved as a lead organizer -- together with the close support from the key representative from the MCWD -- led to the total failure of that proposed new water project. In fact -- the Superior Court of Monterey County "threw out" the EIR for that project, and even a guaranteed source water was never pinned down.
2. Because CAW faced the CDO, the leadership of CAW developed the MPWSP with its three components: (1) Water from the Carmel River Basin + (2) Aquafir Storage & Recovery (during years when there were excess flows in the Carmel River) + (3) Desalination Plant (at the former CEMEX plant location in Marina using a slant well intake system). At the urging of environmentalists and the CCC, a single slant well was fully tested starting in 2015 -- this proved that intake water from under the Monterey Bay was possible for over 95 % of the water needed for the desal project. An EIR was approved by the CPUC for the project back in the Fall of 2018, but bureaucratic delays have resulted in final approval not being given by the Cal Coastal Commission. One totally "phony" reason given was the impact on the community of Marina -- school kids were trotted out at the last hearing on the Desal Project. The arguments advanced by the "school kids" are not justified or based on valid reasoning with homes now being sold routinely in Marina for more than One Million Dollars.
3. In the meantime, the voluntary conservation program over the last 20 years resulted in the MP (less MCWD customers) using a record low per capita consumption of water during both years of normal rains and repeated years of drought. New affordable housing projects and lack of water for economic development crippled routine growth in housing and jobs. Similarly -- Lots of record have not been built to also provide new housing. The total number of jobs "lost" from lack of new water cannot be calculated -- all because of the failure to build a new water project that actually meets MP needs.

4. The MP community deserves a new water source to provide what is needed for sustainable economic development, including normal growth for its leading source of new jobs -- the hospital industry!

5. The existing water management district is "out of control" by providing "manipulated" data for both past usage and likely future supplies from recycled sewer water. Extended periods of drought now put future supplies of the expanded recycling of wastewater in doubt. This is ridiculous as a sustainable source like a desal project with source water from slant wells is clearly available to meet the needs for a truly sustainable source.

6. If possible I would like to speak during the Public Hearing on November 17th, but in the meantime, the above 5 points summarize the frustrating background that typical citizens here on the MP face!

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Rowley, Vice President MPTA / Realtor & Property Mgr (CA DRE Lic # 00975775) / 2004

Marsala Circle, Monterey, CA 93940

Date Prepared: October 31, 2022

Home Office TEL: (831) 373-5204

Michael Baer <mgbisme@yahoo.com>

To:

- Luster, Tom@Coastal
Sun 10/30/2022 10:40 AM

Good morning Tom,

Please add this letter to the record for Cal Am's CDP application.

Regards,

Michael B.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Michael Baer <mgbisme@yahoo.com>

To: Herald Editor <mheditor@montereyherald.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 10:35:08 AM PDT

Subject: letter

Dear Editor,

Rick Aldinger wrote a letter in favor of desal representing Big Sur River Inn. River Inn is not a Cal Am customer, the district boundary is around MalPaso near Carmel Highlands. So why does he care? He is part of the peninsula hospitality industry. It should be noted that hospitality does not care anything about whatever their water bills are because it is a business expense write-off and they can pass costs along to customers.

Mr. Adlinger will be joining a whole bunch of other interests at the Coastal Commission meeting who are outside the district boundaries that support Cal Am; agriculture, Salinas politicians, Castroville. They won't pay a penny on a billion dollar desal plant. I encourage all Peninsula residents to come to the Supervisors Chambers in Salinas on November 17 to witness and speak up if they choose. This is our best chance to finally put this disastrous idea to bed after 11 long years.

Michael Baer
157 words
San Jose, CA

note: I am asking for equal consideration as someone outside the district with an opinion on this critical issue.. I lived on the Peninsula from 1982-2019. Thanks, mb

From: [Tony T.](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 8:13:24 PM

Do you may concern,

Cal Am has been promising to come up with new water sources for decades and has failed to do so. Now they want us to pay for a multi million dollar de-sal project that is not needed.

Please vote against approving their request and do what's right for the peninsula. Pure Water Monterey will provide all the water we need and Cal Am's request is more of their strong armed thuggery and rate increases.

Thank you

Tony Tollner

This is from my phone and sometimes, Siri and/or my thumbs don't cooperate. Please excuse any typos. Thanks,

From: [bsimpson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 3:36:15 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal

Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely,
Barbara L. Simpson

From: [Hobbzee O](#)
To: [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 3:25:20 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities. Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Martha Onasch
Pebble Beach

From: [Soham Adair](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Cal Am desal
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 3:07:44 PM

I am a 90 year Carmel resident. I am strongly opposed to the proposed Cal Am desal project!

We currently have no need for desal because we have Pure Water Monterey that will provide more than enough water for housing and population growth for the next 30 years!

Thank you for your consideration of my opposition to the Cal Am desal project.

John C. Adair, Carmel

From: mwchrislock@redshift.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Test Message
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 1:04:13 PM

Is this the correct email for letters on Cal Am's desal project?

Melodie Chrislock
Managing Director
PUBLIC WATER NOW
<http://www.publicwater.org>
mwchrislock@redshift.com
831 624-2282

From: [JoAnn Cannon](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please help protect our community! DENY CAL AM
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 12:02:57 PM

A Coastal Commission just MUST see Cal Am's illegal push once again to take and/or harm our Marina's ground water and beaches as environmentally unjust!! I don't understand why Cal Am doesn't request a site from the Coastal Commission to be put at Pebble Beach, Carmel Beach, or Monterey beach since that is where their costumers are!!!

I plead that you help protect Marina's coastal beach, our endangered birds and shoreline, our already depleted ground water, our drinking water and our community. Corporate commercial interests are destroying environments and communities they don't even serve.....for greed.

The staff got it right when we struggled to fight this before!! Nothing has changed since the first denial that would/should allow Cal Am's plans to move forward at all. Marina has had to waste our money on legal fees to halt them before.....now we are having to fight again. We need our own money to help sustain our own community rights and interests. Cal Am has no legal rights to our water and our community and its caring citizens and property owners will be deeply harmed by their intrusion!

Respectfully, Dr. JA Cannon

From: [Tom Ward](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: DENY CalAm Desal Project Permit
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 11:10:58 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners,

You have heard all the valid reasons reiterated over and over from Monterey Peninsula rate payers as to why the CA Coastal Commission should DENY CalAm a permit for a Desal plant. To briefly summarize, it is too costly, it is not needed for at least 20 years, it should be under public ownership, it damages the environment, there will be better and improved desalination technologies in the future.

The one and only reason CalAm keeps fighting for this Desal project is because it will be a highly profitable operation for a public company and its shareholders.

The majority of Monterey Peninsula ratepayers and citizens of Marina are AGAINST this Desal project. Listen to the people and their elected officials!

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Tom Ward
Pebble Beach, full time resident

From: [Shirley Bowles](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: I support desalination as the best solution
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 10:05:20 AM

I support solar powered desalination as the best solution. The other alternative does not remove all toxins before being used for recycling. I am educated, certified and worked in water and waste water treatment And am aware of the recycled water approach will not provide clean enough water for public safety.

Regards,
Shirley Bowles

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: vilinda.read
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal-Am Desalination Project
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 9:57:04 AM

Dear California Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Vilinda Read, I am a resident of Marina California, I am 65 years old, I live alone and my income is less than \$1,000 per month. I cannot afford to move away, I would have to stay and live in Marina with the unfair consequences that the Cal-Am project would impose upon the citizens of Marina and the damage to our coast and inhabitants.

Please deny the Cal-Am Desalination Project.

Thank you,
Vilinda Read

From: [Diana Galbraith](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Desal
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 9:26:21 AM

Please deny Cal Am's desalination project. Monterey taxpayer thanks you.

Live well, laugh often, love much

From: [Santosha Davis](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Pure Water Monterey
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 9:17:57 AM

Pure Water sounds like a better alternative to me.
Thanks!

Santosha Nobel
Higher Consciousness Hypnotherapy

info@higherconsciousnesshypnotherapy.com

360-922-0777 cell (Monterey, CA)
831-747-2728 ground line

From: [Darlene Boucher](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal - against Program
Date: Sunday, October 30, 2022 8:19:18 AM

Our family supports Pure Water Monterey and does not wish for Cal Am Desal project to move forward.

Please keep us apprised !

Darlene Boucher

From: [Nancy Abildgaard](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Project
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 2:00:05 PM

This is another ploy for CalAm to find a reason to embed itself into a community that doesn't want it, and gouge us for more money. We already have the most expensive water in the country and they have gotten away with price gouging and supplying poor quality water. They are a foreign company who has been bought out by other communities in this country for the same reason: poor water quality and price gouging. What this community actually needs is to own its own water utility. It was what the voters in this community voted for, but the deal was undone by a land watch person heavily supported by CalAm. This latest project is a trojan horse we cannot afford. Please do not approve it! Please!

Nancy and Charley Abildgaard

From: [Carole Ehrhardt](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: We do not want Cal Am's Desal
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 1:54:03 PM

We voted to purchase Cal Am so that it can become a municipal water company. Cal Am charges us the most for water in the USA and as we ration our water uses, they charge us even more. Cal Am wants the almost 20 million dollars they pay stockholders and also they want to keep their wages which we have no idea of what they pay themselves.

Another area has added desal to their area but Cal Am's charges for it seem much higher. Wonder why this is? Are they offering huge bonus fees to whomever builds the desal plant? I guess we are tired of hearing their lies.

Please deny this very expensive desal plan. it will only make our water so expensive, we will not be able to afford it.

Thank you. Carole Ehrhardt

--

Carole Ehrhardt
P.O. Box 243
Pebble Beach, CA 93953

From: [Beverly Bean](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20- 0603 – Oppose
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 1:54:03 PM

To the California Coastal Commission:

There are so many clear reasons to oppose the Cal Am Desal Project. There are also a number of unresolved issues which should encourage you to oppose this project.

1. The California Public Utilities Commission issued a proposed decision to approve the Expansion of Pure Water Monterey (the superior recycled water option) on September 30, 2022. It is unlikely that the CPUC will authorize Cal Am to build its extremely expensive desal when there is a clearly superior alternative which they already approve. The CPUC's final decision will likely come in March 2023. The desal project is so expensive because CalAm profits no matter how much they spend on desal- the ratepayers must pay. The cost to build and operate this desal plant has not been updated in six years, so costs could be much higher.

2. Cal Am does not have the water rights to operate the proposed desal plant. The Cemex lawsuit has not been heard or decided. Marina Coast Water District is opposed to the potential impingement of the desal on its aquifer. Ratepayers will be paying for Cal Am's failed desal plant and may never see any water from it. Cal Am already has 140 million in sunken costs on the desal project. The Cal Am shareholders will see a profit but the customers will foot the bill.

3. Cal Am is rushing to get your approval with many issues still unresolved. Why? The voters of the Water Management District passed Measure J in 2018 mandating a buyout of Cal Am by the District. They want a public utility that does not gouge them. A buyout offer could come early next year, followed by eminent domain proceedings. CalAm wants the desal project approved to boost the price of its assets in anticipation of the buyout.

Please say NO to this unnecessary project. Recycled water is the superior alternative for Monterey.

Thank you

Beverly G. Bean
39 Calera Canyon Rd
Salinas, CA. 93908

From: [Eric Paulson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Water
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 12:16:28 PM

Please use common sense and deny the CalAm project. Pure water Monterey project is the answer to our water issue.

Eric Paulson
Carmel Valley

From: Michelle.Kalinski@sbcglobal.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 8:15:54 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Michelle KruegerKalinski. I am a resident of the Dunes development in Marina California. I relocated to this home three years ago with my family and my daughter and I currently reside in our home full time. I am employed full time in the medical field and I have resided in the county for 22 years. I have lived in multiple communities in that time.

There are multiple outlined concerns including:

Reasons for recommended denial were based on: 1) substantial impacts to environmentally sensitive habitat areas in Marina; 2) the existence of a feasible and less damaging alternative, i.e. the Pure Water Monterey recycled water expansion project; 3) significant environmental justice concerns based on the Coastal Commission's 2019 environmental justice policy, including the multiple existing undesirable regional industrial facilities already shouldered by Marina, and the impact on Seaside of future unaffordable cost of water; and 4) the impact of sea level rise that could bury well heads on the shoreline during the life of the project.

that are crucial to my request that you please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle KruegerKalinski

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Heidi Haussermann](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desal Project, Please
Date: Saturday, October 29, 2022 5:05:14 AM

Coastal Commission,

Please recommend against Cal Am's desal project. Pure Water Monterey is expanding in a way that will provide us with what we need.

I am a homeowner and rate payer in Pacific Grove, and I thank you for all the thoughtful work you are doing on behalf of citizens and our environment.

Heidi Haussermann

From: [Marli Melton](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: Luster_Tom@Coastal; Keven.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project-Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:47:34 PM

October 28, 2022

To: Chair Donne Brownsey and California Coastal Commissioners and Staff

Please deny the California American Water Company's application for a coastal development permit.

On September 4, 2020, I wrote urging you to support your staff's exhaustively researched and carefully reasoned recommendation to deny Cal Am's application, because the Pure Water Monterey Expansion was a feasible and affordable alternative -- better for the coastal environment and more environmentally and economically just.

Since then, the PWM Expansion has been approved. At a cost of \$45 million (\$60 million less a \$15 million grant), it's a fraction of the cost of desal. The California Public Utilities Commission has examined it carefully and confirmed that its source water is and will continue to be adequate and secure.

The PWM Expansion is outside the coastal zone. It will not lead to increased saltwater intrusion or endanger snowy plovers, coastal habitats, or marine life. It will not disadvantage the people of Marina and their community. The Expansion can be completed more quickly than Cal Am's proposed desal and will produce 2250 AF per year. It will also be more secure against sea level rise, erosion and storm damage.

Will it be sufficient? Yes! The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments prepares and updates population and economic forecasts regularly. AMBAG has had its forecast methods verified using three different modeling approaches, and also independently, by the Population Reference Bureau. Its most recent forecast provides reliable data for calculating our water needs through 2045.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's supply and demand report, based on the AMBAG forecast, confirms that the PWM Expansion will allow us to meet water needs for residential use, remodels, new housing, commercial uses, population growth, and economic growth for the next 30 years and possibly longer. For example, current use is 9725 AF/yr. By 2045, we will need 10,511 AF/yr, just an additional 786 AF/yr. By then, the Expansion will have been providing 2250 AF/yr for 20 years, allowing us to build substantial reserves in the Seaside Basin.

The AMBAG figures and the resulting water demand forecast include all of the water requirements for RHNA housing plus more, and for population and job growth. Because the Expansion can be completed more quickly and affordably than desal, it will allow affordable housing with affordable water, and earlier completion of many other needed projects. It would be a mistake to believe Cal Am's fear tactics and bad math about demand. Even if new housing is built at rapid and historically unprecedented rates, there will still be enough water. The Expansion will also increase water reserves for drought, firefighting, peak use, and other needs, and help preserve the Carmel River and its steelhead and riparian environment.

The PWM Expansion is also far more economically just. Cal Am has not disclosed its updated costs, but they are likely to be much greater than the outdated estimate of \$322 million, even if they start with a smaller plant. In fact, building in stages will probably raise total project costs even higher, to \$400 million or more. (Cal Am forgot water doesn't run uphill in 2019-20, and didn't provide for an additional water extraction well for Phase I PWM in 2022, so

there could be more than a few desal glitches).

Local Cal Am ratepayers now pay some of the highest water rates in the entire country, and more than 21,000 low income residents on the Monterey Peninsula already struggle to meet basic needs. If built, Cal Am's desal is likely to double many water bills. Using PUC data, this desal would add \$73 to Cal Am's average monthly water bill of \$104. Perhaps a monthly water bill of \$177 doesn't seem like a lot to desal proponents, but it can be a week's food for many families. Furthermore, water bill amounts will increase over time – making it even harder for thousands of local families and individuals to pay for food, medicines, transportation, rent, childcare, educational and other needs. High water costs also make it more difficult for local communities to raise revenues to maintain services and infrastructure and respond to disasters.

Also, Cal Am plans to sell desal water to Castroville at \$110 per AF to make up for fresh water extracted from the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. Cal Am will then bill local ratepayers about \$5890 per AF for that same water to cover its full cost-- about \$5 million per year for water we do not use.

Although desal for California has become politically popular, in this case, it is unnecessary, unjust and wrong. Please do not force people to pay for decades of expensive desal they simply don't need, especially when a feasible and environmentally superior alternative is readily available. Pure Water Monterey has already won national recognition, and the Expansion can inspire good projects in other communities.

If the Monterey Peninsula needs desal in the future because of climate change, it should be publicly owned like the Doheny desal. The PWM Expansion will allow us the time and flexibility to plan for and build a project, when needed. It will be one that politicians can be proud of – similar to the much less expensive project you approved for Doheny (\$1479 per AF, vs. \$6,000+ per AF for Cal Am.)

If we eventually need a regional desal plant, our public agencies have a history of finding win-win solutions. Cal Am seems to have tried to pit agricultural areas against urban ones, but there are many intelligent people here who have a greater vision that includes water and wellbeing for all.

In summary, at only a fraction of the cost of desal, the PWM Expansion is the superior alternative. It will not cause any harm to the coastal environment and will be more environmentally and economically just. It has sufficient source water, a safe location and reliable functionality to meet our needs for many decades, and will assure a strong future for all the people of the Monterey Peninsula.

Please deny Cal Am's application for a coastal development permit. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marli Melton

Marli Melton, Carmel Valley, Monterey County, CA

PS. Please let me know if you prefer to have this letter as a PDF attachment. Also, one of our local papers says email should go to Tom Luster, and on the CCC website, Kevin Kahn is listed as Central Coast District Manager. My sincere apologies if these are not the correct people. Please let me know if I should send the letter to anyone else. Thank you for reading this far, and for all your good work.

From: [Marli Melton](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: Luster_Tom@Coastal; Keven.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project-Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:47:33 PM

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Sincerely,

Marli Melton

Marli Melton, Carmel Valley, Monterey County, CA

PS. Please let me know if you prefer to have this letter as a PDF attachment. Also, one of our local papers says email should go to Tom Luster, and on the CCC website, Kevin Kahn is listed as Central Coast District Manager. My sincere apologies if these are not the correct people. Please let me know if I should send the letter to anyone else. Thank you for reading this far, and for all your good work.

From: [Jacob Avershal](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:32:52 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Jacob Avershal and I am a resident of Del Rey Oaks.

I've recently moved to the area looking to set down roots on this wonderful part of the coast. I'm lucky enough to have remote work and chose this area specifically for its natural beauty.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina, and only serves the interest of Cal-Am and their shareholders.

Thank you,

Jacob Avershal

From: [Ed Mitchell](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [outreach](#)
Subject: Deny approving CalAm desal project in Monterey County
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 5:09:35 PM

I am a 34-year resident living in North Monterey County.

The too-expensive CalAm desalination project needs to be denied for the following reasons.

I am a retired Army officer and Certified Department of Defense Material Acquisition Program Manager. I was trained on fair and open government contracting to use competitive contracting to get the best value product from defense suppliers at a reasonable cost for the U.S. Army. My experience spans 19 years representing the government in acquiring high technology, evaluating numerous supplier proposals from competitive suppliers, as well working at Lockheed Martin competing to win high technology contracts from the government, and implementing the contract promises. That experience included being a proposal (Bid) manager contributing to more than \$5B in sales for Lockheed Martin.

After retirement, I became significantly involved in watching the Monterey County supervisors' contracting procedures to birth a desalination project within the county. Their immediate chosen course of action was to not issue a RFP (request for proposals). Thus, they did not seek a competitive runoff between potential competitors for supplying desalinated water in North County Monterey. Subsequently, they moved forward to sign a water supply agreement with their chosen preferred contractor. Thus, they locked the public into a sure to be a costly solution that would suffer legal challenges and be delayed for years. I and others tried to move the county to a competitive approach which they routinely avoided. As time went on, I filed evidence with the district attorney of violations of state government contracting laws that led to one of the county's water officials being indicted and found guilty.

You and your staff know the history of this project, know the public recognizes it as being too costly, know that CalAm illegally withdrew water from the Carmel River, and you know that CalAm has no legal ground to extract water from the Marina Water district that may increase saltwater intrusion near their city wells. Plus, you know of an ongoing water treatment process that is soon to be generating sufficient water to meet the Peninsula's needs.

Additionally, you know that fair and open competition is a better contracting method that is needed up and down the coast to make desalination a common and affordable water solution for California residents and communities.

Therefore, since the County's contracting approach is actually harmful to the public, you should deny the project from proceeding. Since a cheaper water solution is at hand to solve water needs for the coming decade, I urge you to deny and tell the county to go back and terminate or redo their project approach, since this approach has proved to be a bust.

Ed Mitchell
LTC retired, U.S. Army

Resident at: 70 Carlson Rd, Salinas CA 93907
Home phone/Msg machine 831-663-3021

From: [Bill Strojny](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 5:07:37 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff,

The most important thing to remember when dealing with CalAm is that they illegally stole water from the Carmel River over an extended period of time and then sold it to their customers at exorbitant rates. As a criminal organization, CalAm is now trying to overwhelm the small City of Marina with attorney fees and costs because they are aware of our inability to fight back over the long run. Our city gets nothing from the de-sal plant they propose. Ask yourself why these offenders are not proposing to build their plant on Pebble Beach rather than a Marina beach? Enough said.

The greatest environmental, ecological, and toxicological damage caused by de-sal plants comes from the discharge left over after the desalinized waste is pumped back into the ocean. David Caron, Professor in the Marine Environmental Sciences at USC, published an article indicating that de-sal discharge compounds range from noxious substances to “powerful neurotoxins” that can constitute significant public health risk. Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the largest such sanctuary in the U.S., lies just off the Marina coast. Among other things it is home to whales, dolphins and sea otters. Do we really want these endangered species to be exposed to such poisons?

There is no reason to rush through a de-sal approval process when Monterey County is satisfied that it has sufficient water for at least the next 15 years. I request you withhold approval of a de-sal.

Please deny the CalAm project as it will harm Marina.

Thank you,
William Strojny,
Citizen of Marina

To: Tom Luster
Cc: Noaki Schwartz, Sumi Selvaraj
From: Citizens for Just Water
Date: 10/11/2022
Sent by email to Tom Luster <tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov>

Re: CalAm's letter 09/20/2022 regarding the MPWSP Community Outreach and Project Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

Dear Tom:

First, CalAm's letter topic is identified as "Project Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities". We know this is not lost upon you, but the letter speaks of advantages to others that have either minimal or nothing to do with Marina that will suffer all the risks and harms and receive not one benefit. It is all smoke and mirrors.

The level of misinformation in CalAm's letter is quite astounding! This document must not be taken with any credibility as it is filled with information devoid of objectivity on virtually every issue covered. Simple assertions of an opposite position do not make it a reality. Making statement after statement of untruthful information and omitting critical other information is utterly brazen behavior on the part of CalAm at this late date.

The whole intent of community meetings is presumably to receive input from those most affected by the project and be able to modify or include changes if possible. Coming at a time in which the project is essentially finalized, nullifies this objective. CalAm is now using these community meetings to say they have accomplished the required "community outreach" but they also have used these forums to promote propaganda to regions/people who have no stake in the actual project and who have only peripheral understanding but who can be swayed to support CalAm in the face of falsehoods and omissions of critical information. It is adding insult to injury to our Marina community.

Marina is a working-class community and the extraordinary turn-out of our residents at the CCC hearing on Nov. 14, 2019 and the subsequent canceled Sept. 2020 hearing required much time, effort and personal sacrifices, but our city stepped up in large numbers. With 2/3 of Marina's population consisting of people of color, including significant numbers of Hispanic/Latinx and Asian residents, Marina was never directly approached by CalAm for any previous outreach efforts over several years. Marina citizens educated our own communities, with the help of our public agencies. Now we are challenged to attend these useless community meetings only to bear witness to the incorrect information and ill-conceived formats of these meetings.

The first community meeting in Seaside, on 08/08/2002, was only attended by 10 people. Six of those attendees were from Public Water Now (PWN) and Citizens for Just Water (Just Water), yet CalAm states there were 30 people in attendance (possibly including their staff?).

We had over 100 attendees at the second CalAm community meeting held at CSUMB near Marina (actually a Seaside address) on August 9, 2022, in which there was visible public opposition with signs and chanting. CalAm has wrongly inferred in its letter that that meeting was favorable by the turnout numbers, which was completely not of their doing. In fact, only a four-day notice of the meeting was published in a Peninsula newspaper that has low Marina subscription due to its cost. No contact with our city or the active Citizens for Just Water group occurred. Many Marina residents do not go on CSUMB campus, so many got lost. Marina has many favored well-known alternative venues had CalAm bothered to contact any of our city representatives. If Marina residents expend limited time resources to attend such meaningless meetings, CalAm chalks this up to their successful outreach; if we don't go, CalAm will claim we are uncollaborative or disinterested.

A community meeting on Sept. 16 in Salinas was almost impossible to find and only 4 people were in attendance. Again, 3 were there only to monitor the event for MCWD and Citizens for Just Water and one visitor from the Spreckles area had attended briefly to oppose the project. These meetings are only a distraction for the real stakeholders and create another task of having to monitor CalAm's deceptive actions.

Representatives of PWN, Just Water and/or MCWD have attended each of the ten Community Forums/Workshops that CalAm has hosted at the Embassy Suites in Seaside, at CSUMB with a Seaside address, and in Salinas whose residents are not directly affected by the project. None of these meetings have been held in Marina! The only meeting that had more than approximately 10 attendees was the 08/09/2022 meeting at CSUMB, when more than 100 Just Water and PWN people showed up to protest this harmful, unneeded and unwanted project. At the last minute, CalAm purchased parking tickets to cover the \$5 parking fee that is required on campus, only because we had contacted them about this. There were no directional signs to the parking lot or at the building, and it was not clear where the parking tickets were being handed out (one unidentified person handed out parking permits across a large expanse of sidewalk).

For the final workshop at CSUMB on Saturday, 09/24/2022, two different times were posted on their website. After having contacted them, they confirmed that the correct time was in the afternoon (2-4 PM), but the website continued to show the morning and afternoon times. The day before the workshop, CalAm corrected their correction and announced that the correct time was in the morning (10 AM – 12 PM).

CalAm is doing a terrible job at informing residents about these community meetings. It seems that they will finally host community workshops in Marina but as of today, 10/11/2022, those workshops have not yet been posted on the MPWSP website. When asked at the community workshop in Salinas on 09/16/2022 how Marina residents would be informed about the workshop at CSUMB, scheduled for 09/23/2022, only one week away, the answer was that they would be informed by social media and that a notice would be included with their CalAm invoice... Did they not realize that residents of Marina receive their water and invoices from MCWD???

The only benefit that CalAm appears to offer Marina is their “Public Access Plan”. What is not said is that the property will be bought by a public agency or agencies by the Cemex Settlement Agreement and that beach access will surely be built, along with restoration, conservation and low impact recreation in perpetuity. And with six large cement well pads surrounded by fences blocking the access to the beach, CalAm’s contrived “pedestrian pathway” must circumnavigate around these unsightly well head pads that will line our shoreline and block future beach access. This kind of deceit is unconscionable!

Other outright falsehoods are captured in another CalAm claim in the letter:

“CalAm’s proposed slant wells would access seawater- intruded groundwater aquifers that extend beneath the ocean and pump salty water that cannot otherwise be used without treatment”.

The depth of deceit of such statements is mindboggling on so many counts (lack of GW water rights, pipes under the ocean floor, useless brackish water, etc.), not worthy of any time or effort to refute here. CalAm cites this, full well knowing that the CPUC decisions rejected serious review of the available state-of-the-art AEM aquifer imaging data and failed to seriously review the feasible PWM recycled water expansion project in the final vote on the CPCN!

CalAm further cites:

“The CPUC extensively studied the MPWSP’s potential impacts to coastal ecosystems, including plant and animal species. The CPUC determined that the MPWSP would not result in a substantial negative physical effect to terrestrial wildlife and habitats during construction and operation with implementation of various mitigation requirements”.

How dare CalAm completely ignore the findings of the **CCC Staff Report for the September 17, 2020** hearing (that was canceled) in which the CCC reported:“neither the Coastal Act nor the LCP allows the disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from CalAm’s Project. Staff therefore recommends that the proposed Project be found inconsistent with the Coastal Act and LCP ESHA policies”. This is the kind of distortions and insidious misrepresentation of the facts that CalAm has utilized to garner support by susceptible, uninformed listeners.

There are too many grossly distorted details in CalAm’s letter to respond to, but this serves to highlight only a few of the intentional dishonest, manipulative themes used by CalAm.

Thank you,
Liesbeth Visscher
Chair, Citizens for Just Water

October 20, 2022

Re: Support for Cal Am's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Dear Mr. Ainsworth,

My name is Avalon Galbreath, and I am a server at the Big Sur River Inn, located about 25 miles south of Carmel. My daily commute has always been substantial, as I have lived mostly on the Monterey Peninsula. I recently lost my housing, and have been struggling for the past six months or so trying to find a new place that I can afford. There have been few listings, and when one does show up, it's either gone by the time I see it, or it is priced well beyond my means. To find an affordable rental, I would need to consider living even farther from my job – up to 50 -60 miles away. The cost and time commitment for such a daily commute is not feasible. So I continue to “couch surf”, relying on a number of friends to give my children and me a place to sleep, eat and bathe. For a period, I was forced to actually live out of my car with my two small children.

I understand that the city of Monterey has been trying to approve new housing projects, but has had limited success, as they don't have the necessary water to move forward.

My job is very important to me and my family, and I want to keep it, but I can't do so without an affordable place to live. Please help me keep my job and continue supporting my family by approving the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Avalon Galbreath". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Avalon" and last name "Galbreath" clearly legible.

Avalon Galbreath

10/24/ 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a resident of Pacific Grove, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help bring water access to disenfranchised communities, support local conservation efforts, and protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The MPWSP is designed to protect our natural resources and benefit the environment. It will provide a reliable drought-proof water supply to replace our historic reliance on the Carmel River. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses and workers from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable. Lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our housing crisis in the region and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to creating a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture, and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula needs additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, further pressure on local habitats and rivershed, continued building moratoriums, and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Joel M. Becker
Jmbecker2@gmail.com
831.901.9274

October 25, 2022

Tom Luster, Senior Environmental Scientist
California Coastal Commission
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

In re: California American Water Desalination Project Application

Dear Mr. Luster:

Cal Am's proposed desalination project is not in our community's interest. The project has detrimental environmental impacts, and environmental injustice to the city of Marina. The project also has pending Court and CPUC decisions that have not yet been resolved and should not be considered until they are decided. In fact, an alternative project with no coastal footprint, Pure Water Monterey, when expanded, will provide adequate water. This letter particularly addresses Environmental Justice issues for Seaside and Monterey Peninsula ratepayers.

Environmental Injustice

The project unfairly forces disadvantaged residents on the Monterey Peninsula to subsidize another disadvantaged water district in Castroville, and any excess return water that will go to the Castroville Saltwater Intrusion Project which benefits farmers in Salinas Valley. As a lower income resident in Seaside, this will affect me greatly.

Cal Am is providing this very low-cost water (\$110 per acre foot) to meet a return water agreement for its illegal water take from the over drafted Salinas Valley Ground Basin. Cal Am made this agreement because under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, it is illegal to transfer water from an over drafted basin. At the same time, ratepayers on the peninsula will be paying well over \$6,000 an acre foot, as estimated in Cal Am's 2019 application. That cost will, in fact, now be higher due to inflation and increased construction costs.

This project differs greatly from the recently approved Dohany project, where the cost of desalinated water would be near \$2,000 an acre foot and rates would rise between two to seven dollars per household.

US Census Quick Facts state Castroville's population is 7,515, with a poverty rate of 10.2% or 766 people, while Seaside has 32,085 with a 12.2% poverty rate or 3,914. That means Seaside has five times the number of people in poverty versus Castroville. This does not include cities such as Monterey with a poverty rate of 11.5% (3,435), or Pacific Grove at 5.6% (895). There are also pockets of poverty in Carmel, and Carmel Valley.

Cal Am recently made a presentation to the Seaside City Council. They presented vague information about helping disadvantaged households if the project is approved, noting the assistance through their program and referrals to Federal programs. Cal Am says it is proposing to raise its assistance from 30% to 35%. The cost for these discounts is actually paid by ratepayers; this is a cost item line on the monthly bill. Therefore, lower income ratepayers not qualifying for assistance are subsidizing those who do. This will be yet another added cost to their rates

We should be clear on the definition of poverty. Cal Am's assistance programs are based on Federal poverty rates, with eligibility of no more than 200% of poverty. That means a family of two cannot make more than \$36,620 a year; a family of five \$55,000.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development defines low-income for Monterey County at \$72,800 for a family of two, and \$98,500 for a family of five, due to the very high cost of living.

The Living Wage Index for the Monterey peninsula produced by MIT research lists \$45.28 an hour for 2 adults with 2 children, one working. A single parent living wage with 2 children is listed at \$51.19 an hour. Yet, most residents in Seaside are working for much less per hour. Many residents work in the hospitality or agricultural industry. (Source: livingwage.mit.edu/counties/06053)

Water Rates

The proposed desalination project will have an immense impact for Cal Am ratepayers. Currently, Cal Am states that the average is roughly \$104. However, according to the Public Advocates Office (PAO) with the CPUC, a better measure to use is common usage. According the PAO, common usage for this area is roughly 5,000 gallons a month. My water bills fall within this range. In June 2022 I paid a total of \$146.98 for 5,385 gallons. It is almost impossible to stay within tier 1 water rates as the amount is very low. Cal Am staff have told me at their recent workshops that most customers fall into tier 2 rates.

Cal Am's rates will also rise next year under current rate structures. Beyond that increase, Cal Am has again applied to the CPUC in July 2022 for another 3-year rate

increase totaling 11.3%, phased in so each of those years builds upon the others. This will further increase the base rate upon which the desal project will be added.

Cal Am stated during their recent presentation that Tier 4 will be eliminated, pushing costs further down the tier system. Ratepayers could see their bills skyrocket to over \$200 or more per month while Castroville ratepayers would still pay under \$50 a month. The CPUC Public Advocates Office has estimated an increase of 65-70% if the desal is approved based on updated costs. This would bring my above cited bill to \$249.86 before the next rate increases. This is unaffordable.

Though I have attended four Cal Am workshop recently, no one, including the operations manager, can say how much this desal plant would now cost or how much it would increase rates. Cal Am wants to build a 25% smaller capacity desal plant, further driving up the cost per acre foot. The CPUC, in its initial approval, already rejected this option as being more costly.

Recently, the California legislature was concerned enough about rates to pass SB222 to mandate water cost assistance for residents struggling with water bills. Unfortunately, the Governor vetoed this legislation citing a burden on the general fund, though there is a \$52 billion budget surplus in 2022.

Cal Am's project creates environmental injustice and rate payer exploitation. Cal Am is not revealing the true costs for this project. If approved, it will cause financial hardship for many ratepayers, and contribute to the inability of lower income families and senior citizens to live near the coast. Please deny this project.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Schiavone, Seaside

VIA EMAIL

October 12, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Dear Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a long time resident and business owner in Pacific Grove and Monterey, I am writing to express my strong support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). I have also served on the Pacific Grove City Council , planning commission and was an elected member of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District. Through my tenure on these boards, I have witnessed firsthand the many challenges our community faces due to its reliance on the Carmel River as its main water supply. I am firmly convinced that the MPWSP will provide a reliable water source for our region. It is critically needed and has already taken too long to become a reality.

I have read the reports and the EIR on the MPWSP and have found it to be designed to protect our natural resources and benefit the environment. Most importantly, it will provide a reliable drought-proof water supply to replace our historic reliance on the Carmel River. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses and workers from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable. This is not about growth but about the ongoing vitality and ability of our region to continue to function. Lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our housing crisis in the region and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, further pressure on local habitats and rivershed, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project.

Thank you,

Michelle Knight, PhD.
Former Pacific Grove Councilmember, Former Pacific Grove Planning Commission Member, Former Director of Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

October 13, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a resident and business owner in Pebble Beach, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help bring water access to disenfranchised communities, support local conservation efforts, and protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The MPWSP is designed to protect our natural resources and benefit the environment. It will provide a reliable drought-proof water supply to replace our historic reliance on the Carmel River. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses and workers from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable. Lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our housing crisis in the region and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, further pressure on local habitats and river shed, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Kim Donlon
Owner, Designer, Realtor
Monterey Peninsula Home Team
Simply Detailed

October 15, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a resident of Monterey, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The residents of the Monterey Peninsula have done an amazing job of conserving water over the past several years, but we are at a point where too many consecutive drought years have made it impossible to “conserve our way out of this” water shortfall. Conservation has its place, as do recycling and aquifer storage and recovery programs. We must add to that portfolio a drought-proof water supply that can only be accomplished with desalination, and the MPWSP is the ONLY shovel-ready desal project we have. It is also the RIGHT desal project, protecting the environment and preventing further threat of salt water intrusion into our existing aquifers.

The MPWSP is designed to protect our natural resources and benefit the environment. It will provide a reliable drought-proof water supply to replace our historic reliance on the Carmel River. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens jobs and our local economy. Local businesses and workers from agriculture to the hospitality industry to the construction industry need water to remain viable. Lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our housing crisis in the region and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There’s no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, further pressure on local habitats and river shed, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Rick Aldinger
62 Via Castanada
Monterey, CA 93940

26 October 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a heavy vehicle equipment provider, Monterey County Farm Bureau Board Director and a third generation resident of Monterey County, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

Salinas Valley is known colloquially as “the Salad Bowl of the World.” Agriculture is Monterey County’s largest economic and employment sector, generating billions annually and sustaining tens of thousands of jobs. However, decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that puts our entire industry at risk. Local agriculture businesses depend upon water to remain viable in ways that other industries do not. Chronic drought and water shortages hurt not only our workforce, but our very ability to continue providing as one of California’s most productive agricultural regions.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

MPWSP will serve the peninsula, but it will also provide drinking water supplies to Castroville, reducing groundwater pumping and helping reduce seawater intrusion in our coastal groundwater basins that are vitally important to our county’s agricultural bounty.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There’s no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, the agriculture industry cannot survive. We desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Paul Arnaudo, General Manager
Commercial Truck Co.
Salinas Ca

October 11, 2022

Mr. Tom Luster
California Coastal Commission
Energy and Ocean Resources Unit
445 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94101

Re: Support for Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

To state the obvious, Monterey County is in crisis when it comes to water. We have experienced severe drought nine of the last twelve years, including the last five years in a row, and it is very likely 2023 will be another dry La Nina year. Both Lake Nacimiento and Lake San Antonio Reservoirs are under 20% of capacity, and our groundwater use is under regulatory scrutiny. In addition, the state will require new affordable housing to be built in the county under the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. County officials are taking smart steps to address this crisis, and the proposed Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Plant is key to that.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. MPWSP will serve the peninsula, but it will also provide drinking water supplies to Castroville, reducing groundwater pumping and helping reduce seawater intrusion in our coastal groundwater basins that are vitally important.

This is not a new project, and has been in the works for quite some time. The project site was originally agreed upon by multiple parties, and the proposal going before the Coastal Commission for approval in November is actually a slightly scaled down version of what was originally proposed.

Monterey County has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. While the proposed MPWSP project will not solve all our water issues, it is a key component to a comprehensive solution. Everyone agrees that desalination is critical to solving our water needs, and this is the only project on the table that has a chance to be completed within the next ten years.

John McPherson
Salinas, CA

To Whom It May Concern at the Commission. As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desalination project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that I urge the Coastal Commission to consider. The Expansion will provide all the water that is needed for housing and growth in my local for the next 30 years, even considering our current and forecast drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.


The Peninsula does not need this desalination (desal) plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Government's (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. Cal Am's claim that another 6,250 acre-feet is not substantiated in any study or report currently available.

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing over \$6,000 an acre-foot. While the economics of the proposal significantly profit Cal Am shareholders it is not in the best interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I strongly oppose the development of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district of Marina. Marina would get none of this water, but would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk of losing its current aquifer by additional seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I recognize the massive greenhouse gas emissions this proposed plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am extremely alarmed at Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this proposed desalination project.



Ronald J. Roland, Ph.D.
33 Castro Road
Monterey, CA 93940

Gary and Doreen Cursio
P.O. Box 7
Seaside, CA 93955

Date: October 21, 2022

Via Email: Tom.Luster@costal.ca.gov

Tom Luster
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105- 2219

Re: Support for California American Water's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Dear Mr. Luster:

Please recommend approval of California American Water's application for a Coastal Development Permit for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

We have lived in Monterey County for 25 years. Being totally dependent on local rainfall and receiving the majority of our water from the Carmel River whose resources are over-strained, we have been under strict conservation measures for literally decades.

Our community has fought and fought over the best way to solve our water problems. Half the community wants no solution because they are afraid it will lead to growth and the other half wants a right-sized, long-term legal water supply. The voices that truly care about the health of the river also support a solution.

In 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board stepped in and put us under a Cease and Desist Order because we can't agree. They believed the added pressure and threat of devastating consequences would push us to complete a project. That still has not happened.

We need your help to resolve our water issues. Cal Am's desal project is environmentally friendly and won't harm the underserved of Marina. Recycled water is not drought proof. Please approve this project, our community is depending on it.

Sincerely,



Gary & Doreen Cursio



CONCLUSION

For all of the reasons set forth herein, CalAm's January 2022 Letter is insufficient and fails to provide the necessary information requested by the Commission to complete the application. Until CalAm provides all of the missing information in the pertinent subject areas, the City of Marina urges the Commission Staff to inform CalAm that its CDP application for the Project is not complete.

Very truly yours,



Paul P. "Skip" Spaulding, III

PPS:rjr
Enclosures

cc: Layne P. Long, City Manager
Members of the Marina City Council
Robert Wellington, City Attorney
Robert Rathie, Assistant City Attorney
Sara Steck Myers, Esq.

October 26, 2022

Mr. Luster and members of the Coastal Commission,

As a former Monterey County Planning Commissioner and long-time advocate for the Castroville community, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide access to critically-needed, reliable water source for all communities, including my community of Castroville which is suffering from catastrophic salt water intrusion of our drinking supply wells. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help ensure that all have access to clean, reliable water in the Monterey Peninsula and Castroville.

California American Water has provided ratepayer assistance programs in Monterey for almost two decades, including ongoing discounts and a hardship program. In their September 2022 update to Coastal Commission staff they committed to sponsoring proposals that will increase the assistance they already give and expand programs for tenants of multi-family buildings living behind master meters.

Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens everyone in the region, but particularly disenfranchised communities and working-class families. Lack of water has resulted in a building moratorium, exacerbating our affordable housing crisis in the region and forcing workers to drive long distances between jobs and where they can afford to live. Castroville, a disadvantaged community, faces its own drinking water crisis due to seawater intrusion threatening its primary water supply, will see enormous benefit from the MPWSP.

The MPWSP is part of a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for affordable housing and local jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities. This net-zero GHG emission project will create a permanent, reliable source of water, without placing extra burdens on the Carmel River and without increasing air or industrial pollution in the region.

Please don't let a small but vocal group of NIMBY's prevent an essential water supply project, that will have a transformative impact on so many people, from moving forward.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait - we desperately need the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,



Cosme Padilla

From: [An McDowell](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No to Cal Am desal
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 5:03:47 PM

I am a Cal Am customer in Monterey and I am very pleased with the Pure One expansion program. This plan will create enough water. We do not need an expensive Cal Am desal project.

An McDowell
cell. 831 233-4853

From: [Allan Mayfield](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Vote "No" on Desalination Plant for Monterey County
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 4:18:59 PM

Dear CACC,

With the Pure Water Monterey Water Purification Facility coming online in the next 2 years, why would we burden Monterey water users with what will prove to be an incredibly expensive desalination plant?! As we all know, the final cost will be far beyond the proposed \$400,000,000 - these big projects always go way over budget and Cal Am has never been trustworthy in terms of costs.

Please do not approve the desalination project. Thanks,
Allan

Mobile: +1-408-656-0104 Email: allanmayfield1@yahoo.com

From: [Carolyn Rice](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: NO DESAL FOR MONTEREY COUNTY
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 1:42:25 PM

WHEN YOU MEET NOV. 17 PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THE CAL AM DESAL PROJECT. IT IS TOO EXPENSIVE AND DAMAGING TO OUR ENVIRONMENT.

PURE WATER MONTEREY CAN CONTINUE TO EXPAND AND MEET OUR WATER NEEDS BY REUSING WATER.

THIS WILL COST RATEPAYERS LESS AND ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING PROJECTS APPROVED FOR THE AREA.

CAROLYN RICE
25565 TIERRA GRANDE DRIVE
CARMEL, CA 93923

From: [Meredith Harrill](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - OPPOSE
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 12:59:38 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a native to this area and longtime Cal Am customer, I strongly oppose Cal Am's environmentally damaging, unnecessary and expensive desalinization project!

How can the will of the voters be ignored? We have Pure Water Monterey competently providing water and expansion plans which will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year.

Ca Am's investor owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot! How can you, as members of the commission designed to protect our coast, justify this?

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Meredith Harrill

From: [John Ryder](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal plant
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 12:03:51 PM

We don't need desal. Use what other sources are available.

From: [Jeffrey Cooper](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:52:30 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commission,

In November of 2019 the Commission released findings of an independent hydrogeological review with concerns that the commission was not satisfied the project would abide by the groundwater protection provision of Coastal Act Section 30231. Has there been any update on this position or is it still suspected there is flawed modeling and poor extraction estimations?

I'm citing the following press release:

<https://www.cityofmarina.org/DocumentCenter/View/10594/Press-Release-Two>

My concern is that there appear to be many ecological unknowns with this proposed project yet a for-profit corporation based out of New Jersey is attempting to force the construction of this plant upon a small community outside of its service area.

I am hopeful that the CA Coastal Commission is monitoring the situation closely and prepared to intervene if the rights and wishes of a small coastal community are about to be trampled by an unsafe project being imposed by a large corporation.

Thank you,
Jeffrey Cooper
Marina resident

From: [Dustin Cook](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: info@publicwaternow.org
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 11:22:07 AM

California Coastal Commission

I am a Cal Am customer living on the Monterey Peninsula and I am writing to voice my opposition to Cal Am's desal project.

Cal Am's desal proposal is not well planned in its construction or operation or in meeting the community's needs.

Functionality: for the cost of their completed desal plant they're using six year old cost data (imagine what the cost would be using current estimates) and projecting a cost in excess of \$6,000 per acre-foot.

The recently approved Doheny Desal project is projecting a cost of \$1,479 per acre-foot. Why the huge cost difference?

And needs of the community: our coalition of local governments (AMBAG) has projected a need in this area for an additional 786 acre-feet of water by year 2045 while Cal Am claims that we will need an additional 6,250 acre-feet.

Currently we have Pure Water Monterey water treatment facility producing purified water for the past two years which has allowed us to stop Cal Am's overdrafting of the Carmel River.

The second phase of PWM treated water would add 2,250 acre-feet per year to our drinking supply, far in excess of the 786 acre-feet that AMBAG projects to be needed by 2045.

Desal plants use huge amounts of energy, in this case 52,000 megawatt hours per year with 8,000 metric tons of CO2 released into the atmosphere.

The PWM treatment uses far less energy, reduces the discharge of treated sewage into the Marine Sanctuary, and recycles the existing flow of water to stay on the peninsula.

By contrast the Cal Am desal slant well will be extracting water from an over drafted ground water basin and likely creating additional seawater intrusion into that basin.

At the very least Cal Am should provide updated costs of the construction and operation of this proposed plant and they should explain disparities called out above in cost and quantity projections.

Not bothering to have current cost data and unexplainable projections lead me to believe that Cal Am's focus has been on justifying the construction of this desal facility rather than the design

and long term possible benefits to the environment, the greater community and its customers.

Thank you for reviewing this and helping to obtain an accurate plan for our future water supply.

From: [John Anderson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAm's proposed Monterey Bay desal plant
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 10:41:02 AM

Please say no to CalAm's attempts to put a desalination plant along the Monterey Bay.

Why would we allow an industrial eyesore on our beautiful, undeveloped coast that pumps out expensive water, jeopardizes aquifers and threatens fragile marine and beach ecosystems? Also, those pristine beaches and protected marine habitats are exactly why tourism is far and away our #1 industry in Monterey. Desal plants are also highly energy-intensive, so not green.

This is a broader point, but agriculture uses over 80% of the state's water (while accounting for only 2% of state GDP), growing some of the most water-intensive crops out there (almonds, alfalfa, rice) that are mostly shipped overseas. The state has the water, it just needs to be better allocated and conserved.

Respectfully,
John Anderson
Marina, CA

From: [Renee Franken](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 10:01:12 AM

Date: October 27, 2022

To: Members of the California Coastal Commission

From: Renee Franken, resident of Monterey

Re: Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose

I implore the Coastal Commission to deny Cal-Am's Application to proceed with its desal proposal for a host of reasons:

1. Desal is not needed. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District has done the research and it shows that with the expansion of Pure Water Monterey, the Peninsula will have enough water for housing and growth over the next 30 years, even in a drought!
2. Cal-Am does not have the necessary water rights to build its desal plant and it may never get them.
3. Cal-Am's latest proposal is to build its desal plant in stages. When completed, it will be just as large as the plan it originally submitted and just as expensive. Cal-Am's desal project would deliver water at \$7,200 per acre foot.
4. Cal Am's desal plant is estimated to cost \$426 million. We already pay the highest water rates in the country. To saddle us with the extremely high costs for a desal plant we do not need would be extremely unjust, especially for our low-income families.
5. Cal-Am makes arguments it cannot actually support. They have inflated the demand numbers and understated the supply numbers. Cal-Am has not been a trustworthy entity. Cal Am has been over drafting the Seaside Basin and the Carmel River for

decades. Cal Am did nothing to remedy this. It was our public agencies who created Pure Water Monterey, which allowed Cal-Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River. For over two years Cal-Am blocked and delayed the expansion of Pure Water Monterey so its desal project would be seen more favorably by the Coastal Commission.

6. Cal-Am has a financial interest in building desal, whether the plant is needed or not. It earns a 10% profit on its assets. In contrast, there is no incentive for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District to overstate its case that the Pure Water Monterey Expansion is enough water to see us through 30 years of growth.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

From: [Kris Lindstrom](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal Proposal
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 9:39:35 AM

I oppose approval of this proposal. It is now needed and will make our water even more unaffordable.

Kris Lindstrom, Pacific Grove resident for 32 years. Retired water and wastewater consultant who worked on the Orange County wastewater reclamation project - largest in California.

From: [Craig Lovell](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desal Please
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 9:15:19 AM

I am not in favor of the CalAm plan for a desal plant. Lets get the recycled water project to full capacity, work on conserving water and get home owners to harvest rain water instead. Desal is cost prohibitive and unnecessary.

Craig in Carmel Valley

From: fugentfilms@me.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Free Water
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 8:11:52 AM

Good day CalAmMonterey,

I don't understand. When it rains there are millions of gallons of water rushing down our streets — yet little to none of it is collected. Why are we pursuing things like water purification and desalinization when it's already available for free. I understand that the infrastructure for collection points would have to be made, but wouldn't that be cheaper and more sustainable going into the future?

Cheers,

Carl

From: [val.g](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: please approve desal plant
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:42:14 AM

Please approve Cal Am's Desal Plant Permit or veto both the Desal and "pure water" which is a scam. The alternative of drinking poop water from "pure water" is not a viable alternative and WILL have negative health consequences down the road. The age old scam of calling something a name that is the exact opposite of what it really is!! NO on the "pure" water idea.

Best Regards,

Linda Killar
28 Paso Hondo
Carmel Valley, CA

From: [Susan Reddington](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:33:50 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Susan Reddington
Carmel, CA 93923

From: [BK O'Brien](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: We DO NOT Need CalAM's Desal Project Please DO NOT APPROVE CalAM DESAL PROJECT
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:32:18 AM

To whom it may concern:

When the expansion of Pure Water Monterey is completed in two years, it will provide all the water we need for new housing, commercial development, and drought reserves. Decades of water shortage will end, and the Monterey Peninsula will have all the water it needs for the next 30 years. NO DESAL NEEDED.

With that said.....please DO NOT approve CalAM's Desal Project. It's not good for the environment, this area, and does NOT have our best interest at the heart of it.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We hope you make the right decision for all of our sakes!

Sent from my iPhone

From: [CHARLES LATTY](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal Permit
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:27:54 AM

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote to deny Cal Am's permit to build its expensive and unnecessary desal plant.

Most communities have public water. Monterey should also have a publicly owned water system. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion project will provide all of the water needed by the Monterey Peninsula for the next 30 years.

If Cal Am's desal permit is approved, it will only add additional expenses to our monthly water bills and make our community's efforts to buy out Cal Am more expensive and complicated.

My hope is that the Monterey Peninsula will soon be able to purchase the Cal Am facilities from them and take ownership so that we can finally have the public water system that can better and more affordably serve all of our residents.

Yours truly,

Charles C. Latty, Jr

From: [Aris Angelopoulos](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 7:11:18 AM

Yes we need a desalination plant in Monterey County. Take the politics out of the water.

Aris C. Angelopoulos
E-Mail: ari.angelopoulos@gmail.com
Phone: 831-620-1915
Cell: 831-277-8012

From: [Katrina Hintze](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please build a desalination plant
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022 5:14:48 AM

California desperately needs the infrastructure of desalination plants and nuclear power plants. I personally would like to see a desalination plant on the beach property currently poorly managed by the Naval Postgraduate School.

We have the technology and people need water. The longer we delay; the more expensive this project becomes.

Regards,

Katrina Hintze

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: [billie lee brown](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am Permit
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:30:41 PM

These people have lied, cheated and ripped us off for yrs. They've had at least 25 yrs. to do something and in spite of constantly raising rates, nothing has changed.

Now they want to destroy our environment with bad technology and charge us even more.

thanks for not allowing them to get away with this.

Billie Brown
410 congress ave.
Pacific Grove, CA

From: [Bill Zika](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:27:51 PM

I think it is shortsighted to rule out desalination based solely on cost. The country of Israel as well as the city of Perth Australia have been desalinating for a number of years now as part of a comprehensive plan of water conservation, recycling, and ocean desalination. We are in a severe drought and the demand for pure water is high. Desalination should be part of our comprehensive plan, in my opinion.

Bill Zika, PhD
Clinical Psychologist

From: linda.conway
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Vote No to CalAm desalination plant Monterey
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:08:02 PM

Dear team

I am writing to voice my objection to CalAm's proposed desalination plant in Marina.

Environmental stewardship and public access to California coastline are the core remits of your agency but CalAm's desalination plant would reduce public access to our Monterey coastline and pump toxic brine into Monterey Bay - one of the most critical marine ecosystems in the world.

Expansion of the Pure Water Monterey project will provide sufficient water for our near term needs, and the peninsula should be encouraged to accelerate other recycling and conservation measures. Rainwater capture and greywater laundry-to-landscape systems are still rarely used in Monterey, despite the immense water efficiency they provide. The Coastal Commission can encourage wider adoption of water reuse and recycling measures and preserve our precious coastline.

I urge you to vote against CalAm's desalination plant.

Sincerely,

Linda Conway
726 Grove Acre Ave
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
831 920 9466

From: [Patrick Bowen](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Build the desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:32:20 PM

Build the desalination plant

From: [Deborah Sharp](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Pure Water Monterey
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:21:35 PM

Members of the Coastal Commission:

The solutions Pure Water Monterey proposes for the Monterey Bay Area are far better than Cal Am's desal solution.

Please, once again, deny CalAm's desal proposal in favor of Pure Water Monterey's environmentally sound, practical, affordable solution.

It is the solution we need.

Thank you.

Deborah Sharp
152 Del Mesa Carmel
Carmel 93923

From: adagio3737@aol.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please don't burden us with a desalination boondoggle!
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 7:41:04 PM

Drive down highway one anytime during the summer months and you will see extensive irrigation, spaying water for the assortment of crops. We have water but we don't have a practical approach for the use of that precious resource. Desalination is not a practical or affordable source of water for the Monterey Peninsula. We had a small water maker on our sail boat as we cruised down into Latin America . We experienced the incredible amount of energy needed to make one gallon of water from "desalination". How will we afford the intense energy need for such an operation in our area? To say nothing of the initial cost of building a desalination facility. Voters have rejected Cal Am, voters of our area do not want a desalination facility. But Cal Am continues to promote themselves and this desalination project. Please be mindful of all the problems we have now in our society. Please do not compound our present problems with Cal Am's desalination boondoggle!

Tam Timmion

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

From: [Laura Paxton](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:44:36 PM

I am COMPLETELY IN FAVOR of Cal Am's desal plant. It's the only drought proof water supply and the only way to insure the Seaside groundwater basin will achieve sustainability!

Sincerely,

Laura Paxton
2824 Pine Circle
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

From: [Johnnie Eslinger](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:31:35 PM

Hi.

My name is Johnnie Eslinger. I am a resident of Marina for just over a year but recently learned of CalAm's application to set up a plant at the former Cemex property. It's my understanding the plan was to perform desalination of sea water but they want instead to pull ground water from the area, tearing up Marina streets to lay pipes to bring it to Monterey and Pacific Grove. This is adding insult to injury, not to mention the environmental impact.

Unfortunately my work went long today and I was unable to attend the meeting today.

I strongly urge you to deny the permit.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Johnnie Eslinger
3124 Lake Drive, #49
Marina, CA 93933

From: [Marilyn Erickson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:15:01 PM

Cal Am's plan does not make sense and is too expensive. Choose Pure Water Now.

Thank you.

Marilyn Erickson

Boots Rd.

Monterey

From: [Lou Zeidberg](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalination plant will destroy Monterey Bay
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:09:11 PM

Dear Coastal Commission,

My name is Lou Zeidberg and I am a marine biologist. I have studied the California market squid for 25 years and I am an expert on marine species in coastal California. I teach marine biology classes at CSUMB and have lived on the Monterey peninsula since 2003.

You must vote no on the desalination plant in Monterey Bay.

I have read the environmental impact reports (EIR) regarding California American's plan to install a desalination plant in the Monterey bay. These impact reports do not take into account friction. If seawater (34 per mille salinity) is turned into freshwater, a desalination plant must discharge brine. Brine is twice the density of seawater (68 per mille) and although briefly mixing, it will shortly there after sink to the seafloor. The EIR claims it will then continue under the force of gravity to the deep sea. Ignoring the fact that we should not destroy the deep sea, this notion from the EIR does not take into account the effect of the weight of all of this brine. The weight of a big pool of brine on the seafloor in Monterey bay would be so heavy that friction would deny its ability to sink out of the bay. It would essentially get stuck on the seafloor nearby where it is discharged. The pool of brine would stay put and grow in size.

It would be discharged just off the shore of Marina. This is an area that is rich for marine life. There are active commercial and recreational fisheries in this area for squid, sardine, anchovy, salmon, halibut, rockfish, sea bass and other species. These species live and lay their eggs where the brine will create a blanket of super saline water. These species cannot live in brine, they are not adapted to it. In fact no marine species are. These populations will no longer be able to live in this area. Economies that have thrived for over a hundred years will cease to exist here.

There are many recreational users of the Monterey Bay as well. People surf, scuba dive, go whale watching, kayak, and walk along the shore. This entire ecosystem would be negatively impacted by the discharge of brine through a pipe near the seafloor. The nature of this area is a source of national pride and an international tourist attraction.

Please do not allow Cal-Am to build a desalination plant in Monterey Bay.

Reclamation can solve the water shortage. There is no need to burden the local marine species or the rate payers with a desalination project.

Sincerely,
Lou Zeidberg PhD
Professor of biology
CSUMB

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Sharon Tucker](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: I'm in support of desal plant. This is long overdue. We may not need it now, but we will 20 years from now. I was born on the Monterey Peninsula and we have never had good long-range planning. It's about time that changed..
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:47:06 PM

--

Sharon Law Tucker
831-809-1706 cell

From: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster.Tom@Coastal)
To: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal); CalAmMonterey@coastal; [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz.Noaki@Coastal)
Cc: susan.schiavone
Subject: Re: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:29:10 PM

Yes, just send a corrected version with a request to replace.

Thanks,

Tom L.

From: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:44 PM
To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>; CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>; Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: susan.schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: FW: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project

Hi Everyone,

Susan notified me she had some errors in her letter she sent. She has requested to replace the letter with the attached. Is that possible?

Thanks,
sumi

From: susan.schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:49 PM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project

Sumi, thank you! - I found some errors in the letter and fixed them. Could this version be used instead? Thanks, if possible. If not able to switch it, I understand! Thank you for all your work on the project.

On Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 05:57:26 PM PDT, Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <sumi.selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Susan – thanks for sending. We will add it to the record.

Sumi

From: susan.schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:27 AM

To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>; Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal
<Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>; CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project

Attached is my letter in opposition to the desalination plant proposed by Cal Am which will be considered by the Coastal Commission on November 17, 2022. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

From: [Jaia Lin](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: My vote is for Pure Water Monterey!
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:12:19 PM

Hello,

I've recently educated myself about the desal vs pure water Monterey options for our water crisis and to me, the Pure Water Monterey option makes much more sense from an environmental and financial perspective.

That's my vote and I plan on educating my neighbors as well.
Thanks! Jaia

From: [Kristi Markey](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No to the Cal Am Desal project
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 5:11:06 PM

I do not believe Cal Am's proposed desalination project is financially or environmentally the smart choice for a water supply project. I hope Cal Am will respect the desires of its customers and cease pursuing approvals for this project. Thank you,

Kristi Markey

From: [Carol Andrews](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am's Desal plans- please deny
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:42:10 PM

Please deny CalAm's desal request. It is too costly and we have a better solution with Monterey Regional Water Management District's pure water plan.

Thank you for considering a local water user's request.

Carol Andrews
Seaside, CA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ted Ohlmer](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: DeSal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:33:02 PM

Please do not go to expensive DeSal and ignore the reuse of waste water. Just need a better terminology that "toilet to tap".

Ted

From: [gerhard.bensberg](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: desal plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:20:46 PM

to the coastal commission! Yes please pass the desal plant for Monterey, CA. All living creatures need water and the ocean is a huge supply in times of drought. thank you, G. Bensberg

From: [Charles B. DeWitt](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Support for Desal Facility
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:19:38 PM

We strongly support building the Desal facility.

It's time for California to catch up with a proven technology in use all around the world.

All the best,

CBD

From: [Erika Delemarre](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalination in Monterey? >NO THANK YOU!<
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:18:36 PM

I am a resident and registered voter in Monterey, CA. I am a graduate of Scripps Institution of Oceanography with a Master's Degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation. I strongly urge the Coastal Commission to **PLEASE DENY Cal Am's DESAL PERMIT.**

Desalination is meant to solve the water shortage impacts of climate change-driven drought. In fact, the energy-intensive process of **desalination only contributes to increased greenhouse gas emissions, furthering climate change.** Monterey County does not have access to enough renewable energy to fully power a desalination plant.

Additionally, it should be our priority to **PROTECT MONTEREY BAY** and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Desalination plants pull water from the ocean, trapping small yet important marine life such as plankton in their intake systems. Plankton are at the center of the vast marine food web that supports marine life small and large along our coast. The salty byproducts of the desalination process can be harmful to our environment, regardless of whether they are deposited in the sea or on land.

A desalination plant is essentially a band-aid on a bullet wound. Instead of short-term solutions to the impacts of climate change, we need to be thinking about bigger, broader solutions. Create financial incentives for people and businesses that reduce their water usage. Golf courses and other water-intensive businesses should pay mitigation fees or higher prices for using more water than the average consumer or business.

MONTEREY BAY DOES NOT WANT A DESALINATION PLANT and WE DO NOT WANT TO PAY FOR ONE!! The Pure Water Monterey Water Purification Facility has provided a good start for our community. In addition to recycling water, we need to focus on reductions in water use and increased efficiency.

Thank you for hearing the voices of Monterey's hard-working, tax-paying residents who adore Monterey Bay!



Erika Delemarre
about.me/delemarre

From: [Rudy Gnekow](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Decline Cal Am's desal permit?
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:17:23 PM

As a current customer of American Water we are currently paying the highest price for water in the US. Part of the problem is that American Water over the years has sold the utilities commissioner and the public on two failed water projects. We the customers have been paying monthly for those failed water projects because they made a bad business decision years ago. We cannot afford for then to make additional bad investments in water management. American Water has made poor choices in the past. American Water customers should not have to pay for poor decisions that American Water Senior management has made. The senior management group at American Water makes over \$12 million, they are being paid to make quality decisions that help us and at the same time control cost.

Another concern that should be addressed is that the state may mandates that we need to cut water usage. If this is true, will we have to pay American Water a subsidy because they are selling less water. Will the utilities commissioner decide that it is the customer responsibility to bail American Water bottom line out.

If this were to happen one would have to ask. Did AW reduce its labor force as they are selling less product. They could save on labor, health care, retirement, reduced service need and repairs, cost of energy. If they are doing all of the above why would customers be expected to help by paying subsidies.

Sent from my iPad
Rudy Gnekow

From: [Mark Weirick](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny CalAm's desalinisation permit
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:15:27 PM

Hi,

I am a resident of Seaside, CA and I urge you to reject CalAm's desal permit.

I believe the project is unnecessary given Pure Water Monterey's efforts to expand and provide water for the central coast, and I believe the desal permit is a continuation of CalAm's business practices to pass its costs onto customers while being a for-profit corporation that has been able to charge our residents more than is necessary to provide us the public services to, and human right to have, safe, clean water.

As someone who is forced to be a customer under CalAm, I am all too familiar with the claims that we are charged some of the highest rates in the country. It is to be expected when you have a for-profit corporation in place of a public utility. By their for-profit nature, and their monopoly on our water services, they can (and do) charge us more than the cost of providing services in order to collect a profit. This is not a good-faith actor interested in ensuring the central coast has the water it needs--their intent is to undermine non-profit efforts to bring our costs down, by arguing that a desal plant is a more practical solution than what Pure Water Monterey is already working on, and to charge residents as much of CalAm's costs as possible, while continuing to maintain rates that provide an additional profit on top of the costs of serving our community.

CalAm are not interested in serving our community by providing a desal plant. They are interested in charging our community to pay for it, to have us abandon practical efforts to provide affordable water, and to continue charging us higher rates at a profit for them. From what I understand, your Coastal Commission has twice recommended against this desal project. I appreciate your efforts and I support your continuing to not allow CalAm to proceed. Please continue to do so--the working people of our area struggle tremendously with the cost of living, including the rates CalAm charges us, and to allow them to pass their costs onto us for this project would only devastate many of our working families even further.

-Mark Weirick
27 Primrose Circle, Seaside, CA 93955

From: [Benjamin Mattern](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desalination plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:45:36 PM

Please support pure water Monterey! We need innovative solutions, not expensive and unnecessary water plants.

-BM

From: [Melissa Hutchinson](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:44:18 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Melissa Hutchinson
Pacific Grove

From: [Roland Martin](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:41:13 PM

To All Commissioners:

Opposition to Cal Am's desal project is supported by management's years long record of unkept promises. They proved to be artful-dodgers, not to be trusted to follow through. That record should cast doubt on any projections Cal Am has made, or will make, in order to get approval for an inherently flawed desal proposal to the Coastal Commission. What the Commissioners do know is that Pure Water Monterey has been producing potable water for two years. PWM has indicated it can expand production to meet the peninsula's current and future needs for the next 30 years: At a cost per a/f than can be extrapolated from current costs per acre foot. Cal Am has refrained from giving estimates for it's desal production costs for understandable reasons - they would be shocking! Quite probably in excess of \$6,000 per a/f. Certainly very much higher than PWM's demonstrable extrapolation. Peninsula ratepayers do not trust Cal Am. Coastal Commissioners should give weight to ratepayers in opposition.

Roland Martin
Carmel Valley
831-331-6800

From: [Ernest Long](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalinization Plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:35:49 PM

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

As a resident of Carmel Valley, and a consumer of CAL Am water, it is my request that the Coastal Commission deny the request of CAL AM to invest in the desalinization plant until all environmental evaluation has been completed.

It is also important to appreciate that CAL Am is financially motivated to move forward with the investment to improve its position in the jousting to come in the struggle over private vs. public ownership and control of water rights and distribution in Monterey County.

Pure Water Monterey has demonstrated the ability to ramp up the supply of drinking water and there is no current documented requirement to go forward with the desal plant.

Thank you.

Ernie Long
Carmel Valley

From: [David Curran](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: De-Sal should NOT be approved
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:25:34 PM

From: [charles bradbury](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:24:08 PM

No Desalination by Cal/Am!

From: [Margaret Goodman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No need for desal plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:02:51 PM

Hello,

This is to urge you to rule against the desal plant that Cal Am wishes to install in Marina. It's:

Expensive - hundreds of millions of dollars which get added to the water bills that are already ridiculously high

Unneeded- Water purification and recycling fills all our needs

Environmentally unsafe - what happens to all that salt, etc. that's taken out of the water? What happens to the water of Marina, which does not even get to benefit from the proposed desal plant?

Thank you for your consideration.

Margaret Goodman
Pacific Grove resident
Messgwg@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ari Gmail](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 3:01:20 PM

Yes we need a desalination plant in Monterey County.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [TODD PERKINS](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:55:23 PM

Despite the lobbying efforts of MPWMD, other sources have indicated that recycled water is unlikely to meet the needs of Monterey Peninsula over the long run, and that a small desalination plant is necessary.

Todd Perkins
twperkin@wisc.edu
3109 Bird Rock Rd.
Pebble Beach, CA
831/375-1440

From: [Nina Harrison](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:48:51 PM

How many times do the people of Monterey county need to say they do not need or want Cal Ams desal.
Nina Harrison

Sent from my iPhone

From: lhschwabe@aol.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal; outreach@mpwmd.net
Subject: Stop Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:47:50 PM

We are supposed to be a green state. ai was an engineer on a 12m desal plant it used 100,000 horsepower.

There are cleaner more efficient ways to provide all the necessary clean water. For one ST. Pete FL. has been using membrane filtration on sewage and returning the water to the potable water supply.

Nobody is mentioning the true cost of water with desal. The cost of the construction is just the tip of the iceberg; the operating and maintenance costs exceed the construction cost, at these pressures 1.400 psi the very expensive membranes have a short life, the pumps are huge even by industrial standards and this does not even consider the cost of electricity and the environmental impact from generating the electicity and the impact of damage to the sea.

The only reason Cal Am wants desal is that they are paid 10 % profit and 10% overhead on all of these expenses.

Cal Am already has the highest water rates in the country. **WE VOTED TO REPLACE CAL AM WITH A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM. DOES OUR VOTE COUNT OR WILL SUPPOTERS OF CAL AM'S GREED WIN.**

Stop desal now.

From: [Mark Bishop](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: desalination
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:42:50 PM

If the proposed California American water desalination plant will use nuclear energy to power their plant, I think I'm OK with it. If it's fossil fuels, for climate change reasons, I'm against it. I already pay thousands of dollars a year for water, so I'm also against significant rate increases.

Mark Bishop
Chiral Publishing Company
<https://preparatorychemistry.com>
mbishop@chiralphublishingcompany.com

From: [Alexander Gray](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [Pat Gray](#)
Subject: We Support CalAm De-Sal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:36:43 PM
Importance: High

We are writing to express our **STRONG** support for the proposed de-sal plant in Marina. This project has been debated, tested, and its environmental impact evaluated for decades. The need is clear: the Monterey Peninsula needs a **RELIABLE** source of drinking water and **MULTIPLE** studies this can be done with minimal environmental impact.

MPWMD and Pure Water Monterey would like you to think that water reclamation is the entire solution. Really? As climate change makes drought conditions ever worse, where will the water that the reclamation facility requires come from, exactly? And when does the concentration of contaminants in ever more restricted sewage inflow render the plant less able to provide clean reclaimed water? The reclamation facility is **NOT** a source! It just salvages some of the extremely limited supply we have now. THAT IS NOT A LONG TERM SOLUTION.

MPWMD and Pure Water Monterey are pursuing a political agenda, not a scientific or factual one. We urge the Coastal Commission to come down on the side of common sense and **IMMEDIATELY** approve the Cal Am plan. The economic health and vitality of the entire Monterey Peninsula are at stake.

-- **Alex Gray**
-- **40 Ford Rd, Carmel Valley CA 93924**
-- **510-593-6509**

From: [Jeanne LeVett](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No On Cal Am Water Building Desal Facility
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:35:23 PM

Although I do believe Desal is the way we will eventually need to go in the future, Cal Am should NOT be the organization to build and manage it. Unfortunately, the water powers that be shot down DeepWater Desal, which would have been a really great solution to our problems, and they probably would have kept costs down by providing water to many communities on the coast and inland. But Cal Am is simply a usurious organization that I do not trust as far as I could throw them. Their only interest is in making more money. And water should not be run by a publicly traded company wishing only to satisfy its shareholders. It is a travesty and the short sightedness is astounding.

I am not up-to-speed on the ideas that Pure Water Monterey has to solve our crisis, but I'll bet you they are nowhere near enough for all the development that I see going on around this Bay Area.

And here's what I'll tell you, we are already far and away destroying our, and those of all kinds of other creatures, habitat. We ARE going to finally, in many years' time from now, destroy all habitats and we humans alone will be all that's left...until we, ourselves, become extinct. Of course there is an ecosystem in the oceans that have to be taken into account, but I'm amazed at the pettiness and struggles for power that I think exist within the whole 15 entities of the California Natural Resources Agency...I would compare it to the Postal Service in this regard. Not complementary but true. Californian's in power, including the State Government, are destroying California in many regards.

Please don't be foolish with our water.

Sincerely,

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Natalya Livingston](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal project
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:32:29 PM

Please deny CalAm approval for the Desalination project. We have a much better alternative with Pure Water Monterey. --

Natalya Livingston

From: [Mark Anicetti](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desal in Monterey County
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:22:23 PM

Coastal Commission,
Pure Water Monterey is cheaper and more sustainable than Cal Am's Desal plant.
Please vote ***against*** CalAm's plant
Thank you!
Mark Anicetti

--



Mark Anicetti LUTCF
markanicetti@gmail.com
831-521-1637
Lic 0C81295

From: [JEFF TURNER](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAm Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:20:10 PM

Please do not approve the CalAm desal plant.

It is completely unnecessary now that Pure Water Monterey is a proven reality.³

CalAm's desal plant will be EXTREMELY expensive. CalAm has proven repeatedly that they cannot manage the water system here in Monterey county. For years they have violated court orders and over-pumped the Carmel Rive damaging our eco system.

Please do not approve the CalAm desal plant.

Thank you,
Jeff Turner
1961 Napa St
Seaside, CA 93955

From: [John Haussermann](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:18:39 PM

I agree with the Pure Water Monterey proposal to forgo desal in favor of purified recycled water.

Please do not approve Cal Am's desal project.

John Haussermann
1106 Austin Ave.
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

From: [David Breedlove](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [Heidi @ Gmail](#); outreach@mpwmd.net
Subject: CalAm Desal -- NOT NEEDED
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:14:47 PM

As interested Monterey rate payers, we have been following this issue for DECADES. At first it may have made sense. But the technology that Pure Water Monterey has brought online now makes it obvious that desalinization is NOT THE ANSWER, NOT NEEDED, not here, not now.

PLEASE follow your staff's recommendation by putting CalAm's proposal to bed.

David Breedlove
dcb831@gmail.com
Karin Hollmann
heidihollmann@gmail.com

From: [BARBARA TOSH](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desal plant!
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:05:30 PM

Reject the CalAm desal plan! Pure Water Monterey's water purification plan is a much better, lower cost, less environmentally invasive plan which will benefit consumers much better. CalAm has shown in the past that its main interest is money and not their customers. Please protect our coast and its citizens from this costly and unnecessary CalAm desal project. Sincerely, Mrs. Barbara Tosh

From: [P.DeGani](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No to Cal Am Desal, Yes to Pure Water Monterey
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 2:02:09 PM

Dear Commissioners:

When we moved to Monterey, California over 20 years ago, we simply could not believe it when we learned that our actual *drinking water* was owned and billed to us--the public--for a hefty profit by a private, for-profit corporation!

We moved to California after having lived in Seattle, Portland and Illinois. We had only ever known about **Public** Water Systems, run by our local government, to serve the local citizens. They were not seeking to profit from a natural resource required by every human being to sustain their life. Rather like the not-for-profit Fire Department and Police Department. But Cal Am is here to serve their own greedy self-interest and that of their shareholders. We apparently pay the highest water charges in the country. This is just plain wrong. Unethical and intolerable. We do not want to pay Top Corporate Prices for our local Police protection, nor for our local Fire protection, and certainly not for the water we must drink or the air must we breathe!

We are seniors, retired professionals, on a fixed income, trying to afford to remain living in California. It gets harder on a daily basis. Please stop Cal Am Desal. It is not needed and we cannot afford it. Pure Water Monterey is sufficient and affordable. Please, please help us replace greedy, for-private-profit Cal Am and its shareholders with an **affordable public water system with local governance and accountability**.

Sincerely,
Priya DeGani
Dennis Knepp

From: amacbell@redshift.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal-Am Permit Application for Desalination Project
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:58:00 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I urge you to deny California American Water's permit application for a desalination project. There is an alternative already in progress and mostly in place that will provide all the water needed for the foreseeable future, the Pure Water Monterey project.

Thank you. Sincerely,

Andrew Bell

From: [Karyl Hall](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: water
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:57:56 PM

We do not need or want a desal plant. Please deny that application. Thank you.
Dr. Karyl Hall
Carmel, CA

From: [Sheila Sheppard](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Water Resources
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:56:29 PM

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

I am a resident of the Monterey Peninsula and a business owner, and am very concerned and puzzled at the fact that our local government has not pulled through with the measure that was legally voted on and passed by a majority of voters a few years ago regarding the purchase of our water resource/distribution rights from Cal Am.

We have before us a viable new system in place, Pure WaterMonterey, that can immediately handle the needs of the Peninsula for decades to come.

Why would we even consider letting Cal Am move forward with a desalinization plant that will only add to our already ridiculously expensive water rates?

As you already know, we pay the highest water rates in the nation. For our very own water resources.

Water is clearly necessary for our survival and having our precious water resources run by a for profit company makes no sense. These local resources should belong to all of us and be wisely guided by our local agencies. We are seeing other communities have water rates hiked in emergency situations by outside for profit companies, making this life/ or death resource available only to those who can pay the high prices. The other folks are having their water turned off.

Let's not let that happen here.

It's time to make the change and move in the direction that we worked so hard for.

Please stand with this community and for a future where everyone has access to good water at a fair price.

Everything is lined up to move forward in this direction.

Thank you so much for your hard work, your time, and your consideration,
Sheila Sheppard

From: [Tony Seton](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: desal plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:53:37 PM

While building desal plants would make sense in other locations on the California coast, we don't need one. Thank you.

Tony Seton
Pebble Beach, California

From: [John T. Heyl](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE CAL AM'S BOONDOGGLE DESAL PLAN
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:51:45 PM

Even downscaled, the Cal Am desal plant proposal represents an ill-founded and under-researched plan for extra water supply the Monterey Bay area does not need.

I'm still not satisfied that their plan to return the proposed plant's concentrated effluent to the Bay will be without impact. The slant wells will weaken the already seeping saltwater infill to the aquifer, endangering water resources for the 4 Billion dollar agricultural industry.

Cal Am's project seems motivated by the need for shareholder profits more than a sensible provision to provide water resources that are not really needed at this time. Cal Am's rate payers have proven time and again that they can conserve when necessary, only to be surcharged and rate-adjusted to maintain Cal Am's assured profit margins. This plant will make water costs soar to unprecedented heights.

There may come a time when a well-designed and publicly owned desalination plant makes more sense for the Central Coast, after several more years of research on discharge impacts and updates to the osmosis technology. But that time is not now!

Sincerely,

John Heyl
Carmel Valley, CA

From: [expplane](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:49:32 PM

Let's the Pure Water Project come on line and see if what they project comes to fruition.

Wayne

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Glenn Robinson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: NO on Cal-Am's Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:48:39 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

I urge you to vote "no" on Cal-Am's desalination plant proposal on November 17. A desal plant is bad for the environment, is unnecessary, and is especially bad for rate-payers like me. Pure Water Monterey is already a pretty effective substitute for a desal plant, and will become a full, environmentally-friendly, and sustainable substitute when its expansion is completed over the coming two years. It is also much less expensive.

Your staff has twice recommended against the Cal-Am desal project: please heed their advice! Finally, Cal-Am is widely considered in the community as a profit-driven bad actor, including pulling out all stops to try to overturn the electorate's decision to have publicly-owned water in this area. Further deepening Cal-Am's control over our water supply would be an expensive and unnecessary mistake.

I thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Glenn E. Robinson (Monterey)
glennerobinson.com

From: [Jon Albert](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: DeSal permit for Monterey County
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:44:06 PM

I am completely FOR the permit.

To be frank, I do not want to drink recycled water which previously had everything in it from pee to cancer cells and chemicals. Horrible things go down household drains.

Yes, the proposed treatment processes can work, in a perfect world. But the world is not perfect...and people, employees and mechanical systems are not perfect. All of them malfunctions. We all know that accidents and issues and malfunctions happen. Just like when we see sewage accidentally dumped into the bays. Or too much or too little flouride put into water systems. Such events happen in all endeavors.

I do not want to be drinking water that had untold pollutants in it. Desal is a great answer. Expensive? Yes. But such is the price of living in coastal areas.

Jon Levy

Carmel CA

831-624-7600

From: bobj83@comcast.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: bobj83@comcast.net
Subject: Cal Am Desalination Plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:41:14 PM

As a longtime resident, and native, of Monterey I strongly support Cal Am's proposed desalination plant as the only reliable way of securing a long term water supply for the Monterey Peninsula.

The Pure Water Monterey Project, including its proposed expansion, helps, but does not provide a complete solution. The Seaside Groundwater Basin, which provides a significant amount of Cal Am's water supply, has portions that are below sea level and therefore at risk of becoming seawater intruded just like the lower Salinas Valley has become. Only by providing additional water to replenish this basin can it be considered to be sustainable and protected against intrusion. All of the Pure Water Monterey project water, with only a tiny amount left in reserve for droughts and operational problems, will be pumped out to supply customer demands and will not help to raise groundwater levels. The desalination plant, on the other hand, would have sufficient capacity to provide the necessary replenishment water and be a drought-proof supply for years into the future.

It is clear from the recently completed Groundwater Supply Plans for the adjacent groundwater basins that they are all in dire straits in terms of being able to sustainably supply the demands of their residents and businesses. The Monterey Subbasin, which abuts the Seaside Basin, has had its groundwater levels drop so far that it is causing water to flow out of the Seaside Basin into it, thereby exacerbating the problem. The 180/400-Foot Subbasin in the lower Salinas Valley has similarly had a history of steadily falling groundwater levels which causes the Monterey Subbasin to lose water to it. This domino effect can only be remedied by constructing a regional desalination plant to help each of the subbasins to become truly sustainable. The Cal Am desalination plant could be the first step in that direction, and could be readily expanded in the future to provide water to these other subbasins.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District was formed for the purpose of solving the area's water supply problems. After decades of existence, and countless millions of taxpayer dollars spent on peripheral activities, that organization has only now started to develop any water supply at all! It is incredulous to most Peninsula residents that that organization would now choose to oppose what clearly is a long-term water supply solution for the area.

Robert Jaques
Monterey Resident



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: [Ron Blue](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey Water
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:39:35 PM

The Coastal Commission has turned down CalAm's desal plant request twice over the past years. This provided the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District time they've used wisely.

Now that the District has developed a source of water suitable for our community's needs, we no longer need the desal solution. ***Please do not approve CalAm's desal plant at this time.*** The water rate implications will be staggering.

Thank you,

Ronald M. Blue, PE LEED AP

Principal

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www.listengineering.com

From: [Aidan Ocarroll](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Pure Water
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:37:47 PM

Let's give pure water a chance.
Hold off on desal as long as is feasible

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Christina Bell](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No desal plant!
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:37:26 PM

I would like to voice my opinion against the desal plant.

Pure water will provide enough water in a more sustainable way.

I believe the best way forward is to reduce, reuse, and recycle, rather than use more resources and damage the already tapped ocean ecosystem.

Pure water reuses the fresh water we have access to in a meaningful way. If water recapture and purification is good enough for the space station it's good enough for us.

Thank you,

Christina

Christina Bell
Cell: [\(650\) 380-0262](tel:(650)380-0262)
clbrenton@gmail.com
www.clbrenton.com

From: [David Laredo](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please Reject the Coastal Permit Requested by Cal-Am for its proposed Desal Plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:36:39 PM

Dear Commissioners –

I am concerned that Cal-Am seeks present authorizations from the Commission to gain the ability to construct and charge for its expensive desal plan, but I do not believe the water made available by that project will be needed for decades. It is imminently unfair to ask today's water rate payers to pay for a project that is not needed. Ample time exists to plan and construct a water supply project in the decades to come. There is no need to compromise or degrade coastal resources now, and there is no need to build a desal project now, before that increment of water supply is needed.

I am also concerned the limited usable life for Desal components of Cal-Am's Desal project will result in the system's ownership of a rusting asset that will need renovation and even replacement long before the water produced by those components will be needed. Why approve a rusting asset before it is needed?

David C. Laredo
606 Forest Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
(831) 646-1502

From: [Stephen J. Poletti](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Pure Water Monterey
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:36:27 PM

Dear MPWMD,

If it is true that once Pure Water Monterey is completed within two years which will provide all the water needs of our County including water to lots of record and water for state sanctioned ADU's, then I would be in favor of denying the desal facility because it is not needed. If, however, Pure Water Monterey will not satisfy all our water needs for the next 30 years, then I am in favor of approving the desal project.

Regards,

Stephen Poletti



StevePoletti@gmail.com

WWW.REALESTATEMONTEREYPENINSULA.COM
<https://calendly.com/stevepoletti/30min>

From: [NICK GILARDONI](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:34:52 PM

My wife and I want the Desal. Plant. Please start it soon
Nick and Mary Gilardoni

Sent from my iPad

From: [Cox](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desalination Plant Needed in Monterey
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:31:42 PM

Dear Coastal Commission,

I realize you will be deciding next month whether to allow a new desalination plant in Monterey, and I encourage you to reject the application. We will have enough water to get us through 2030 and more coming online after that thanks to Pure Water Monterey. And, this path adds no further disruption to our beloved Monterey Bay and its ocean floor. Since no one can guarantee an environmentally safe or an option with no socio-economic impact of adding a desalination plant, it seems irresponsible to continue to consider it as an option. Especially since other options are currently available to provide us the water we need for years to come.

Thank you for allowing me an opportunity to voice my opinion, and I do hope you choose to reject the desalination plant application, which is tremendously unpopular for most residents living on the Monterey Peninsula, and if sea life could speak out, I'm sure they would encourage you to reject the application, as well.

Rachel Cox

From: [mike durrant](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal project for Cal am
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:23:22 PM

Hi

I just wanted to voice my opinion and stance on Cal am proposal of building a desalination plant in the Monterey bay.

Please reject their proposal as we do not want a company out of New Jersey owning our water supply to charge for so much profit of their shareholders. I live in Pacific Grove and we have also been able to increase water purification which is opened up better water resources. I am not against desalination but I am against the way that Kellen has gone about owning and controlling our water supplies and the cost associated for their profits.

Please reject their offer and the permit required to complete their takeover of all of Monterey's water and the costs.

Sincerely

Mike Durrant

631 Laurel Ave

Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Anne Muraski](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am desal permit
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:20:53 PM

I'm writing to urge the Commission to deny the desal permit for Cal American Water. We already have a viable alternative with Pure Water Monterey that allows for growth and is infinitely more affordable.

I do not want to pay for this unnecessary cash cow project through my water bill until I die! Also the environmental impact is considerable and is unfair to the City of Marina that will bear the brunt—all to profit Cal American Water. Cal Am does not have the best interest of our community at heart. Please deny their permit.

Thank you,
Anne Muraski

Anne Muraski
Monterey, CA

From: [Elizabeth Riordan](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: We should have desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:15:34 PM

I am a resident of Carmel and I think we should have desal. Opponents are sending out messages telling people to write you and oppose it but I do not oppose it.

Elizabeth Riordan
Carmel resident

From: [Gary Russell](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:15:12 PM

Yes, I do believe that we need a desal plant.

We have been dabbling in many unsuccessful solutions for years and still count on mother nature to solve our problems.

It's time to do the right thing.

Gary Russell

VP Engineering & Operations
Sage Metering, Inc.
8 Harris Ct. Bldg D
Monterey, Calif. 93940

From: [Gail Bower](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No thanks to Deal Plant
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:11:00 PM

Hello,

We don't need or want desal plant. Why? Because MPWMD, Monterey One Water, and the Marina Coast Water District have collaborated to build Pure Water Monterey, a sustainable water supply project for our region that relies on advanced water purification technology.

Please don't mess with our coastline and bay when we have a better solution.

Thank you for reading my thoughts.

Gail Bower
Carmel, Ca

From: [Nancy Hughes](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:10:29 PM

It must be approved.

Nancy Hughes
nah@etranco.com
415.254.9598

From: [LAUREN ARMSTRONG](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal approval
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:09:42 PM

Approve there wanting a desal plant. We need water water water. Or we could turn into a desert.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Marilyn Erickson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Water issue
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:08:21 PM

We do NOT need what Cal Am is proposing. This is a total waste of money.

Marilyn Erickson

25351 Boots Rd. #6

Monterey, CA. 93940

650-787-8546

From: [Matt Little Jr.](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Resident against Desal
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 1:04:15 PM

I am a local resident and I oppose any project for desal.
Thank you,

Matthew A. Little Jr.

Carmel Insurance Agency, Inc.
P.O. Box 6117, Carmel, CA 93921
Main #: 831-624-1234
Fax #: 831-624-4605

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From: [Suzanne Roland](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:22:59 PM

Fall Leaves



Dear Members of the California Coastal
Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation
to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal

Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act. The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities. Please vote “no.” Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice. Regards,

M. Suzanne Roland
179 Palm Avenue
Marina, CA 93933

From: [Peter Schatz](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#)
Cc: [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 12:19:57 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Best Regards,

Peter Schatz
Marina, CA

From: [Adele Margolis](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:26:05 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

We have been residents and CalAm water users in Monterey County for over 25 years. During that time we have suffered with paying the highest rates charged by any municipality/water company/entity in the United States due to CalAm's prioritization of corporate profits and shareholder dividends over rate payers', residents', and Central Coast environmental interests.

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

- (1) Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
- (2) Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Best regards,

Adele Margolis
Carmel Valley, CA.

From: [Rudy Gnekow](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:30:54 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Julie Blank
Name
City of Residence

Carmel Valley
Sent from my iPad

From: [Rudy Gnekow](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:30:13 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Diane Gnekow

Name
City of Residence

Carmel Valley
Sent from my iPad

From: [Carol Pendergast](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:29:15 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Carol Pendergast
25765 Carmel Knolls Dr, Carmel 93923

From: [Rudy Gnekow](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:28:04 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Name Rudy Gnekow
City of Residence

Carmel Valley
Sent from my iPad

From: [GEORGE simcock](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:50:11 AM

Dear Sirs

Turn down Cal Ams desal application!!!! Cal Am is only looking to fill their own pocket book with no regard for the customer or the environment. Cal Am may not be able to get permits to build and may way overshoot its current cost estimate.

Pure Water Monterey can produce enough water for the next 30 years at just a small fraction of the cost or environment impact as Cal Am and is a proven system currently providing water to Cal Am.

Please don't saddle me with the most expensive water in the Nation.

Sincerely George G Simcock

From: [Timothy Smith](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:50:03 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Name. Timothy Smith
City of Residence. Carmel Valley

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ernest Long](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:46:43 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Ernie Long
141 Terrace Way
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

From: [Anne](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:39:39 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Anne Greene
Carmel

From: [Gail Bower](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 8:18:11 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please do support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Gail Bower
Carmel, CA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Chris Zimmerman](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:25:08 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christina Zimmerman
102 Laurel Dr
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

From: [Anna Thompson](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:02:11 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Anna Thompson,
Carmel

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Ina B.](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:43:14 PM

TO: California Coastal Commission
Chair, Commissioners and Staff

Please deny California American Water's Application for a Coastal Development Permit.

Cal Am's desal plant costs too much, damages the environment and it will cause unnecessary economic hardship. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion (PWME) is the superior alternative both economically and environmentally. The PWME will provide water for housing and growth for the next 30 years.

I have lived for many years in Carmel in a small one-bedroom apartment. My monthly rent includes the water. I am single, retired and live on Social Security. If my rent goes up, because of an increase in water costs, it would create a serious hardship for me. Also, if Cal Am's proposed desal is approved, not just my rent will be raised but, I am afraid, my food and everything else I purchase locally will go up in price. Companies tend to pass the higher costs of water to the consumers.

Cal Am's desal is not needed and it is not in the public's best interest. It will only enrich Cal Am's shareholders at the ratepayers expense and it would create significant environmental injustice.

I urge you to please vote **NO** on CalAm's request for a Coastal Development Permit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ina Brisley
Carmel, CA 93921

From: [Kevin D'Angelo](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:15:22 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Kevin D'Angelo

Carmel-by-the-Sea

From: [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz.Noaki@Coastal)
To: [Eric Tynan](mailto:Eric.Tynan); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster.Tom@Coastal); [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
Cc: [James Cochran](mailto:James.Cochran)
Subject: RE: CCSD SUPPORT for the MPWSP
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:04:08 PM

Thank you Eric

Noaki Schwartz
California Coastal Commission
Deputy Director of Communications, EJ and Tribal Affairs
(562) 833-5487

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Tynan <eric@castrovillecsd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:00 PM
To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>; Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>; Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: James Cochran <jcochran@mlml.calstate.edu>
Subject: FW: CCSD SUPPORT for the MPWSP

Good afternoon Tom, Sumi and Noaki,
Please submit Castroville CSD's comment letter regarding the need for the MPWSP to your Boards.
Thanks for your time and attention on this matter

Best

JET

J Eric Tynan
General Manager
Castroville CSD
11499 Geil Street
Castroville, CA. 95012
Off. 831.633.2560
Cell 831.235.0155
Fax 831.633.3103
Eric@castrovillecsd.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Tynan <eric@castrovillecsd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:47 PM
To: 'Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal' <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>; 'Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal' <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: 'Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov' <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: FW: CCSD SUPPORT for the MPWSP

J Eric Tynan
General Manager
Castroville CSD
11499 Geil Street

Castroville, CA. 95012
Off. 831.633.2560
Cell 831.235.0155
Fax 831.633.3103
Eric@castrovillecsd.org

-----Original Message-----

From: ccsdemprimadora@gmail.com <ccsdemprimadora@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:34 PM
To: Tynan, Eric <eric@castrovillecsd.org>
Subject: CCSD SUPPORT for the MPWSP

Please open the attached document. It was sent to you using a Xerox multifunction printer.

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From: [Paul Gee](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal AmMonterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-06603
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:41:18 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the Expansion of the Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

The Pure Water Monterey wastewater recycling facility has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop the illegal over drafting of the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need Cal Am's desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet-a-year (AFY) more water than we use today. The Expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 AFY. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 AFY?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. **I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.**

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells plant in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer for more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Paul Gee Carmel

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Maha Malek](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal AmMonterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-06603
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 2:39:59 PM

California Coastal Commission:

For years now Cal Am has sought to gain approval for their proposed desalination plant to be sited in Marina, CA. Most recently, Cal Am has requested approval from the California Coastal Commission (CCC) for a somewhat scaled down desal plant, again to be sited in Marina, CA. As best I can tell, except for the overall capacity, this latest proposal from Cal Am utilizes the same technology as their original proposal. All of the many objections voiced against this facility in the past would still apply to this latest proposal. I strongly urge the CCC to **not** approve this latest attempt by Cal Am to construct a desal plant in Marina, CA.

Cal Am has been relentless in their attempt to secure approval for their proposed desal plant, ignoring or in many cases, opposing, more cost effective and environmentally friendly alternatives. Most notable among the alternatives is the Expansion of the Pure Water Monterey (PWM). The PWM wastewater recycling facility has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop the illegal over drafting of the Carmel River.

Based on the comprehensive study conducted by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, the PWM facility together with its Expansion will secure a reliable water source for the Monterey peninsula for many decades to come.

Rather than support endeavors such as the Expansion of the PWM facility, Cal Am continues to push for the approval of their proposed desal plant. It seems very clear to me that Cal Am places their own profit motives above the real needs of their customers. Among those needs are affordable water rates and greater transparency in Cal Am's interactions with not only their customers but the greater population of the entire Monterey peninsula area.

Please do **not** approve this latest attempt by Cal Am to proceed with the construction of their proposed desal plant in Marina, CA. The Expansion of the Pure Water Monterey facility will provide the additional water needed for housing and growth for the next 30 years, drought or not drought. The Expansion will cost a fraction of the cost of Cal Am's proposed desal, and it will create none of the environmental injustices that the Cal Am's proposed desal would create for the Peninsula's customers and the city of Marina's residents.

Please do NOT approve Cal Am's desal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Maha Malek, Carmel

From: [Helen Ogden](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 8:51:52 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice. We need to get it 'right' the first time.

Regards,
Frederick McGarrity
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

The key to immortality is living a life worth remembering. St. Augustine.

Sent from my iPad, so I am not responsible for iSpelling or iGrammar errors.

From: [Sheila Smith](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 10:03:35 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Sheila Smith
Prunedale

Sent from my iPad

From: [Matthew Schulz](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Do Not Approve CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:44:23 PM

California Coastal Commission:

I am writing this email to express my opposition to Cal Am's desalination project. Following are my reasons for opposing.

Mainly, I believe an expansion of the Pure Water Monterey system is a far superior alternative. This system is better for the environment, more cost effective, and can provide more water than the desalination project; in fact, it can provide all the water that may be needed on the Monterey peninsula in the foreseeable future.

The environmental issues are significant. The process of desalinization requires substantially more energy than other forms of water purification. Projections for Cal Am's desalination project are a consumption of 52,000 megawatt hours per year, a production of 8,000 metric tons of CO2 per year, a depletion of 17,300 AFY of ground water from the over-drafted Salina River Groundwater Basin, and an infusion of 8 Million gallons of brine discharge per day into the Marine Bay Marine Sanctuary.

Approval of the Doheny Desal Project should not be viewed as a precedent that justifies approval of the Cal Am desalination project. The Doheny project does not draw water from a groundwater basin, costs less than half the projected (overly optimistic) cost of the Cal Am project, is a project of a non-profit public water agency (unlike Cal Am's for-profit, investor-owned nature), and did not have a superior alternative like the Pure Water Monterey expansion.

It would be prudent to at least delay approval of the Cal Am desalination project until the Pure Water Monterey expansion is put into full effect. The PWM expansion was approved only recently (September 30, 2022). If the expansion is increasingly seen as likely to meet the Monterey peninsula's water requirements, Cal Am may not get the water rights it needs to operate a desal plant. The Cemex lawsuit has not been heard or decided yet. Substantial costs for developing desalination could be incurred and passed on the Monterey customers who may never see, nor need to see, a drop of desalinated water.

For the sake of the environment, keeping the cost of water reasonable for Monterey residents, and prudence, please do not approve Cal Am's desalination project at this time.

Sincerely,

E. Matthew Schulz
561 Junipero Ave.
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
(831) 920-1052 (cell)

From: [Rodger Langland](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 4:55:35 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Rodger Langland
Carmel Valley, CA

From: [Celeste Williams](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal Project-Application No. -9-20-0603- Oppose
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 2:55:15 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission,

We oppose the Cal Am project of building a desal plant in Monterey County for the following reasons:

1. There is no current need for this desal plant. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion will provide water for housing and growth for the next 30 years.
2. Pure Water Monterey is a proven project providing water for two years and stopping Cal Am for over drafting the Carmel River.
3. The cost of water is an Environmental Justice issue. According to current CPUC data, Cal Am's \$322 million desal project is estimated to increase water bills by about 70%. Common usage on the Peninsula is 5,500 gallons, which currently costs \$150 a month. A 70% increase would raise water bills by \$105 a month.
4. Desal is energy intensive and creates higher water costs per household driving low-income wage earners out of the region.

Pure Water Monterey expansion will not harm low-income communities and individuals with drastic rate increases. This option is favored by the community.

5. The process of desalinization requires substantially more energy than other forms of water purification.

Cal Am's desal energy consumption is 52,000 megawatt hours per year. It produces 8,000 metric tons of CO2 per year.

Draws 17,300 AFY of groundwater from the over drafted Salinas River Groundwater Basin.

Adds 8 million gallons of brine discharge per day to the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary.

Project must create seawater intrusion to work.

Cal Am's desal could threaten the city of Marina's groundwater supply with more seawater intrusion.

We are very concerned about the huge environmental impact this Cal Am desal plant would have on the Monterey coast.

Please do not approve a development permit for this project when there are better ecological and fiscally responsible ways to provide adequate water for our area.

Thank you.

Celeste Williams and Peter Hiller

Carmel, California

From: [Gary Kreeger](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAm desal proposal
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 2:42:09 PM

Dear Commission,

I will keep this short and sweet.

First, please listen to residents and not big monied interests. Their priority is shareholder profits (not necessarily a bad thing) over the desires and well being of residents.

Second, although desalinization will almost certainly be part of the future water solution for the Monterey Bay area, this proposal is too big, too expensive, too environmentally risky and too unfair to a community (Marina) that has already been disadvantaged enough by its neighbors.

Please do the right thing and not hang this albatross around our necks.

Thank you,

Gary Kreeger
3 Qunedale Ave
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940

From: [Holly Pease](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please Oppose the CalAm Desalination Plant proposal
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 2:36:51 PM

Dear Coastal Commission,

Please maintain your commitment to California's beautiful coastline by denying permission for Cal American Water's costly and unnecessary desalination plant.

As a native, and recently returned citizen of the Monterey Peninsula (having spent 35 years in other parts of California), I've been familiar with Cal Am's costly tactics to make profits off of the back of the Monterey Peninsula environment for most of my life. I spent my childhood summers rafting down the Carmel river with my older brother. Now my children spend their summers catching native steelhead fish hatcheries for human transportation downriver, to try to save this species devastated by Cal Am's practices. Cal Am has been illegally over-pumping the Carmel river for more than 20 years and in 40 years have never endeavored to find a reasonable alternative water source. Local agencies -- The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) and Monterey One Water -- have been responsible for pursuing and making the Pure Water Monterey project a viable water source for the housing and growth needed in this area for the next 30 years.

Cal Am, based in New Jersey, has been a reluctant subscriber to Pure Water Monterey because they are not able to derive huge profits from the project. Instead, they have pursued a plan to build a desalination plant that is of questionable legality and of certain negative environmental impact. They continue to spread disinformation, wherever they can influence, about the need for the plant. These accusations may seem extreme to those who are not Cal Am customers. For those of us who have witnessed Cal Am's tactics (especially in a recent voter-driven measure to force a public takeover of our water system), their disinformation campaigns and drive to pursue the desalination plant by all means available, come as no surprise.

The mission of the Coastal Commission is to protect and enhance California's coast for future generations. This mission should trump claims -- especially false ones from a private, for-profit, and out-of-state corporation -- that it *needs* to lay a new building on our precious coast. Local agencies, headed by local citizens and local government representatives, know what is best for our local area. Please support our coastline and help us keep our portion of the coast as pristine as possible for our children and grandchildren.

Holly Pease

Carmel-By-The-Sea, CA (native of Carmel Valley, CA)

From: [v. wayne thompson](mailto:v.wayne.thompson@coastal.ca.gov)
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)
Cc: [v. wayne thompson](mailto:v.wayne.thompson@coastal.ca.gov)
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20--0603 - Oppose
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 2:34:06 PM

I urge the California Coastal Commission to vote NO on Cal Am's proposed desalination project. There will no doubt be many letters submitted to the CCC noting a variety of concerns associated with this proposed project. I will be focusing on the technical aspects of the proposed project and what I believe are some very valid concerns.

First, I would like to focus on the drilling process to be utilized. Cal Am proposes to use "slant wells" to extract water from beneath the ocean floor. They maintain that the water source will be ocean water and not water coming from underground aquifers utilized by Marina and other water users in the adjacent communities. I have seen no information noting how Cal Am proposes to guarantee that the above will hold true throughout the life of the project. As water from an underground source is extracted, new water will attempt to fill the void created. This "new" water will follow the path of least resistance. Over time the "new" water may come from percolation through the ocean bed or it may come from an aquifer located some distance from the ocean. There is no way of accurately predicting the water flow patterns over a long period of time. There is the distinct possibility that the water source for the desal plant may come from an aquifer presently being used by the city of Marina for their water supply. I have seen nothing from Cal Am noting how they would address such a problem and how they might make restitution to the city of Marina.

The use of slant wells is well established in the oil production industry. In that industry they are more commonly known as "directional wells". In order to reach the desired location for oil extraction, the drilling tip may undergo several changes of direction in order to maneuver around difficult soil compositions. The petroleum industry employs sophisticated sensors both in ground and on the drilling apparatus to identify when and where a directional change is required. If the driller gets it wrong, either through imprecise geologic data or from equipment failure, the petroleum company does not get paid (that is, no oil is pumped). A slant well is a directional well that only proceeds in one direction. If the desired final drill tip location does not reach the desired location the available water supply may not be as expected. Who pays? Cal Am is not clear on this. Presumably another well is drilled (or many more wells are drilled) until the desired water supply can be attained. The driller still gets paid and the costs continue to mount. But unlike the petroleum companies, who do not get paid unless oil is found, Cal Am ultimately just passes the cost on to the ratepayers. Cal Am must address this and other potential outcomes and, under no circumstance, should the ratepayers be on the hook for Cal Am's miscues.

As for the technology employed in the actual desalination process, I've seen little or no information explicitly defining the technology to be used by Cal Am. In fact, as far as I can tell,

there has been no change in the basic technology to be employed since Cal Am first submitted their initial request for approval. Since my first exposure to desalination plants, circa 1975, I have become aware of many improvements not only in the basic technology but in the materials used in construction and in the instrumentation used throughout these plants. Even today the technology continues to evolve. What was considered state of the art just five years ago would no longer be the case. I've seen little of no information from Cal Am concerning the technology being proposed for their plant and how it compares to the technology that was to be used when they first submitted their application for approval several years ago.

Maintaining a desal plant is a whole different matter. Regardless of the plant size, maintenance is ongoing. If a plant is only operated at a small fraction of its design capacity, all of the equipment including all instrumentation and controls must be continuously checked and maintained. Safeguard systems must be continuously checked to ensure that safety shutdowns will occur as prescribed and that the plant effluent, whether potable water, salt laden brine, or back flushing water meets specified standards. These plants are expensive to build and very expensive to maintain. Again, Cal Am has said little about maintainability. No doubt Cal Am would endeavor to properly maintain the plant as specified by both the designer and the builder. As to who pays for any missteps requiring any extended shutdown of the facility or even a major renovation, that is unclear. As has seemed to be the case up to now, Cal Am would merely increase the rates to be paid by their customers, typically with the blessing of the CPUC.

Based on my experience of over 45 years working in engineering and construction, I would find Cal Am to be an unacceptable supplier for such a plant. Any company being considered as a supplier, whether for a complete process plant or maybe just for the supply of a few filters in the plant, would need to comply with all of the specifications, codes and standards deemed to be applicable to the project. Certainly, all work furnished should be backed up by a comprehensive warranty. In a competitive free market system, these requirements are customarily addressed. In the case of the desal plant being proposed by Cal Am, a competitive free market system does not exist. Cal Am is the sole source for the proposed desal plant and their primary objective seems to be maximization of profits for their company. So much for "the customer comes first".

Please do not approve Cal Am's proposed desal plant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Victor Thompson, Carmel

From: [Anna Thompson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: annaslive@live.com
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 1:58:02 PM

California Coastal Commission

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project.

We don't need Cal Am's costly desal plant. The Pure Water Monterey (PWM) facility is now producing sufficient water to allow Cal Am to stop its illegal over-drafting of the Carmel River. The Expansion of PWM will supply an additional 2,250 acre-feet-a-year (AFY) of water for housing and job growth for the next 30 years, drought or no drought. According to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD)'s Water Supply and Demand Report, we will need 786 AFY of water for new growth by 2045. The MPWMD's projections are based on the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) Population and Economic Growth Forecast. Cal Am's claim that we need an additional 6,250 AFY of water for growth is unjustified. Cal Am has overestimated demand by adding extra water numbers for RHNA housing, Pebble Beach entitlements, and legal lots of record to the AMBAG Growth Forecast. These numbers are already included in the AMBAG Growth Forecast and in the MPWMD's Water Supply and Demand Report. There is no need for Cal Am's desal project, regardless of the size Cal Am is proposing to build. Cal Am's desal project will force ratepayers to pay for water that is not needed.

Cal Am's desal will pollute our environment and exacerbate the climate crisis.

Desalination is the most expensive and energy-intensive water supply process. Its energy demand is four times higher than that of recycled water. Cal Am's desal would generate 8,000 metric tons of CO2 per year when we should be moving towards a 100% green energy future. Cal Am's desal would pollute the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary by discharging 8 million gallons of brine per day into the bay. We must stop this **wasteful, harmful, and costly practice** of discharging wastewater into the ocean after each single use. The PWM and its Expansion is an innovative and sustainable model of water re-use and conservation in a time when water supplies are becoming more scarce.

Cal Am's desal is expensive, inflationary, and creates environmental justice issues.

Cal Am's \$322 million desal project is estimated to increase water bills by about 70%. The cost to build and operate this desal has not been updated in six years, so costs could be much higher. It is very likely that this desal plant if built would double our water bills. The higher water costs would also raise the price of goods and services provided by local companies. All of these higher water costs will cause unnecessary financial hardship to many low income families and retirees on fixed income driving many families and individuals out of the region all together.

Cal Am's desal is a false solution to our water supply needs. It would threaten the city of Marina's groundwater supply with more seawater intrusion; It would cause significant damage to the city's coastal ecosystems; It would force the Peninsula's ratepayers to pay for water that is not needed and to assume all potential risks and liabilities associated with the development, maintenance and operations of this Desal. It would only enrich Cal Am's shareholders and executives. **Cal Am's desal is not in the public interest and it is not needed.**

Please vote NOT to approve Cal Am's Proposed Desal Project.

Thank you.

Anna Thompson, Carmel

From: [Mark Anicetti](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 12:32:27 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Mark Edward Anicetti
Name
City of Residence

From: [Sam Melton](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 10:38:40 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal

Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sam Melton

Carmel-By-The-Sea

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lynn Wilde](#)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:28:45 AM

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

- Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
- Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Lynn

From: [Nancy Jones](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:09:55 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Nancy M. and Bobby G. Jones

Name

City of Residence

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [JIM RINGROSE](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:21:00 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Jim Ringrose
Salinas, CA

From: [Andrew](#)
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal; Luster_Tom@Coastal; Moore_Elizabeth@Coastal; landwatch@landwatch.org
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 8:20:48 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Andrew Allison
Carmel, CA 93923

From: [Joseph Patronik](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 6:38:19 AM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Joseph Patronik
Monterey County resident

From: [Yerdua "none" Mz](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 11:40:50 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Audrey F. Morris
Carmel, CA 93923

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lonni Trykowski](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 9:33:53 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

With regards,
Lonni Trykowski
Carmel, CA

Lonni Trykowski
25555 Via Cazador
Carmel, CA 93923

From: gte1303@frontier.com
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal; Luster_Tom@Coastal; Moore_Elizabeth@Coastal; landwatch@landwatch.org
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 9:24:12 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Robert Smith
Salinas

From: [David Alexander](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#)
Subject: Approve the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 8:40:54 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please vote “YES.” The area badly needs a permanent supply of potable water and the ocean is the most dependable source via a desalination facility. The technology has been around for over fifty years and other countries know its benefits. It is long overdue in our area and the project should be of high priority given the obvious effects of climate change made more pressing by the ongoing drought.

Regards,
David A. Alexander
Corral de Tierra

From: [Charla Britt](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#)
Cc: [landwatch@landwatch.org](#); [Robert USA Bluth](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 8:15:15 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

We are dismayed by CalAm's push for a desal plant without allowing for further assessments to reevaluate what is best for Monterey and other coastal communities. Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

- Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
- Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Charla Britt and Robert Bluth
Monterey, CA

From: [Patricia Wolff](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 7:54:43 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Patricia Wolff
Carmel Valley

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jeff Hawkins](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Cc: [Jeff Hawkins](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 7:49:41 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

I have lived in Carmel Valley for 30 years and watched with dismay CalAm's gyrations to exploit our water resources and their customers.

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "NO." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,
Jeff Hawkins
Carmel, CA 93923

From: [Bonnie Whisler](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 7:08:08 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

NameBonnie Whisler
City of Residence
Seaside

Sent from my iPad

From: phylmeurer@cs.com
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal; Luster_Tom@Coastal; Moore_Elizabeth@Coastal; landwatch@landwatch.org
Subject: Re: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 6:59:38 PM

The letter below was sent by mistake. I do not support the LandWatch position and have earlier sent you a letter I wrote myself in support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Phyllis Meurer

-----Original Message-----

From: Phyllis Meurer <phylmeurer@cs.com>
To: executivestaff@coastal.ca.gov; tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov; elizabeth.moore@coastal.ca.gov; landwatch@landwatch.org
Sent: Mon, Oct 24, 2022 5:33 pm
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Name
City of Residence

Sent from my iPad

From: [Dawn H](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 6:48:23 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Dawn Hartsock
Seaside Resident

From: [Nan Heller](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desal
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 6:45:32 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal

Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Nan Heller

From: [glen.grossman](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 6:41:26 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission, Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act. The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities. Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice. Regards,

Glen Grossman
Pacific Grove

--

Glen Grossman

From: [Inge Lorentzen Daumer](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 6:13:38 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Inge Lorentzen Daumer

Name
City of Residence

From: [Phyllis Meurer](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 5:33:27 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Name
City of Residence

Sent from my iPad

From: [Tinker](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 5:05:29 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Name Whitney Stolic
City of Residence
Salinas

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Susan Morse](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [MWChrislock](#)
Subject: No Cal Am Deal
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:41:59 PM

We have voted to get Cal Am out of the water business in Monterey for just reasons. Why are you letting them back in. We are moving toward good solutions with the Pure Water Monterey Expansion. These efforts are far more environmentally sound than iffy DeSal produced by an iffy corporation.

Pure Water Monterey is a proven project,

Please do not allow Cal Am to go through with this unnecessary

And expensive project.

Susan Morse
569n Aguajito Road,
Carmel, CA 93923
831 915-8691

From: [Heather Johnston](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:39:54 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Heather Johnston and David Dickins
Monterey, CA 93940

From: [Margaret Davis](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:36:13 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or
Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Margart Davis
Marina

From: [Andy](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:31:42 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or

Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

Any Wasklewicz
Carmel, CA

From: candyih@aol.com
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal; Luster.Tom@Coastal; Moore.Elizabeth@Coastal; landwatch@landwatch.org
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:20:28 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission, Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act. The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities. Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice. Regards, Candace Haber, Carmel, Ca.

From: janiswp23@aol.com
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal; Luster_Tom@Coastal; Moore_Elizabeth@Coastal; landwatch@landwatch.org
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:15:01 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act. The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Most Sincerely,

Janis Wilson-Pavlik
Carmel Valley
Monterey County

From: [Ann Hill](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Deny or Delay the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:07:54 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either:

- Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act, or
- Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansio

The Commission should at the very least wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Regards,

Ann Hill
Cal Am customer
Salinas, CA

From: [June Henry](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)
Subject: Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 4:02:32 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission, Please support LandWatch's recommendation to either: Vote to delay any action on a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the CalAm desalination facility because it lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; or Vote to deny the CDP because the Commission does not have the information the Coastal Act requires to make findings related to Section 30260 and 30013 of the Act. The Commission should wait to act until the CPUC has completed its current reassessment of Peninsula water supply and demand, which is likely to demonstrate the availability of a feasible alternative that would avoid environmental impacts to the Coastal Zone and substantially reduce rate impacts to disadvantaged communities. Please vote "no." Do not give CalAm a blank check for an unnecessary \$450M+ desal plant and ignore the Coastal Act requirements to demonstrate public welfare and environmental justice.

Regards,

June Henry
Monterey, CA

From: [Clyde Roberson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 11:31:22 AM

Good morning, Commissioners and Staff, and thank you for this opportunity to share with you.

I urge you to deny California American Water's request for a Permit for its desalination project.

The current approval of the expansion of The Pure Water Monterey recycled water project provides water to adequately meet water demand, and it is much less expensive.

The impact of climate change is of grave concern.

Citizens are concerned, yes, worried

- about their water bills, especially those on fixed incomes;
- about the environmental damage from a desal plant and climate warming;
- about impacts on neighboring cities' water supply and salt-water intrusion;
- and about environmental justice.

I ask you to deny this project for the

- rate payers
- future generations facing climate warming
- for the health and betterment of our region, state, and planet
- to meet the requirements of the cease and desist order with a viable alternative

California and the Coastal Commission have been leaders in combating climate warming. This is another opportunity to help save our very existence.

Thank you for your time and service.

Clyde Roberson

Mayor of Monterey (speaking for myself)

From: [Charles Biller](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 10:29:45 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal

Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Charles Biller

Monterey

From: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
To: [Christina Romeka](mailto:Christina.Romeka)
Cc: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
Date: Monday, October 24, 2022 10:04:18 AM

Hi Christina,

I am sending your comments to CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov, so staff will add your comments to the record for the project.

Best,
Sumi

From: Christina Romeka <christinaromeka@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 22, 2022 1:27 PM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

October 22, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members

455 Market Street, Suite 300

San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As owner of the Monterey Marriott and commercial properties on the Monterey Peninsula, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry is the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions in dollars and thousands of critical jobs

in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and the vitality of our local economy. Without diversifying and future proofing our water source, housing and labor shortages will continue to plague our local economy, while threatening our ability to put much needed visitor dollars and business taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait or just bet on one solution. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy that will impact the most vulnerable across our communities first. I hereby urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Christina Romeka

Monterey Marriott Owner

From: wiskoff@aol.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022 10:54:40 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula for the past 35 years, we oppose CalAm's desal project.

The expansion of the Pure Water Monterey project

- is ENVIRONMENTALLY SUPERIOR. It poses no risk to our coastal and undersea habitats. It will use low amounts of energy and produce negligible greenhouse emissions, protecting our atmosphere.
- will PROVIDE ALL WATER NEEDED for housing and growth, even in drought, for the next 30 years.
- will provide water at a COST FAR, FAR, FAR LOWER than the cost of CalAm's desal water. The higher cost of desal forces Monterey Peninsula citizens to pay the steep price tag, but the profits only enrich CalAm's shareholders.

Please deny CalAm's coastal development permit for this desal project. Why?

- It is ENVIRONMENTALLY UNSOUND. CalAm's desal project will damage Marina's shoreline and risk seawater intrusion into its aquifer—its source of drinking water. It will use massive amounts of energy and result in massive amounts of greenhouse emissions that will increase global warming.
- It is SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY UNJUST. Marina would suffer harm to its shoreline and aquifer but receive none of the water. The higher cost of water would affect every facet of life on the Monterey Peninsula. It would double the cost of the average water bill. The workers that Monterey Peninsula businesses depend on could not afford to live here.
- It is based on CAL AM'S FRAUDULENT WATER DEMAND ESTIMATES that double and triple count growth statistics that have already been accounted for in AMBAG's growth forecasts.

Pure Water Monterey (PWM) has been providing us with water for more than two years now, and that has allowed CalAm to stop overdrafting of the Carmel River—a milestone CalAm was incapable of achieving on its own.

AMBAG estimates we'll need an additional 786 acre-feet of water by 2045. PWM will be able to supply 2,250 acre-feet a year.

WE DON'T NEED CAL AM'S 6,250 ACRE-FEET OF WATER AT \$6,000 PER ACRE-FOOT!

Please deny CalAm's development permit for this desal project.

From: wallace.notley
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am's desal project
Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022 8:25:55 PM

California Coastal Commission Staff:

Since I have been living on the Monterey Peninsula in 1987, I have seen my water rates skyrocket. We pay the highest water rates in the nation and now Cal Am wants to build a desalination facility that we do not need. The wise collaboration of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and the Monterey One Water Reclamation Agency, have worked diligently since 2013 to build the American Civil Engineer Society award winning Pure Water Monterey Project to meet the Ca State Water Board Cease and Desist Order to stop over pumping from the Carmel River. And, its Expansion will guarantee enough water for growth. I like the idea also of placing my trust in these two agencies because they both have excellent track records and encourage public participation and ratepayer input. I do not trust Cal Am as they refuse to open their books, have nearly killed the Carmel River from illegally overpumping, and have one failed project after the other since the 55+ years they have been here. As mentioned earlier, Monterey One Water Agency recently won the American Civil Engineers Medal of the year not only in engineering excellence but also in their steadfast perseverance to solve our pressing water needs creatively in the most environmentally quality life enhancing way conscientiously working hard to make water more affordable .Recently also, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District won the much lauded customer transparency award. Cal Am's proposed desalination proposal will double our already most expensive water rates, it would compromise the Monterey Bay Sanctuary marine life with excessive saltwater intrusion, and ruin much of the city of Marina's environment, and cause saltwater intrusion also in Marina's only potable water source. It is clear that Cal Am wants to substantially increase the cost of their assets so that they can continue their monopoly of our water supply. We need water supply resources and policies that consider the resident ratepayer priority of ratepayer and environmental justice.

Walt Notley
Monterey, Ca
93940

From: [CHRIS KEEHN](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey Peninsula Water
Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022 6:37:52 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely

Christopher Keehn
Carmel, CA 93923

From: [Suzanne Schmidt](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: The Cal Am Desal plant
Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022 10:40:35 AM

Dear Commissioners. I've been a resident of Monterey for 10 years. Every since arriving I've been overwhelmed by the water issues before our city and county. I have studied the issue a lot and feel certain that Cal American Water's desal plant solution is not the answer. Our coastal water environment is too fragile for this huge operation and I know that the Pure Water Monterey can meet our needs for the near future. Given some time, a better solution and plan will emerge. Please, please vote down this desal plant.

Suzanne Schmidt
1373 Jacks Rd
Monterey, CA 93940

From: [Sandi Staples](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022 4:36:06 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sandra

Carmel, CA

From: [Christina Romeka](#)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)
Subject: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022 1:26:22 PM

October 22, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members

455 Market Street, Suite 300

San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As owner of the Monterey Marriott and commercial properties on the Monterey Peninsula, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry is the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions in dollars and thousands of critical jobs in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and the vitality of our local economy. Without diversifying and future proofing our water source, housing and labor shortages will continue to plague our local economy, while threatening our ability to put much needed visitor dollars and business taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait or just bet on one solution. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy that will impact the most vulnerable across our communities first. I hereby urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Christina Romeka

Monterey Marriott Owner

From: [Christina Romeka](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Support of Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022 1:23:48 PM

October 22, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members

455 Market Street, Suite 300

San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As owner of the Monterey Marriott and commercial properties on the Monterey Peninsula, I am writing in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The MPWSP will provide a critically needed, reliable water source for our region. I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve this project to help protect the economic vitality of the Monterey Peninsula.

The hospitality and tourism industry is the second largest economic sector in Monterey County, drawing millions of visitors annually, and generating billions in dollars and thousands of critical jobs in the region. Decades of drought have created an unprecedented water crisis in our region that threatens these jobs and the vitality of our local economy. Without diversifying and future proofing our water source, housing and labor shortages will continue to plague our local economy, while threatening our ability to put much needed visitor dollars and business taxes back into the community.

The MPWSP is a comprehensive approach to create a long-term, reliable water source through desalination, stormwater capture and water recycling. It will protect the Carmel River ecosystem, supply new water for housing and jobs, and improve coastal access for local

communities.

The Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for over 25 years. There's no time left to wait or just bet on one solution. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy that will impact the most vulnerable across our communities first. I hereby urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Christina Romeka

Monterey Marriott Owner

From: [Elaine Lalancette](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please respect the voice and intelligence of the end user, Us, the public you serve!
Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022 12:18:37 PM

I was born in Salinas, raised in Monterey. I am a gardener, land lord, lover of a beautiful environment and deeply interested in protecting the environment, doing all possible to house all people. I have long been aware of the effect of the complicated history, laws, and ownership of water in california.

I have also watched as decisions have been made that protect CAL AM despite great local interest in terminating CAL AM's strangle hold of the lucrative business of supplying water to the Monterey area.

Please vote with the public interest, please reject the desalination project.

I am aware that the desal project is basically a hostile acquisition of the Marina Aquifer. That the water made potable by the de sal project will be extremely expensive for rate payers. Running the De sal entails huge amounts of energy. Allowing Cal Am to build the plant further entrenches CAL AM's price and profit.

I feel like a powerless child begging a powerful entity: YOU the coastal commission to listen, to look out for me and all residents. We are watching. We have intelligence. We do not trust CAL AM. We do not want the desal plant.

Huge profits would be made in its construction. DUH. Do we need it ? NO.

I believe the expansion of PURE WATER MONTEREY will provide all the water needed for expansion of housing and business for the foreseeable future.

I beseech you to deny the CAL AM coastal development for this desal project.

In Good Faith, in the furtherance of stewardship of our coastal health, PLEASE VOTE NO

Elaine Lalancette, RN at the community Hospital of the Monterey Penninsula, serving you for 20+ years

From: [KARL OGDEN](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Opposition to CalAm Desal Plant
Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022 9:11:09 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Karl Ogden

Monterey, CA

From: [Berj Amir](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Marina California Desalination Plant Proposal
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 5:06:23 PM

Dear Costal Commission Members,

I am a long time resident in the Salinas and Monterey area. I am not an activist, and I am relatively conservative.

I am writing to inform you that we do not need a desalination plant here now or in the years to come.

There are two primary reasons for this:

1) The Monterey Pure Water alternative which is in place and the expansion being built out right now will provide sufficient water not only now but for years in the future. This is based upon accurate data and projections that include all relevant factor such as population projections, housing growth, commerce growth, and anticipated draught conditions. The data that Cal Am is putting forward is inaccurate and misleading.

2) Unfortunately, Cal Am has an established record of poor to mediocre service, and aggressive and misleading behavior to maximize profits. Even if the region needed a desalination plant, which it does not (the data Cal Am is putting forward and misleading), they would be the wrong company to award such a project to. They are not good managers, they over charge, and our area would not be able to afford to buy their water.

I am not an ideologue, I am pragmatic. I came to this conclusion slowly. I am a working class person. I turned my attention to this topic when I kept seeing my water bills increase rather dramatically after Cal Am took over. In a far too few years, I saw my water bill triple to quadruple, with me using less water. Every time I open my Cal Am bill, there is another notice of an application for some type of special exception or other means to increase the bill.

I then started paying attention to the efforts of some people in the region to pursue public ownership of the water systems here. I had no prior knowledge or predilection towards it. But I read their information, and I read Cal Am's information on the subject. I found Cal Am's information, although very well produced and printed, to be quite inaccurate and misleading. Sadly, this continues today in their reasons for the need for their proposed plant. I am not one of these people against business, quite the contrary, but this company has proven itself, repeatedly in it's actions, to be one that should not be in charge of a life necessity like water. **They have acted in bad faith towards our local communities.** Sadly, they truly only care about making as much money as they possibly can. A company like Cal Am is exactly why we need your oversight and protection.

I understand that the commission may be under some pressure by the governor's office to approve desalination proposals, and it may be needed in some places in the country and in some places in California.

But it is not needed here simply because there is a far less costly alternative right here, that in two years, will supply the water needed for this area's future. It will do this at a fraction of the cost of a desalination plant, far more quickly than it will take to build a plant, without the negative ecological impacts of a desalination plant.

This should be reason enough, it is simply not needed. That is the truth. Even if it were needed, Cal Am is not the company that should be in charge of it. That is also, sadly, the truth.

Please support the Pure Water Expansion, and please deny Cal Am's desalination proposal for the Monterey-Salinas area once and for all.

Sincerely,

Berj Amir

From: [Katalin Markus](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desalination for Monterey Peninsula
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 5:02:45 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission,

I am a Cal Am costumer on the Monterey Peninsula and I oppose Cal Am's desal project in the close future .
Cal Am over calculated our water needs and the plan is very expensive.
Pure Water Monterey providing us enough water now and with the Expansion we will have all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years.

The desal plan only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in our community's interest. We already pay way to much for our water.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Katalin Markus
Monterey

Sent from my iPhone

From: mcopperma@aol.com
To: Luster_Tom@Coastal; CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Input for CalAm Desal Plant Process
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 4:10:03 PM

Comment submission for the California Coastal Commission, Tom Luster, Jack Ainsworth, and Staff pertaining to the California American Water Company's Coastal Development Permit Application

Dear Tom Luster, Jack Ainsworth, Commissioners, Staff,

Given that today is the deadline to submit input, mine will be brief. My position has not changed, but has become even more oppositional to CalAm's MPWSP permit application. CalAm obstructed the water purchase agreement for the Pure Water Monterey Expansion project for two years, all based on its tenacious desire to force its exorbitantly costly and not needed desalination plant on Marina and the Monterey Peninsula, all to the detriment of our coastal environment and the health of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. The CalAm motivation is money. CalAm wants to increase the cost of the Measure J buyout process, increase shareholder profits, while causing much citizen angst in the process. CalAm has purchased other water utilities, charging those costs to its ratepayers. CalAm included a provision in the Water Purchase Agreement that its desal plant had to remain a consideration.

From my perspective, it has been obvious since the beginning of this CalAm sad saga that CalAm intends to displace Marina Coast Water District and take over the Marina water distribution area since future development will be taking place in the former Fort Ord territory. Inducing seawater intrusion via its slant wells will render the aquifers non potable, thus requiring CalAm's desal plant. Voila, no more need for the public water utility, MCWD. All along the way, CalAm has been siphoning off fresh water from the Dune Sand aquifers, while "adjusting" data information to skew the outcome of any "return water" it would be required to produce. Nevertheless, there is no real legal basis for this "return water" as it cannot be transported outside the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin, by law. Nor can CalAm legally take Marina's water for any use, particularly proposed conditions.

If you review the CalAm EIR, you will see that CalAm was required to prove it had water rights to its source water or its MPWSP would necessarily be declared infeasible. To date, no water rights have been granted to CalAm, other than the 500 ac that it acquired through its leased easement to the CEMEX property, a property that is, as you know, under tri-party agreement to be preserved for recreational and public use only, no private commercial enterprise allowed. The sand mining operation that has created devastating erosion up and down the California coast will end soon, which will provide a public space and access to Marina's pristine beaches, beaches that CalAm slant well heads would disfigure for sure. CalAm wants its ratepayers to fund its colossal errors in greedy judgment to usurp the rights of the City of Marina and its citizens. It was the M1W and MPWMD with collaboration from MCWD that created the miraculous recycled water project, a project that allowed CalAm to finally honor its Cease and Desist Order to stop over pumping the Carmel

River. CalAm did nothing for decades to develop a viable water supply alternative. Now it wants to ruin the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.

It is noteworthy that CalAm has submitted four lease applications to the California State Lands Commission since April 2019, with two modifications and recently a new lease application dated October 17, 2022, probably due to our pointing out that CalAm has no water rights to extract water from beneath the Monterey Bay either. CalAm is counting on California Coastal Commission approval based on its recent desalination project approval of the public utility South Coast Water District's desalination project plus the intense political pressure being brought to bear at every level of political endeavor. CalAm is counting on Executive Director Jack Ainsworth's overriding of regulations and permit requirements as assurance CalAm will obtain MPWSP approval. We cannot allow violations of the Public Trust Doctrine or intentional destruction of endangered ESHA and many other threatened marine and coastal species, beaches and dunes.

In the final analysis, the California Coastal Commission can put a final end to this horrendous saga of deceit, fear mongering, and propaganda so our communities can have relief, live in peace, and restore joy in the place of constant fear intimidation. Please, please recommend denial of CalAm's permit application. CalAm can never overcome the enormous obstacles involved, most importantly, it can never gain approval from the City of Marina. CalAm deceived the CPUC and others with its false modeling data it submitted for project approval. CalAm's two consultant firms both presented tampered, inaccurate data, which should have disqualified it years ago, along with its lack of water rights. The CalAm EIR contains the seed for disapproval for without water rights, the MPWSP was already infeasible from the get-go. Nothing has changed, only worsened because CalAm intentionally caused water purchase agreement for the Pure Water Monterey Expansion to be obstructed and delayed for two years, in the interim constantly attempting to force its desalination project on an unwilling community. All despite the fact that proof existed that the MPWSP was unnecessary, not needed, not wanted, and really over kill to increase out-of-state investors' bank account funds and punish ratepayers for wanting relief from the extraordinarily punishing high water rates that have been impoverishing low-income families and disadvantaged communities. That plus the environmental injustice involved makes the MPWSP especially heinous.

I hereby incorporate by reference all past communications to the California Coastal Commission over the past many years that I have submitted in protest of approval of the MPWSP.

Thank you so much for your continued patience and kindness shown to all of us here struggling against this corporate greed. God bless you for doing your due diligence, doing the right thing. This CalAm project is vastly different in every respect from your recently approved South Coast Water District desalination project, except for the use of experimental slant wells. There really is no comparison between these two projects otherwise, as far as many of us can observe.

God bless you, Tom Luster, Jack Ainsworth, Staff, and all our fabulous, conscientious

commissioners. Please do not allow the lifting of permit requirements impede a right and righteous recommendation to DENY the CALAM PERMIT. Our future literally depends on your wisdom, purity of conscience and deed, and stalwart support for environmental justice.

Very respectfully,
Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Ph.D.
Co-founder, Citizens for Just Water
and Resident of Marina

From: mcopperma@aol.com
To: Luster_Tom@Coastal; CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Input for CalAm Desal Plant Process
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 4:10:02 PM

Comment submission for the California Coastal Commission, Tom Luster, Jack Ainsworth, and Staff pertaining to the California American Water Company's Coastal Development Permit Application

Dear Tom Luster, Jack Ainsworth, Commissioners, Staff,

Given that today is the deadline to submit input, mine will be brief. My position has not changed, but has become even more oppositional to CalAm's MPWSP permit application. CalAm obstructed the water purchase agreement for the Pure Water Monterey Expansion project for two years, all based on its tenacious desire to force its exorbitantly costly and not needed desalination plant on Marina and the Monterey Peninsula, all to the detriment of our coastal environment and the health of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. The CalAm motivation is money. CalAm wants to increase the cost of the Measure J buyout process, increase shareholder profits, while causing much citizen angst in the process. CalAm has purchased other water utilities, charging those costs to its ratepayers. CalAm included a provision in the Water Purchase Agreement that its desal plant had to remain a consideration.

From my perspective, it has been obvious since the beginning of this CalAm sad saga that CalAm intends to displace Marina Coast Water District and take over the Marina water distribution area since future development will be taking place in the former Fort Ord territory. Inducing seawater intrusion via its slant wells will render the aquifers non potable, thus requiring CalAm's desal plant. Voila, no more need for the public water utility, MCWD. All along the way, CalAm has been siphoning off fresh water from the Dune Sand aquifers, while "adjusting" data information to skew the outcome of any "return water" it would be required to produce. Nevertheless, there is no real legal basis for this "return water" as it cannot be transported outside the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin, by law. Nor can CalAm legally take Marina's water for any use, particularly proposed conditions.

If you review the CalAm EIR, you will see that CalAm was required to prove it had water rights to its source water or its MPWSP would necessarily be declared infeasible. To date, no water rights have been granted to CalAm, other than the 500 ac that it acquired through its leased easement to the CEMEX property, a property that is, as you know, under tri-party agreement to be preserved for recreational and public use only, no private commercial enterprise allowed. The sand mining operation that has created devastating erosion up and down the California coast will end soon, which will provide a public space and access to Marina's pristine beaches, beaches that CalAm slant well heads would disfigure for sure. CalAm wants its ratepayers to fund its colossal errors in greedy judgment to usurp the rights of the City of Marina and its citizens. It was the M1W and MPWMD with collaboration from MCWD that created the miraculous recycled water project, a project that allowed CalAm to finally honor its Cease and Desist Order to stop over pumping the Carmel

River. CalAm did nothing for decades to develop a viable water supply alternative. Now it wants to ruin the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.

It is noteworthy that CalAm has submitted four lease applications to the California State Lands Commission since April 2019, with two modifications and recently a new lease application dated October 17, 2022, probably due to our pointing out that CalAm has no water rights to extract water from beneath the Monterey Bay either. CalAm is counting on California Coastal Commission approval based on its recent desalination project approval of the public utility South Coast Water District's desalination project plus the intense political pressure being brought to bear at every level of political endeavor. CalAm is counting on Executive Director Jack Ainsworth's overriding of regulations and permit requirements as assurance CalAm will obtain MPWSP approval. We cannot allow violations of the Public Trust Doctrine or intentional destruction of endangered ESHA and many other threatened marine and coastal species, beaches and dunes.

In the final analysis, the California Coastal Commission can put a final end to this horrendous saga of deceit, fear mongering, and propaganda so our communities can have relief, live in peace, and restore joy in the place of constant fear intimidation. Please, please recommend denial of CalAm's permit application. CalAm can never overcome the enormous obstacles involved, most importantly, it can never gain approval from the City of Marina. CalAm deceived the CPUC and others with its false modeling data it submitted for project approval. CalAm's two consultant firms both presented tampered, inaccurate data, which should have disqualified it years ago, along with its lack of water rights. The CalAm EIR contains the seed for disapproval for without water rights, the MPWSP was already infeasible from the get-go. Nothing has changed, only worsened because CalAm intentionally caused water purchase agreement for the Pure Water Monterey Expansion to be obstructed and delayed for two years, in the interim constantly attempting to force its desalination project on an unwilling community. All despite the fact that proof existed that the MPWSP was unnecessary, not needed, not wanted, and really over kill to increase out-of-state investors' bank account funds and punish ratepayers for wanting relief from the extraordinarily punishing high water rates that have been impoverishing low-income families and disadvantaged communities. That plus the environmental injustice involved makes the MPWSP especially heinous.

I hereby incorporate by reference all past communications to the California Coastal Commission over the past many years that I have submitted in protest of approval of the MPWSP.

Thank you so much for your continued patience and kindness shown to all of us here struggling against this corporate greed. God bless you for doing your due diligence, doing the right thing. This CalAm project is vastly different in every respect from your recently approved South Coast Water District desalination project, except for the use of experimental slant wells. There really is no comparison between these two projects otherwise, as far as many of us can observe.

God bless you, Tom Luster, Jack Ainsworth, Staff, and all our fabulous, conscientious

commissioners. Please do not allow the lifting of permit requirements impede a right and righteous recommendation to DENY the CALAM PERMIT. Our future literally depends on your wisdom, purity of conscience and deed, and stalwart support for environmental justice.

Very respectfully,
Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Ph.D.
Co-founder, Citizens for Just Water
and Resident of Marina

From: [Shelley Watson](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: YES ON DESAL PLANT
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 3:52:40 PM

We would prefer a desal plant and don't want to continue drinking sewage water. I have filters on my shower and in our kitchen. I change them every 3-6 months. In the past, they appeared clean but we change them because it was time. The last 2 times I changed the shower filter I could not help but note that the screens were very discolored. This has never happened before. Add to that our sink water smells like swamp when I do the dishes??? The mold and mildew grows like it never had before??? I have lived in this house for 15 years AND these are new issues. I know Pure Water says their water is GENERALLY SAFE TO DRINK, but it is recycled sewage water! With agriculture and disease being what it is - we plan to move out of the state if need be. If one part of the current system fails we could all be poisoned, and not know unless they confess or get caught.

WE WANT A DESAL PLANT!!! PLEASE!!!

Respectfully,

Shelley Watson-Marseguerra

25 Oct 2022

Cal Am Monterey Desal Project—Application No. 9-20-0603-oppose

We all need water but water must be captured and delivered to our homes and businesses. Until recently there was only one purveyor of water on the Monterey Peninsula, Cal Am, a privately owned company whose only concern is to make money for its stockholders.

Cal Am does not own the water BUT they own the infrastructure to deliver it. Pure Water Monterey also is delivering fresh water and has done so for two years. Expansion with Pure Water Monterey vs Cal Am will be much cheaper for lots of reasons and environmentally better.

Cal Am wants to build a very expensive desal plant that we do not need, in a town that does not want it, Marina. Certainly an unfriendly business move, if not unethical, considering the land in question is supposed to be returned to its natural state, but you know that.

The Coastal Commission has the duty to protect our coast; that's why it was formed. Here are some of the reasons you should not approve this out-sized environmentally unsound plan plopped down right on Marina's beach.

1. Cal Am's very expensive behemoth will dramatically increase our already high water rates. We are very responsible water users; but instead of having our bills go down, they go up! Not Fair! \$\$\$
2. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion will provide the water needed for the next 30 years; *we don't need the desal plant.*
3. Desal is energy intensive hence more high water cost. \$\$\$
4. The complicated Return Water Agreement with Cal Am will force the Peninsula to subsidize the cost of water to Castroville. \$\$\$
5. I understand the desal plant would discharge millions of gallons of brine daily into the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary. An environmentally unsound practice.
6. We don't trust Cal Am. When my water meter died it took over a month to get it replaced, during which time my water use was not measured. I continued with my normal conservative habits but when I received my bill once the new meter was installed, it was outrageous. I had to fight to get it down to reality. That kind of experience happens too often. Unethical behavior.
7. There are very real concerns about Seawater Intrusion affecting Marina's groundwater supply. More serious environmental concerns.

I could go on, but you will get all the facts and figures from lots of people. We need affordable water. We need to believe in the Coastal Commission as a body that truly cares about the environment and our beautiful Central Coast. We need a place where young people can afford to live; exorbitant water bills are just one more thing that makes it difficult to survive here. Remember, Cal Am does not OWN the water. It is free. Cal Am makes it more expensive than it needs to be through its greedy, unethical and thoughtless practices. I urge you to deny Cal Am's request to erect a desal plant.

Lelandia M. Ward, Monterey, Ca.

From: [Maria Ogden](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [Karl Ogden](#)
Subject: Opposition to CalAm Desal Plant
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 11:48:22 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Maria Ogden
Monterey, CA

From: [Robert Feist](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am's desalinization project in Monterey
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 8:41:28 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Robert Feist
Monterey, CA

From: [Kevin Henry](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am desal
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 6:11:54 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over-drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Kevin Henry
Carmel, CA

From: [Scott Brown](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 11:54:45 PM

Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely, Scott Brown

Seaside, CA 93955

From: [Karyl Hall](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No desal plant
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 11:51:23 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Thank you!

Karyl Hall, Carmel by the Sea, CA

From: [SUSAN WALTER](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am's Desal Project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 6:58:13 PM

To: California Coastal Commission

As a Marina resident, I strongly oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The expansion will provide all the water the Monterey Peninsula needs for housing and growth for the next 30 years -- even in a drought.

The Peninsula does not need the desal plant, and Marina residents do not want slant wells on our shores. Marina would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion -- even though it would get none of this newly generated water.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this highly unpopular and environmentally devastating desal project.

Susan Walter
Marina CA

From: unkoakville@comcast.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 1:03:45 PM

we don't need itat this time.

From: [Tom North](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CAI Am desal project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:20:47 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Thomas R. North

Carmel, California 93923

From: [KATHLEEN BAKER](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Stop the desal
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 12:16:26 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Kathleen Baker, Monterey CA

From: alan.niebel@web-feetresearch.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Oppose Cal Am desal project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 11:20:43 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I would endorse a regional desal project in Moss Landing that would be cheaper and support water for Salinas, Castroville, South Santa Cruz county, and if needed for Monterey Peninsula including Marina. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Alan Niebel
Carmel, CA
M: 831.402.5754

From: [Suzette Cavanaugh](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: I Oppose Cal Am's Desal Project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 11:14:37 AM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay -- the highest in the United States!!!!.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Suzette Cavanaugh Singer

Seaside, CA 93955

From: [Winona Stewart](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 11:10:32 AM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely,
WINONA STEWART KEEGAN
AUSTIN KEEGAN
P. O. BOX 7561
2 PALOU SE OF SECOND AVE.
CARMEL, CALIFORNIA 93921
831-566-5640

From: [LINDY MARRINGTON](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: re: Proposed Desal Project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 10:31:02 AM

My name is Lindy Marrington and I have lived in Carmel for the past 23 years. As a stakeholder in this never ending proposal, I am letting you know that I am adamantly opposed to bringing a desalinization plant to the Monterey Peninsula. I studied these projects as a marine biology major in college and these desalinization projects have never worked up and down the coast of California. They are extremely expensive, ever raising monthly water bills and are a fiasco for the ocean marine life.

This is all about profit and gain for the investors. Water should never be handled for profit, it is a basic need for all living things. We do not need more water encouraging more housing developments and more tourists. We have more than enough congestion already. There are other solutions already in place, such as Pure Water Monterey.

I say NO to the proposed Cal Am desal plant.

Lindy Marrington
Carmel, CA 939212

From: [RJ Ridge](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey County desal, etc
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 10:19:48 AM

To whom it concerns,

Monterey County has been illegally stealing water from the Carmel River for years. This can not continue!! And must not be resumed! Any further criminal use of water must not be allowed, and honestly should be greatly punished.

Desal? I would listen to the locals, not the big corporations or rapacious water companies.

Thank you very much!

--

Rolf J. Ridge



319 Forest Ave.

Pacific Grove, CA 93950

831-333-1919

rolf@appliedsolarenergy.com

From: [Patricia Eastman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am's desal project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 10:14:01 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely,
Patricia Eastman
Pacific Grove

From: [Bill Bruffey](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAM desal project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 10:13:52 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Bill Bruffey
Pacific Grove

From: [rtk 25748](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am desal project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 10:03:46 AM

I am opposed to the CalAm slant well desalination project, but for different reasons than you will hear from Public Water Now, et al. I am unconvinced that a more traditional desal method isn't possible, i.e. two big pipes in the middle of the Monterey Bay. I accept the certainty that some marine life will be damaged both by the intake and the salty effluent, but the concept would minimize the environmental damage. Yes, it will be more expensive than rainwater. Yes, it will require energy use, also expensive, which should be supplied with solar and wind power, using those sources when available to store water for use when the sun and wind are inadequate to keep up.

I recognize that the legally protected status of the Monterey Bay is a factor, but a balance of other environmental concerns must be weighed and considered in changing the rules regarding the bay, presumably not within your power.

Drought is not a problem that could worsen. I have done everything possible to minimize the risk of a fire destroying my home, but my minimal landscaping is very dry. If we wish to continue to live in a region with little rain next to an ocean, we need to prepare for the future. As a side note, I am also in favor of public water. Having grown up with, and lived most of my life with municipal water systems, it is crazy that we have a for-profit water provider. And whatever water provider we have should be charging primarily based on the amount of water used, steeply tiered, rather than the system reflected in my bills, in which most of the charge in my typical bill is unrelated to volume. I accept that there is a significant fixed cost for the water provider, but I also believe in financial incentives to save, despite the fact that a few customers can and will entirely ignore cost.

Richard Kasbeer, rural Monterey

From: [merrilya](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal project
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 9:49:03 AM

Please do not accept the Cal-Am premise that the Monterey peninsula needs a desal plant.
Please deny!

Thanks
Merrily Alley
MONTEREY

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [surfing](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: NO TO DESAL
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 9:39:18 AM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

J D Wachs

From: [Margaret Davis](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 9:35:34 AM

Dear Commissioners,

Cal Am ratepayers are already paying staggering bills. Cal Am's project will not solve this problem, but only pile on more.

Meanwhile Cal Am is sticking its straw into Marina's aquifer, where it has no rights and threatens the district's sole water source.

Please deny Cal Am's grandiose plans for unlawful, needless exploitation of our environment.

Thank you,

Margaret Davis
Marina, CA

From: [Marge Abel](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Sleazy Cal Am's Desalination Plant
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 9:32:16 AM

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I have observed one sleazy action after another, all to improve their profit, not to do what their PR press proclaims. I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Marge Abel

Pacific Grove

From: [Jacqueline Fobes](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Re
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 8:22:27 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commission Members:

Please help us here on the central coast in Monterey. Cal Am Water has a stranglehold on our water and now wants to build a desal plant at our expense. Our bills are sky high now. It would only get more expensive.

Also we voted Cal Am OUT but they won't leave. Why not?

They want to build up the infrastructure of their company even more, at our expense, then sell it to us at the inflated price. PLEASE DO SOMETHING TO GET RID OF CAL AM!!

Thank you.

J. Fobes

Sent from my iPad

From: [karen wood](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: desal - calam
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 7:42:16 AM

California Coastal Commission:

I am a Cal Am customer in Carmel Valley and I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. This will provide all the water we need for our growth for the next 30 years, even in drought. Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and this has caused Cal Am to finally stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. MPWMD, estimates by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet/year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet unless they are inflating their numbers?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay. We have the most expensive water in the US and we can't afford this.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion. As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Karen Wood
Carmel Valley

From: [John Norman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalination Plant
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 6:41:05 AM

Hello, my name is John Norman, I live in Seaside CA and I cannot afford desalinated water. If Cal Am builds a desalination plant I will literally be forced to purchase their over priced product because there are no alternatives, being that they are a monopoly. I already struggle to pay my bills so please don't make life considerably harder for those of us who live paycheck to paycheck by approving an unnecessary project. The Pure Water Monterey expansion is adequate to meet my community's needs for water for decades to come. It's also much more environmentally friendly than desalination. Please help us avert this ecological disaster that American Water is trying to force down our throats. Please don't approve their plan for a desalination plant in the Monterey Bay.

Sincerely,
John Norman

From: [Robert Norberg](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAm Desalination Plant
Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 3:55:35 AM

I am a Cal Am customer in Monterey. I OPPOSE Cal Am's desal project. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey WILL PROVIDE ALL THE WATER WE NEED OR WILL NEED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

Pure Water Monterey has allowed Cal Am to stop overdrafting the Carmel River. WE DO NOT NEED the desal plant.

Cal Am's INVESTOR OWNED desal plant REPRESENTS A CORPORATE CRIME AGAINST CONSUMERS.

I also OPPOSE putting their slant wells in the Marina water district Marina which will cause ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE to its beaches and risk its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

I DO NOT AGREE to the UNCONSCIONABLE greenhouse gas emissions and the INCREASED COST of electricity. Governor Newsom SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT HE WILL NEED OUR VOTES IN THE FUTURE.

You MUST DENY Cal Am's coastal development permit.

Robert Norberg, Carmel, CA

October 19, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members
455 Market Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subj: Support for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project,
CDP Application No. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission:

Please approve the desperately needed Desalinization Project.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWD) would like you to believe that we have enough water available through recapture of storm water and the use of recycled wastewater to recharge the aquifer so a desalination project is not needed. This is totally false, anybody with a modicum of common sense can understand that our water demand has been artificially restricted by a Moratorium, Drought Conditions and Tiered Water Rates.

First, the Moratorium that we have been under for over 25 years has created a huge pent up water demand, we haven't been allowed to remodel, build on an approved lot of record, expand business use like a restaurant or build desperately needed affordable housing. With a desal plant we can lift the moratorium and meet the current and future demand.

Second, drought conditions don't seem to be going away anytime soon, we have all been very careful to use as little water as possible. Lawns have all turned brown, restaurants only serve water on request, we are all doing our part to conserve. The desal plant will help us live with drought conditions and, while not wasting water, we can return to some sort of normal water use.

Third, the tiered water rates put added pressure on all of us to use less. I recently attended a community meeting sponsored by Cal Am and learned that 95% of the cost of our water is due to fixed costs. Simplistically, if our water use doubled the rates could be cut in half because the fixed costs remain relatively the same. Obviously, that's not going to happen but with the desal plant we no longer need to have tiered rates. We all complain about the \$7/gal fuel cost and desal water is going to cost more but we can minimize the cost by getting rid of the tiered rates.

Since the CPUC determined that a 6.4 million gal per day plant is more cost effective, please approve the project with the condition that they build the larger plant.

Thank you,

Jack Angel, Monterey

From: [Hideko Inouye Graves](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 9:04:02 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Hideko

Hideko Inouye Graves
Attorney at Law
196 Del Monte Boulevard
Pacific Grove CA 93950
Telephone (831) 521-5881
Fax (866) 518-1858
Email hidekog@gmail.com

From: [Joyce Haferman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please do not let Cal Am build a Desal plant. I can't afford the rate increase!
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 8:53:34 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Joyce Haferman
Monterey CA

Sent from my iPhone

From: wiskoff@aol.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny CalAm's coastal development permit for its desal project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 8:52:36 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula for the past 35 years, we oppose CalAm's desal project.

The expansion of the Pure Water Monterey project

- is ENVIRONMENTALLY SUPERIOR. It poses no risk to our coastal and undersea habitats. It will use low amounts of energy and produce negligible greenhouse emissions, protecting our atmosphere.
- will PROVIDE ALL WATER NEEDED for housing and growth, even in drought, for the next 30 years.
- will provide water at a COST FAR, FAR, FAR LOWER than the cost of CalAm's desal water. The higher cost of desal forces Monterey Peninsula citizens to pay the steep price tag, but the profits only enrich CalAm's shareholders.

Please deny CalAm's coastal development permit for this desal project. Why?

- It is ENVIRONMENTALLY UNSOUND. CalAm's desal project will damage Marina's shoreline and risk seawater intrusion into its aquifer—its source of drinking water. It will use massive amounts of energy and result in massive amounts of greenhouse emissions that will increase global warming.
- It is SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY UNJUST. Marina would suffer harm to its shoreline and aquifer but receive none of the water. The higher cost of water would affect every facet of life on the Monterey Peninsula. It would double the cost of the average water bill. The workers that Monterey Peninsula businesses depend on could not afford to live here.
- It is based on CAL AM'S FRAUDULENT WATER DEMAND ESTIMATES that double and triple count growth statistics that have already been accounted for in AMBAG's growth forecasts.

Pure Water Monterey (PWM) has been providing us with water for more than two years now, and that has allowed CalAm to stop overdrafting of the Carmel River—a milestone CalAm was incapable of achieving on its own.

AMBAG estimates we'll need an additional 786 acre-feet of water by 2045. PWM will be able to supply 2,250 acre-feet a year.

WE DON'T NEED CAL AM'S 6,250 ACRE-FEET OF WATER AT \$6,000 PER ACRE-FOOT!

Please deny CalAm's development permit for this desal project.

From: [June Henry](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: NO DESAL
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 7:00:06 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

June Henry, Monterey resident/homeowner

From: [Andrew](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No on Cal Am Desal
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 5:54:18 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior and far less costly alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission should consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can the Commission justify this cost? The proposed desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Andrew Allison, Carmel 93923

From: [William B. Donovan](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: DESAL
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 5:19:05 PM

Dear Commissioners:

Please do not approve a technology that is dirty,
wasteful of energy, expensive, and unnecessary in
our area.

William Donovan
Carmel

From: [Michael Helmes](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Unneeded Desal Project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:54:43 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Regards,

Michael Helmes
Pacific Grove, CA

From: [Jean Rasch](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Comment: Coastal Commission Hearing
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:39:16 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

I oppose Cal Am's desal project. I live in Monterey. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet? The Peninsula does not need this desal plant.

This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost?

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

From: [wayne wood](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal plant
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:36:47 PM

To whom it may concern, We here on the central coast do not want more infrastructure to pay off when we buy back our own water system presently operated by Cal AM which most folks do not realize is owned by German nationals. Do not allow this proposed desal plant to be built.

Wayne and Kyle Wood 443 Pine st., Monterey Ca.93940

From: [Linda Zimmerman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CAL AM DESAL PROJECT
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 3:58:02 PM

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission:

I am writing to respectfully ask that each of you vote to deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for the desal project.

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Thanks for keeping your eyes on the prize and voting no on the development permit for the desal project.

Many thanks for all your efforts on this and many other complex issues regarding our unique coastline.

Linda Zimmerman

Pebble Beach, CA

From: [Gail Bower](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: I Oppose Cal Am's desal project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 3:49:19 PM

To the California Coastal Commission,

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula and I oppose Cal Am's desal project.

There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The reason why is that the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year.

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also really oppose the siting of these desal slant wells on the Monterey coast as they would cause environmental and view shed damage to our coastline beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a local coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Thank for reading my letter.

Gail Bower
Monterey ,CA

From: [Tim Heyboer](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalination plant
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 3:36:18 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Tim Heyboer

Pacific Grove, CA

From: [Vida Vescera](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: NO DESAL
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 3:28:29 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Vida Vescera

Pacific Grove, Ca

From: [Pat Mahony](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: info@publicwaternow.org; mwchrislock@redshift.com; justwater93933@gmail.com
Subject: No on Desal - NO on Water for Profit
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 3:16:24 PM

To Whom it May Concern at the Coastal Commission

As a Cal Am customer in Monterey, I oppose Cal Am's desal project.

At this time the Peninsula does not need a desal plant.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

Pure Water Monterey is *the* alternative Coastal Commission must consider.

Their expansion can and will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, *even in drought*

IF we do need desal in 30 years we can build it fresh and new.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Spencer Morgan

Monterey, CA 93940

From: dcpenwell@sbcglobal.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: NO on Cal Am investor owned desal plant in Marina, CA
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:50:16 PM

California Coastal Commission:

I am a resident of the Monterey Peninsula and I oppose Cal Am's desal project. The environmentally superior alternative is the expansion of Pure Water Monterey and the Coastal Commission must consider it. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Donna Penwell
Seaside, CA 93955

From: [Roelof Wijbrandus](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No Desal from CalAm
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:38:13 PM

I live in Seaside, Ca and this desal plant from CalAm is planned for the wrong place (Marina) and at the wrong price. Please tell CalAm to find another place to build a desal plant (like Moss Landing).

Roelof Wijbrandus
Seaside

Sent from my iPhone

From: [John Bird](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal Project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:35:49 PM

California Coastal Commission:

I agree with the statement below, we do not need the Desal project.

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

John & Elizabeth Bird

70 Forest Ridge Rd Monterey, Ca

From: [Lila Seldin](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for the desal project.
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:30:29 PM

Dear Members of Our California Coastal Commission,

As Cal Am customers in Pacific Grove, we oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission should consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought conditions.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. Cal Am's claim that we need another 6,250 acre-feet is not justified.

This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. Being retired and on fixed incomes, we cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill we already pay.

We also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district, Marina. Our daughter just bought a home in Marina and would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As active volunteers, we clean up our shoreline daily, along our national marine sanctuary. We are very concerned about the desal plant's environmental damage and harmful risks to our beaches and bird and marine life. Additionally, we cannot agree with the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. We are alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Sincerely,

Lila and Cal Seldin, Pacific Grove Residents and Volunteers

From: [Yunuen](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:55:09 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Yunuen Del Castillo,

Pacific Grove

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joseph Narvaez](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please Deny CalAm's Desal Permit!
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:55:07 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula (paying some of the highest water rates in the world!) I STRONGLY oppose Cal Am's expensive, environmentally-destructive desal project. I believe CalAm is a soulless corporation driven only by profit and the need to please their stockholders, not in serving the customer or the environment.

Besides, there is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission MUST consider first. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought! And this alternative is not motivated by greed & profit at all costs, and it's much more environmentally-friendly.

The Monterey Peninsula simply does not need this desal plant! The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. It is outrageous that Cal Am claims we need another 6,250 acre-feet? We do not!

Cal Am's investor-owned, for-profit desal plant would produce water costing an outrageous \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? As a ratepayer I cannot afford this!

This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the confiscatory Cal Am water bill I already pay!

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and coastal wildlife, and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion. I just hiked the Marina dunes area yesterday and it remains environmentally rich! Please do not allow CalAm to further degrade our already declining environment!

As a native, lifelong coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would unnecessarily consume. I am also deeply disturbed by Governor Newsom's unwarranted, uninformed and knee-jerk pressure exerted upon the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not. This is shortcut thinking and possibly politically motivated.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Narvaez

Carmel Valley, CA

From: glen.grossman
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:53:41 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

Glen Grossman, Pacific Grove

--

Glen Grossman

From: [Kathleen Hendricks](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal proposal by Cal Am Water
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:52:38 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula for 23 years, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River. Something Cal Am never accomplished on their own even after years of violations.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Kathleen Hendricks
Carmel Valley CA

From: [Tom Rivelli](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for their desal project.
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:43:45 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Best Regards,
Tom Rivelli

Phone: 831-394-5119
Email: tomrivelli@comcast.net

From: [Sebastian Miller](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Fwd: Please Email the Coastal Commission
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:43:01 PM

Hi There:

I am a CalAm customer in Carmel and share all the sentiments listed in the sample letter below, drafted by Public Water Now.

More generally, I think CalAm just wants to build this desalination plant because it adds to its rate base and--perhaps more importantly--makes it more difficult for CalAm's assets to be acquired in a process that would lead to public ownership of our local water utility as contemplated by the ballot initiative that was passed a few years ago here in Monterey County.

Please shut this thing down!

Sebastian L. Miller, Carmel

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Public Water Now** <info@publicwaternow.org>
Date: Wed, Oct 19, 2022 at 1:04 PM
Subject: Please Email the Coastal Commission
To: Sebastian Miller <s.lamar.miller@gmail.com>



STOP CAL AM'S DESAL **We don't need it. We can't afford it.**

It's time to tell the Coastal Commission NO DESAL. Email your letter to CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE COASTAL COMMISSION. You can copy the letter below and send it as is, or better yet, use it as a guide to write your own letter.

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Your name and city

Coastal Commission Hearing Thursday, November 17 in Salinas

Salinas Board of Supervisors Chambers and Zoom

Governor Newsom is putting pressure on Coastal Commissioners to approve desal projects. We need to fight back as a community! We only have 4 weeks to defeat this overpriced, oversized boondoggle of a project. Will you help?

Opposing this is urgent! If Cal Am were allowed to build it, we would all pay dearly. It would double the cost of the average water bill, and it would double the cost to buy Cal Am. It won't make the buyout infeasible, just much more expensive for all of us.

Cal Am's Big Lie

Cal Am is using people's fear of the drought and our urgent need for housing to scare people into supporting its desal plant. To make its case Cal Am has overestimated our future water needs by adding RHNA housing numbers, legal

lots of record, and more on top of the AMBAG forecast, which already accounts for these growth elements. Essentially Cal Am is triple counting to come up with a false future demand for **water**.

[WATCH](#) MPWMD General Manager, Dave Stoldt, explain why we don't need desal.

Actions you can take

- [Donate to PWN](#), we need your financial support to fight this
- Send an email to the [Coastal Commission](#)
- Write letters to the editor – Contact [Melodie Chrislock](#)
- Post on Nextdoor and Social Media to educate your neighbors
- Follow [PWN on Facebook](#) and share the posts
- Hand out flyers – Contact [Melodie Chrislock](#)
- Help make signs
- Attend the Coastal Commission hearing on November 17 (virtual or in person)

Melodie Chrislock
Director, Public Water Now

Donate to Public Water Now

Thank you so much for your continued support. Your donations maintain the PWN website, support candidates, and pay for everything else we do.

[Please donate here](#) or by mail to Public Water Now, P.O. Box 1293, Monterey, CA 93942.

[Follow PWN on Facebook](#)

[Visit the Public Water Now Website](#)

Public Water Now · PO Box 1293, Monterey, CA 93942, United States
This email was sent to s.lamar.miller@gmail.com. To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).

From: [Janice Neal](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Opposing Cal Am's desal project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:42:59 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Janice Neal

Monterey, CA

From: [Steven L](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey Peninsula desal project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:33:03 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is a environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

The Peninsula does not need this desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. How can Cal Am claim we need another 6,250 acre-feet?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$6,000 an acre-foot. How can any company justify this cost? This desal plant only enriches American Water shareholders, it is not in the interest of our community. I cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill I already pay.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Thank you,

Steven Lawrence, Pacific Grove, CA

--

sent from my ol' fashioned phone, plugged into the wall

From: [Bertrand Deprez](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Re: Desal
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:29:01 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

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Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Bertrand Deprez
Seaside

From: [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](mailto:Moore.Elizabeth@Coastal)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster.Tom@Coastal)
Subject: FW: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:25:37 PM

From: Christopher Hill <hillch112@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:07 PM
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal <ExecutiveStaff@coastal.ca.gov>; Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>; Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal <elizabeth.moore@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

Dear Chair Brownsey:

I strongly urge your support for Application No. 9-20-0603 during your November 17, 2022, Coastal Commission hearing to advance the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project through the Commission's permitting process and towards the construction of this essential water resilience project.

California is experiencing increasingly extreme weather conditions, with less predictable precipitation patterns, followed by longer and more frequent dry and hot periods. Climate change is reducing the reliability of our precipitation and snowpack. Produced locally, desalinated water provides new, high-quality water, and is resilient to both climate change and drought. Desalination can transform inland brackish water as well as coastal seawater into a drinkable supply. Desalination's ability to generate new water supplies in the face of an unrelenting drought is a valuable attribute that should be a strong component in our state's efforts to improve drought resiliency and water sustainability.

Your consideration of action on Application 9-20-0603 on November 17, 2022 is critical to protecting the quality of life and economy within the Monterey region that will benefit from the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. Not only will the project provide up to 4.8 MGD of reliable, locally-controlled water supplies for the region, it will do so using technology that is environmentally protective of ocean resources and marine life. The Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project will use advanced slant wells that protect marine life by using subsurface water intake technology. This project will advance environmentally protective technologies, and will be valuable in providing much-needed relief from decades of drought that have created an unprecedented water crisis in the Monterey region.

While the reality is that California's ongoing and persistent drought conditions may be a new way of life for our state. You have it within your ability as Members of the California Coastal Commission to make decisions – through approval of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project to help one region of the state move forward in the pursuit of a water resilient future that helps sustain the quality of life and regional economy.

Again, I strongly urge your support for Application No. 9-20-0603 at your November 17, 2022 hearing. Please don't hesitate to contact me at hillch112@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding our organization's comments on these matters.

From: [Paul Maa](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Stop the Cal Am's desal project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:23:51 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought.

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As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Paul Ma, city of Pacific Grove

From: [WILLIAM DAVIDSON](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:22:25 PM

Opposed to the desal plant , cal am is the most obnoxious utility provider I have ever encountered. They are all about the bottom line. They rape us now with their punitive fees for water usage . I have lived all over the country and never seen such obnoxious pricing and people you cal in Chicago. THE ONLY WAY THIS SHOULD PASS IS IF THEY GIVE US ALLFREE STOCK , SUNCE THEY ARE ABOUT TO PENALIZE US ALL THEY CAN ,
WILLIAM M DAVIDSON

BILL DAVIDSON
Davidson Fine Arts, Inc.
214 Mar Vista Drive
Monterey, Ca. 93940
www.billdavidson.biz
678 643 9161

From: [Christopher Hill](#)
To: [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#)
Subject: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:07:04 PM

Dear Chair Brownsey:

I strongly urge your support for Application No. 9-20-0603 during your November 17, 2022, Coastal Commission hearing to advance the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project through the Commission's permitting process and towards the construction of this essential water resilience project.

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Again, I strongly urge your support for Application No. 9-20-0603 at your November 17, 2022 hearing. Please don't hesitate to contact me at hillch112@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding our organization's comments on these matters.

Sincerely,

Chris Hill

From: [Kristin](#)
To: CalAMMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAM Desal
Date: Saturday, October 15, 2022 1:15:31 PM

Why are we hearing about CalAm and their ridiculously overpriced and damaging desal plant again? Why are we even considering something that would damage our aquifer at a higher price than something that is sustainable at a 1/3 of the price? Why do we continually sell out to big industries at the expense of our coast?

CalAM is not an option - the city of Marina has continued to fight it for years. It will cost the residents consuming the water 3-4 times the amount that reclamation would. This needs to be denied once and for all! Make the right decision here and deny CalAM's damaging desal plant and save Marina and tax dollars from needing to file a lawsuit.

Marina Resident and Voter
Kristin Bitler

From: [Matt Hammond](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please reject desal
Date: Saturday, October 15, 2022 11:33:49 AM

Dear California Coastal Commission,

I am opposed to CalAm's desal plant for the Monterey Peninsula. We have an alternative Pure Water recycling project that can meet our needs without damaging the coast.

Sincerely,
Matthew Hammond
Monterey, CA

From: [Clancy and Susan D'Angelo](#)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#)
Subject: Regarding: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, CDP Application No. 9-20-0603
Date: Friday, October 14, 2022 11:45:39 AM

Sorry about the earlier unfinished e mail....sent by mistake.

Hi Mr. Luster.

My wife and I want to urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the desalination plant to complete the Monterey Water Supply Project this November. Our peninsula has been struggling for many decades to provide water to meet the needs of our communities, only to have politics and legal maneuvering stop any progress on the issue. Now we have worked hard to get the desalination project in place and we really need your support, so we are asking that you approve this project.

Thank you in advance for your positive endorsement of this desalination project.

Clancy & Susan D'Angelo

From: phylmeurer@cs.com
To: Luster_Tom@Coastal
Subject: SUPPORT FOR MPWSP, CDP APPLICATION NO. 9-20-0603
Date: Friday, October 14, 2022 11:23:03 AM

October 14, 2022

California Coastal Commission Members

RE: SUPPORT FOR THE MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT, CDP APPLICATION NO. 9-20-0603

Members of the Coastal Commission,

I have previously served as a Board Member of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency and Monterey One Water (then MRWPCA), and served 9 years on the Salinas City Council. In each of those positions I spent a great deal of time and effort on water issues.

I strongly urge you to support the MPWSP as an adequate, drought proof and resilient water supply. Without the MPWSP, our area will remain in a state of water poverty and far too susceptible to the ravages of extended drought.

The opposition to the MPWSP seems to rely on 4 faulty factors.

1- SUPPLY AND DEMAND REPORT OF THE MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT(MPWMD)

This supply and demand report authored by general Manager Dave Stoldt is fatally flawed. On the supply side there is an assumption of 1300 acre feet per year (afy) of aquifer storage and recovery(ASR) - a rainfall sensitive supply. In fact, the ten year average ASR has been just over 647afy, the last 5 year average was 584afy, and the last 3 year average was 351afy — all well short of the 1300afy assumed for **every** year. This supply is clearly negatively impacted by drought or even 'less than normal' rain years. It is irresponsible to assume 1300afy.

The 2250afy assumed from the Pure Water Monterey Expansion (PWMX) ignores the fact that there are questions about the availability of source waters. The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) has identified only enough source water available to produce 1200afy of potable water. That 1000afy shortage/question mark cannot be ignored.

2- IMPACTS ON THE CITY OF MARINA AND THE MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT(MCWD)

The requirement of slant wells limited the geographical location of the wells and well heads. The professional hydrogeological assessment of the necessary conditions for successful slant wells found the soon to be closed Cemex sand mining operation site to be the best location. The on-shore well heads will occupy only 1/2 acre on what is currently the 400 acre industrial Cemex site. The CPUC approved EIR requires habitat restoration and greatly improved coastal access over what exists now. The desal facility itself is outside of the coastal zone.

MCWD and some Marina citizens have stated that the slant wells will deplete their aquifer and contribute to seawater intrusion. **In fact,** the CPUC approved EIR shows the slant well pumping actually reverses the gradient and will aid in slowing sea water intrusion into the aquifer. Continued pumping by MCWD from the 400 foot aquifer will risk greater sea water intrusion, and their pumping from the deep, unreplenishable 900 foot aquifer is risky. MCWD may indeed need desal supplies in the future and could be a public participant in future phases of the MPWSP.

3- THE ISSUE OF 'RETURN WATER' TO THE SALINAS VALLEY BASIN

A low percentage of the water pumped through the slant wells is brackish water from the coastal aquifer. The test well measured at 7%. Modeling shows that the longer permanent wells will pump about 2% aquifer water. CalAm has agreed to return that amount of treated water to the Salinas Valley Basin through an agreement to provide potable water to the Castroville Community Services District. That District serves a disadvantaged community that has had to shut down wells due to sea water intrusion and without this return water the Castroville community's water supply will be in jeopardy. Castroville's ability to shut down pumping from the 400 foot aquifer is critical to fighting further sea water intrusion. Opponents of the MPWSP object to this agreement even though it is exactly the type of regional approach they otherwise promote.

4- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

CalAm has stated its willingness to incorporate a public partnership into its desal operation. This could potentially include treating brackish water from a series of barrier wells that are a component of the state approved Salinas Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan. But without an approved CDP for the MPWSP, a desalination facility that is a critical piece of a regional water solution could be delayed for years - a delay we cannot afford.

The bottom line is this: without the MPWSP, the Monterey Peninsula will almost certainly be on the razor's edge of water shortages into the foreseeable future. The Peninsula's ability to provide critically needed new housing will be greatly restricted. Without the MPWSP the public partnership opportunities it offers to address the larger region's water needs will be delayed.

The MPWSP should be approved.

Phyllis Meurer
phylmeurer@cs.com

From: mwchrislock@redshift.com
To: Luster_Tom@Coastal; CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Letters to the Editor Opposing Cal Am's Desal - September 28 to October 7, 2022
Date: Friday, October 14, 2022 10:06:09 AM

Letters to the Editor Opposing Cal Am's Desal

Carmel Pine Cone | October 7, 2022

Disputed Water Numbers

Dear Editor:

Regarding your September 30 article, I hope Pebble Beach Company will meet with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) to clear up its misunderstanding of MPWMD's water supply and demand numbers provided to the CPUC recently. The AMBAG growth forecast includes ALL growth for the area, including Pebble Beach. It turns out that Cal Am miscalculated the demand by double and triple counting data. It's interesting that Cal Am came up with a water demand that is just enough to justify its desal plant.

As to the charge that the district "has an inherent conflict of interest... avowedly pursuing a public buyout of Cal Am", please remember the district is mandated by law to do so. Voters passed Measure J in 2018 by an overwhelming majority, legally mandating the district to pursue a buyout of Cal Am if feasible. The feasibility study done in 2019 concluded it is feasible.

According to MPWMD, the expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide more than enough water for 30 years of growth without desal. Drought has minimal impact on recycled water, increased population means more wastewater. And not all the water from the expansion of Pure Water Monterey will be used immediately, so much of it can be stored for drought.

The false narrative that we need this desal project to survive is just that. If the Coastal Commission approves this boondoggle of a desal plant on November 17, Cal Am customers can probably expect rates to

double. Pebble Beach Company customers may be able to pay hundreds or possibly thousands of dollars a month for water, but the average ratepayer cannot.

Susan Schiavone, Seaside

Monterey Herald | October 12, 2022

Restore plant to nature

The original intent of California's Coastal Act was the protection of the coastline from creeping privatization and restoration of parts to the natural habitat where feasible.

In 2017 a success story happened here with the agreement to close the Cemex sand mining plant. The site is to be ecologically restored and publicly accessible.

The sand plant was in existence and resource-dependent when the Coastal Act was written so its use was grandfathered in. It was not designated as Public Facilities. Private corporations should not be allowed to install apparatus there that benefits one set of customers; such exclusivity does not equate to serving the public good.

The Cal Am test well easement location is but a remnant of an earlier, more regional (but failed) project that had been intended to serve Marina and North County's service areas along with that of the Monterey Peninsula but those project parameters no longer exist.

Saltwater intrusion extends inward miles beyond the immediate coastline and water extraction wells are not a coastal dependent use; it would not be a worthy trade to lose the restoration and access promise of the former sand plant to an outside investors project with a shelf life of 30 years.

— *Tina Walsh, Marina*

Desalination phasing

This is in response to one of the two water issues letters in the Oct. 5

Herald [and today's lead article]. That letter is a good synopsis of Cal Am's most current argument supporting a desal project built, owned and operated by the utility. The synopsis is good, but the argument is bad. The argument supports a project that does not exist.

The project to which the letter refers is for a 4.8 million-gallons-per-day (5,380 acre-feet-per-year) desal plant, but Cal Am's current, modified application before the CPUC (Alternative 5a of the original 2012 application) is for a 6.4 (7,174 acre-feet per year) one. Cal Am plans to present the 4.8 project to the Coastal Commission on Nov. 17 in Salinas but has not yet submitted it as a newly modified application to the CPUC.

The application now before the CPUC cites the 6.4 project as the best of several alternatives, which exclude the 4.8 one.

Before presenting the 4.8 project to the Coastal Commission, Cal Am needs to obtain certification of the project by the CPUC.

— *Ron Weitzman, President, Monterey Peninsula Water Ratepayers Association*

Monterey Herald | October 11, 2022

Cal Am's water grabs

A pattern emerges of Cal Am's illicit ways to obtain water. As a previous letter to the editor states, "Cal Am has illegally pumped water from the Carmel River that has killed off trees, enabled massive erosions, and decimated fish populations." And now they propose to illegally pump from a neighboring public jurisdiction (Marina Coast Water District), also ruining sensitive habitats where threatened and endangered species live, and preventing a beach access that was made possible in the Cemex settlement agreement after Cemex closes in one year. When is enough enough? Cal Am's tactics must be called out for what they are and we must end this kind of predatory water grabs that are against the law!

— *Liesbeth Visscher, Chair, Citizens for Just Water*

Desal plans

Recent Herald letters highlight Cal Am's desal plans and its detrimental effects on our communities, including environmental injustice to disadvantaged communities such as Marina. Noteworthy but overlooked is the hero among us, Marina Coast Water District, a publicly-owned utility that consistently maintains reasonable water rates.

Cal Am obstinately invaded MCWD's water service jurisdiction to contaminate its sole potable water supply, the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin aquifers.

Cal Am's slant well technology, by design, induces seawater intrusion, which is a major issue that placed the SVGB on the state's critically over-drafted groundwater basin list. Cal Am's desal facility would further endanger the SVGB with seawater to the point that the groundwater would be so seawater intruded that the only solution would be Cal Am's desal plant. If the SVGB is completely seawater intruded and only Cal Am's desal facility could provide sufficient water for drinking and crop irrigation, then the desal plant, by necessity, would solve the "water problem."

— *Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Marina*

Monterey Herald— October 5, 2022

Can we print water?

Unlike money, we cannot print water. So, we need to be sensible in estimating our water needs. When we estimate the amount of water the Peninsula needs 30 years into the future, we would count the current need plus population growth. That is why, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District says that the Pure Water extension will provide sufficient water for the growing population and the housing that comes with it, 30 years into the future.

Then, Cal Am, my current water provider, says that Pure Water extension is not enough, and is again applying to build a desalination plant. The crux of the matter is in its double counting of what is needed.

Empty houses don't drink water. People who occupy the houses do. It turns out Cal Am counts both the people and the empty houses.

Maybe 30 years from now we would need a desalination plant, but not now. As a rate payer, I am strongly against wasting money for something we do not need and can ill afford.

— *Sylvia Shih, Seaside*

Monterey Herald – Letter to the Editor | October 1, 2022

Cal Am's desal project will cause harm to Marina

Marina agrees that Cal Am is a "bad neighbor" by crossing its jurisdictional boundaries and proposing a slant well desalination project in a neighboring PUBLIC water jurisdiction of a disadvantaged community of color. MCWD and the City of Marina never invited nor gave permission for Cal Am to pump 6.4 million gallons a day from our area. Cal Am has zero water rights to pump massive amounts of our groundwater and Marina receives zero treated water. Cal Am will endanger our only source of potable water and exacerbate our basin's struggles as one of CA's 21 critically overdrafted basins!

The land on which Cal Am proposes building six large cement pads of 5-6,000 square feet each with fencing, actually will sit on Marina's shores close to water's edge. This is the same beach access that will be bought by a public agency after the final closure of the Cemex sandmining plant in two more years per the Cemex settlement agreement. And these pipes will permanently impact our sensitive habitats per the Coastal Commission. If Cal Am were asked to solve its own water issues within its own jurisdiction, would Carmel allow such cement pads on their shoreline? This is environmental injustice of the worst kind!

— *Kathy Biala, Co-founder of Citizens for Just Water*

MC Weekly Letters | September 29, 2022

Housing, Water, Math

We don't need Cal Am's desal plant ("The debate over Cal Am's desalination plant returns to center stage," Sept. 15-21). AMBAG's growth forecast proves that the Pure Water Monterey expansion is enough water to meet the current RHNA housing demand. We'll need about 800 acre-feet more water by the year 2045 for housing and development. But Cal Am wants us to pay for 6,250 acre-feet of extraordinarily expensive desalinated water.

Tell the Coastal Commission "No Cal Am desal" on Nov. 17. We don't need it. We can't afford it.

Melodie Chrislock | Carmel

Chrislock is managing director of Public Water Now.

Thanks for your report on Cal Am's desal project. The Coastal Commission staff twice recommended denial based on environmental damage, extremely high cost, and Marina bears the project with no benefit.

Expansion of Pure Water Monterey supplies adequate water, including for growth, for 20-30 years, as verified by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's analysis, available at mpwmd.org

<<http://mpwmd.org>> .

Susan Schiavone | Seaside

Monterey Herald – Letters to the Editor | September 28, 2022

Planning for water needs

A recent letter overlooked the fact that the Coastal Commission staff has twice recommended denial of Cal Am's desal project. Their denial

was not because it wasn't publicly owned. It was because there is a superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey. Yes, the clock has been ticking for over two years now, as Cal Am used its political power to block the expansion. Finally it should be approved next week and a new water supply will be on the way.

This desal water is extraordinarily expensive and would probably double the average water bill and it has major environmental issues and environmental justice problems that cannot be overcome, which the Coastal Commission cannot ignore.

Cal Am's proposed desal is not a regional solution. The Peninsula doesn't need a smaller desal plant, this county needs a much larger desal plant that can serve the city of Salinas and others who need water.

Is the business coalition seriously proposing that we fill the Seaside basin with \$6,000 an acre-foot desal water? Do they understand how quickly the Seaside Basin will fill from the PWM Expansion?

And if the business coalition really wants to support CSIP they should be asking why the Monterey County Water Resources Agency refuses to buy the extra 4,000 acre-feet of water that is available to CSIP from the Pure Water Monterey program.

It's not hard to get a good water project permitted. Unfortunately the business coalition has blindly supported Cal Am's desal project despite the facts.

— *Renee Franken, Monterey*

From: mwchrislock@redshift.com
To: Luster_Tom@Coastal; CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Letters to the Editor Opposing Cal Am's Desal - September 28 to October 7, 2022
Date: Friday, October 14, 2022 10:06:08 AM

Letters to the Editor Opposing Cal Am's Desal

Carmel Pine Cone | October 7, 2022

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— *Ron Weitzman, President, Monterey Peninsula Water Ratepayers Association*

Monterey Herald | October 11, 2022

Cal Am's water grabs

A pattern emerges of Cal Am's illicit ways to obtain water. As a previous letter to the editor states, "Cal Am has illegally pumped water from the Carmel River that has killed off trees, enabled massive erosions, and decimated fish populations." And now they propose to illegally pump from a neighboring public jurisdiction (Marina Coast Water District), also ruining sensitive habitats where threatened and endangered species live, and preventing a beach access that was made possible in the Cemex settlement agreement after Cemex closes in one year. When is enough enough? Cal Am's tactics must be called out for what they are and we must end this kind of predatory water grabs that are against the law!

— *Liesbeth Visscher, Chair, Citizens for Just Water*

Desal plans

Recent Herald letters highlight Cal Am's desal plans and its detrimental effects on our communities, including environmental injustice to disadvantaged communities such as Marina. Noteworthy but overlooked is the hero among us, Marina Coast Water District, a publicly-owned utility that consistently maintains reasonable water rates.

Cal Am obstinately invaded MCWD's water service jurisdiction to contaminate its sole potable water supply, the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin aquifers.

Cal Am's slant well technology, by design, induces seawater intrusion, which is a major issue that placed the SVGB on the state's critically over-drafted groundwater basin list. Cal Am's desal facility would further endanger the SVGB with seawater to the point that the groundwater would be so seawater intruded that the only solution would be Cal Am's desal plant. If the SVGB is completely seawater intruded and only Cal Am's desal facility could provide sufficient water for drinking and crop irrigation, then the desal plant, by necessity, would solve the "water problem."

— *Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Marina*

Monterey Herald— October 5, 2022

Can we print water?

Unlike money, we cannot print water. So, we need to be sensible in estimating our water needs. When we estimate the amount of water the Peninsula needs 30 years into the future, we would count the current need plus population growth. That is why, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District says that the Pure Water extension will provide sufficient water for the growing population and the housing that comes with it, 30 years into the future.

Then, Cal Am, my current water provider, says that Pure Water extension is not enough, and is again applying to build a desalination plant. The crux of the matter is in its double counting of what is needed.

Empty houses don't drink water. People who occupy the houses do. It turns out Cal Am counts both the people and the empty houses.

Maybe 30 years from now we would need a desalination plant, but not now. As a rate payer, I am strongly against wasting money for something we do not need and can ill afford.

— *Sylvia Shih, Seaside*

Monterey Herald – Letter to the Editor | October 1, 2022

Cal Am's desal project will cause harm to Marina

Marina agrees that Cal Am is a "bad neighbor" by crossing its jurisdictional boundaries and proposing a slant well desalination project in a neighboring PUBLIC water jurisdiction of a disadvantaged community of color. MCWD and the City of Marina never invited nor gave permission for Cal Am to pump 6.4 million gallons a day from our area. Cal Am has zero water rights to pump massive amounts of our groundwater and Marina receives zero treated water. Cal Am will endanger our only source of potable water and exacerbate our basin's struggles as one of CA's 21 critically overdrafted basins!

The land on which Cal Am proposes building six large cement pads of 5-6,000 square feet each with fencing, actually will sit on Marina's shores close to water's edge. This is the same beach access that will be bought by a public agency after the final closure of the Cemex sandmining plant in two more years per the Cemex settlement agreement. And these pipes will permanently impact our sensitive habitats per the Coastal Commission. If Cal Am were asked to solve its own water issues within its own jurisdiction, would Carmel allow such cement pads on their shoreline? This is environmental injustice of the worst kind!

— *Kathy Biala, Co-founder of Citizens for Just Water*

MC Weekly Letters | September 29, 2022

Housing, Water, Math

We don't need Cal Am's desal plant ("The debate over Cal Am's desalination plant returns to center stage," Sept. 15-21). AMBAG's growth forecast proves that the Pure Water Monterey expansion is enough water to meet the current RHNA housing demand. We'll need about 800 acre-feet more water by the year 2045 for housing and development. But Cal Am wants us to pay for 6,250 acre-feet of extraordinarily expensive desalinated water.

Tell the Coastal Commission "No Cal Am desal" on Nov. 17. We don't need it. We can't afford it.

Melodie Chrislock | Carmel

Chrislock is managing director of Public Water Now.

Thanks for your report on Cal Am's desal project. The Coastal Commission staff twice recommended denial based on environmental damage, extremely high cost, and Marina bears the project with no benefit.

Expansion of Pure Water Monterey supplies adequate water, including for growth, for 20-30 years, as verified by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's analysis, available at mpwmd.org

<<http://mpwmd.org>> .

Susan Schiavone | Seaside

Monterey Herald – Letters to the Editor | September 28, 2022

Planning for water needs

A recent letter overlooked the fact that the Coastal Commission staff has twice recommended denial of Cal Am's desal project. Their denial

was not because it wasn't publicly owned. It was because there is a superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey. Yes, the clock has been ticking for over two years now, as Cal Am used its political power to block the expansion. Finally it should be approved next week and a new water supply will be on the way.

This desal water is extraordinarily expensive and would probably double the average water bill and it has major environmental issues and environmental justice problems that cannot be overcome, which the Coastal Commission cannot ignore.

Cal Am's proposed desal is not a regional solution. The Peninsula doesn't need a smaller desal plant, this county needs a much larger desal plant that can serve the city of Salinas and others who need water.

Is the business coalition seriously proposing that we fill the Seaside basin with \$6,000 an acre-foot desal water? Do they understand how quickly the Seaside Basin will fill from the PWM Expansion?

And if the business coalition really wants to support CSIP they should be asking why the Monterey County Water Resources Agency refuses to buy the extra 4,000 acre-feet of water that is available to CSIP from the Pure Water Monterey program.

It's not hard to get a good water project permitted. Unfortunately the business coalition has blindly supported Cal Am's desal project despite the facts.

— *Renee Franken, Monterey*

From: [Lynda Nichols](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Support Cal-Am Desal
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 1:47:07 PM

We support moving forward for Cal-Am Desal plant.

S. Lynda Nichols, Realtor/Broker-Associate
Monterey Peninsula Home Team
Keller Williams Coastal Estates
BRE #00545013
Lynda.nichols@mphtre.com
(831) 402-2428

From: [JEFF TURNER](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Nov 17 Costal Commission Meeting - Cal-Am's proposed Desalination Plant
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 11:23:07 AM

Refernce: **Cal-Am's proposed Desalination Plant**

California Coastal Commission:

My name is Jeff Turner. I am a Seaside, California resident.

I strongly oppose Cal-Am's proposed desalination plant.

The desal plant is simple not needed. Monterey One Water has demonstrated they can supply all the needed water at much lower expense and without any of the environmental concerns that come with the desal project.

The Cal-Am desal system is exorbitantly expensive.

Cal-Am has consistently demonstrated over the past 20 years that they are not a good corporate citizen by their continual over-pumping of the Carmel River. They have demonstrated a lack of leadership and innovation consistently.

Their only success is getting the approval to raise water rates for their inefficient management of our water.

Please DO NOT approve Cal-Am's desal plant.

Sincerely,

Jeff Turner
1961 Napa St.
Seaside, CA 93955
831-277-0755

From: [Ron Weitzman](#)
To: waterplus@redshift.com
Subject: Water Letters in Today's Herald
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 4:59:35 PM

All: Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the second of these two letters. –Ron

YOUR OPINIONS

Restore plant to nature

The original intent of California's Coastal Act was the protection of the coastline from creeping privatization and restoration of parts to the natural habitat where feasible.

In 2017 a success story happened here with the agreement to close the Cemex sand mining plant. The site is to be ecologically restored and publicly accessible.

The sand plant was in existence and resource-dependent when the Coastal Act was written so its use was grandfathered in. It was not designated as Public Facilities. Private corporations should not be allowed to install apparatus there that benefits one set of customers; such exclusivity does not equate to serving the public good.

The Cal Am test well easement location is but a remnant of an earlier, more regional (but failed) project that had been intended to serve Marina and North County's service areas along with that of the Monterey Peninsula but those project parameters no longer exist.

Saltwater intrusion extends inward miles beyond the immediate coastline and water extraction wells are not a coastal dependent use; it would not be a worthy trade to lose the restoration and access promise of the former sand plant to an outside investors project with a shelf life of 30 years.

— *Tina Walsh, Marina*

Desalination phasing

This is in response to one of the two water issues letters in the Oct. 5 Herald [and today's lead article]. That letter is a good synopsis of Cal Am's most

current argument supporting a desal project built, owned and operated by the utility. The synopsis is good, but the argument is bad. The argument supports a project that does not exist.

The project to which the letter refers is for a 4.8 million-gallons-per-day (5,380 acre-feet-per-year) desal plant, but Cal Am's current, modified application before the CPUC (Alternative 5a of the original 2012 application) is for a 6.4 (7,174 acre-feet per year) one. Cal Am plans to present the 4.8 project to the Coastal Commission on Nov. 17 in Salinas but has not yet submitted it as a newly modified application to the CPUC.

The application now before the CPUC cites the 6.4 project as the best of several alternatives, which exclude the 4.8 one.

Before presenting the 4.8 project to the Coastal Commission, Cal Am needs to obtain certification of the project by the CPUC.

— *Ron Weitzman, President, Monterey Peninsula Water Ratepayers Association*

From: [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz_Noaki@Coastal)
To: Just Water Marina; Luster, Tom@Coastal
Cc: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj_Sumi@Coastal)
Subject: Re: Just Water FINAL response to CalAm letter 09/20/2022 re MPWSP Community Outreach & Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities
Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 7:24:17 PM

Thanks Liesbeth

From: Just Water Marina <justwater93933@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 7:12 PM
To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>; Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Just Water FINAL response to CalAm letter 09/20/2022 re MPWSP Community Outreach & Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

Good morning Tom,

We have made a few edits to our response letter, see below. Please disregard the previous letter that was emailed earlier today at 4:23 PM, and instead use the edited version as shown in this email. A pdf of this "FINAL" response letter has been attached for your convenience.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Kind regards,
Liesbeth.

Liesbeth Visscher
Citizens for Just Water, Chair

To: Tom Luster

Cc: Noaki Schwartz, Sumi Selvaraj

From: Citizens for Just Water

Date: 10/11/2022

Sent by email to Tom Luster <tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov>

Re: CalAm's letter 09/20/2022 regarding the MPWSP Community Outreach and Project Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

Dear Tom:

First, CalAm's letter topic is identified as "Project Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities". We know this is not lost upon you, but the letter speaks of advantages to others that have either minimal or nothing to do with Marina that will suffer all the risks and harms and receive not one benefit. It is all smoke and mirrors.

The level of misinformation in CalAm's letter is quite astounding! This document must not be taken with any credibility as it is filled with information devoid of objectivity on virtually every issue covered. Simple assertions of an opposite position do not make it a reality. Making statement after statement of untruthful information and omitting critical other information is utterly brazen behavior on the part of CalAm at this late date.

The whole intent of community meetings is presumably to receive input from those most affected by the project and be able to modify or include changes if possible. Coming at a time in which the project is essentially finalized, nullifies this objective. CalAm is now using these community meetings to say they have accomplished the required "community outreach" but they also have used these forums to promote propaganda to regions/people who have no stake in the actual project and who have only peripheral understanding but who can be swayed to support CalAm in the face of falsehoods and omissions of critical information. It is adding insult to injury to our Marina community.

Marina is a working-class community and the extraordinary turn-out of our residents at the CCC hearing on Nov. 14, 2019 and the subsequent canceled Sept. 2020 hearing required much time, effort and personal sacrifices, but our city stepped up in large numbers. With 2/3 of Marina's population consisting of people of color, including significant numbers of Hispanic/Latinx and Asian residents, Marina was never directly approached by CalAm for any previous outreach efforts over several years. Marina citizens educated our own communities, with the help of our public agencies. Now we are challenged to attend these useless community meetings only to bear witness to the incorrect information and ill-conceived formats of these meetings.

The first community meeting in Seaside, on 08/08/2002, was only attended by 10 people. Six of those attendees were from Public Water Now (PWN) and Citizens for Just Water (Just Water), yet CalAm states there were 30 people in attendance (possibly including their staff?).

We had over 100 attendees at the second CalAm community meeting held at CSUMB near Marina (actually a Seaside address) on August 9, 2022, in which there was visible public opposition with signs and chanting. CalAm has wrongly inferred in its letter that that meeting was favorable by the turnout numbers, which was completely not of their doing. In fact, only a four-day notice of the meeting was published in a Peninsula newspaper that has low Marina

subscription due to its cost. No contact with our city or the active Citizens for Just Water group occurred. Many Marina residents do not go on CSUMB campus, so many got lost. Marina has many favored well-known alternative venues had CalAm bothered to contact any of our city representatives. If Marina residents expend limited time resources to attend such meaningless meetings, CalAm chalks this up to their successful outreach; if we don't go, CalAm will claim we are uncollaborative or disinterested.

A community meeting on Sept. 16 in Salinas was almost impossible to find and only 4 people were in attendance. Again, 3 were there only to monitor the event for MCWD and Citizens for Just Water and one visitor from the Spreckles area had attended briefly to oppose the project. These meetings are only a distraction for the real stakeholders and create another task of having to monitor CalAm's deceptive actions.

Representatives of PWN, Just Water and/or MCWD have attended each of the ten Community Forums/Workshops that CalAm has hosted at the Embassy Suites in Seaside, at CSUMB with a Seaside address, and in Salinas whose residents are not directly affected by the project. None of these meetings have been held in Marina! The only meeting that had more than approximately 10 attendees was the 08/09/2022 meeting at CSUMB, when more than 100 Just Water and PWN people showed up to protest this harmful, unneeded and unwanted project. At the last minute, CalAm purchased parking tickets to cover the \$5 parking fee that is required on campus, only because we had contacted them about this. There were no directional signs to the parking lot or at the building, and it was not clear where the parking tickets were being handed out (one unidentified person handed out parking permits across a large expanse of sidewalk).

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CalAm is doing a terrible job at informing residents about these community meetings. It seems that they will finally host community workshops in Marina but as of today, 10/11/2022, those workshops have not yet been posted on the MPWSP website. When asked at the community workshop in Salinas on 09/16/2022 how Marina residents would be informed about the workshop at CSUMB, scheduled for 09/23/2022, only one week away, the answer was that they would be informed by social media and that a notice would be included with their CalAm invoice... Did they not realize that residents of Marina receive their water and invoices from MCWD???

The only benefit that CalAm appears to offer Marina is their "Public Access Plan". What is

not said is that the property will be bought by a public agency or agencies by the Cemex Settlement Agreement and that beach access will surely be built, along with restoration, conservation and low impact recreation in perpetuity. And with six large cement well pads surrounded by fences blocking the access to the beach, CalAm's contrived "pedestrian pathway" must circumnavigate around these unsightly well head pads that will line our shoreline and block future beach access. This kind of deceit is unconscionable!

Other outright falsehoods are captured in another CalAm claim in the letter:

"CalAm's proposed slant wells would access seawater- intruded groundwater aquifers that extend beneath the ocean and pump salty water that cannot otherwise be used without treatment".

The depth of deceit of such statements is mindboggling on so many counts (lack of GW water rights, pipes under the ocean floor, useless brackish water, etc.), not worthy of any time or effort to refute here. CalAm cites this, full well knowing that the CPUC decisions rejected serious review of the available state-of-the-art AEM aquifer imaging data and failed to seriously review the feasible PWM recycled water expansion project in the final vote on the CPCN!

CalAm further cites:

"The CPUC extensively studied the MPWSP's potential impacts to coastal ecosystems, including plant and animal species. The CPUC determined that the MPWSP would not result in a substantial negative physical effect to terrestrial wildlife and habitats during construction and operation with implementation of various mitigation requirements".

How dare CalAm completely ignore the findings of the **CCC Staff Report for the September 17, 2020** hearing (that was canceled) in which the CCC reported:"neither the Coastal Act nor the LCP allows the disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from CalAm's Project. Staff therefore recommends that the proposed Project be found inconsistent with the Coastal Act and LCP ESHA policies". This is the kind of distortions and insidious misrepresentation of the facts that CalAm has utilized to garner support by susceptible, uninformed listeners.

There are too many grossly distorted details in CalAm's letter to respond to, but this serves to highlight only a few of the intentional dishonest, manipulative themes used by CalAm.

Thank you,

Liesbeth Visscher

Chair, Citizens for Just Water

--

Liesbeth Visscher
Citizens for Just Water, Chair
2712 Bungalow Drive
Marina, CA 93933

Call/Text 408-569-2941

Citizens for Just Water - Justice for our Water

From: [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz.Noaki@Coastal)
To: [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster.Tom@Coastal)
Cc: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
Subject: RE: Just Water response to CalAm letter 09/20/2022 re MPWSP Community Outreach & Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities
Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 6:01:00 PM

Tom,

Kathy just called and said there are some mistakes in this letter that they're going to update...so please wait for the updated letter and don't add this to the record.

Noaki Schwartz
California Coastal Commission
Deputy Director of Communications, EJ and Tribal Affairs
(562) 833-5487

From: Just Water Marina <justwater93933@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 4:24 PM
To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>; Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
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Cc: Noaki Schwartz, Sumi Selvaraj
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Date: 10/11/2022
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CalAm's outreach to American tribal governments is another ploy to garner support from others not directly impacted. The tribal leaders speak of the Carmel River ecosystems, not of the gross environmental injustice to other marginalized groups in Marina. Marina's Indigenous population by the U.S. Census 2021 estimates is 0.4%. When other more relevant Hispanic and Asian populations in Marina have not been directly approached by CalAm, we see the real purpose of such outreach by CalAm. CalAm states "the tribal representatives in attendance committed to pass along information they learned (from CalAm) to their tribal members". How are such groups to be educated beyond the falsehoods and manipulations by CalAm? Marina does not have the bandwidth to continually follow behind CalAm to correct such gross misinformation!

The only benefit that CalAm appears to offer Marina is their "Public Access Plan". What is not said is that the property will be bought by a public agency or agencies by the Cemex Settlement Agreement and that beach access will surely be built, along with restoration, conservation and low impact recreation in perpetuity. And with six large cement well pads surrounded by fences blocking the access to the beach, CalAm's contrived "pedestrian pathway" must circumnavigate around these unsightly well head pads that will line our shoreline and block future beach access. This kind of deceit is unconscionable!

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--

Liesbeth Visscher
Citizens for Just Water, Chair
2712 Bungalow Drive
Marina, CA 93933

Call/Text 408-569-2941

[Citizens for Just Water - Justice for our Water](#)

From: [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz_Noaki@Coastal)
To: Just Water Marina; Luster, Tom@Coastal
Cc: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal
Subject: RE: Just Water response to CalAm letter 09/20/2022 re MPWSP Community Outreach & Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities
Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 4:31:44 PM

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Marina is a working-class community and the extraordinary turn-out of our residents at the CCC hearing on Nov. 14, 2019 and the subsequent canceled Sept. 2020 hearing required much time, effort and personal sacrifices, but our city stepped up in large numbers. Now we are challenged to attend these useless community meetings only to bear witness to the incorrect information and ill-conceived formats of these meetings.

The first community meeting in Seaside, on 08/08/2002, was only attended by 10 people. Six of those attendees were from Public Water Now (PWN) and Citizens for Just Water (Just Water), yet CalAm states there were 30 people in attendance (possibly including their staff?).

We had over 100 attendees at the second CalAm community meeting held at CSUMB near Marina (actually a Seaside address) on August 9, 2022, in which there was visible public opposition with signs and chanting. CalAm has wrongly inferred in its letter that that meeting was favorable by the turnout numbers, which was completely not of their doing. In fact, only a four-day notice of the meeting was published in a Peninsula newspaper that has low Marina subscription due to its cost. No contact with our city or the active Citizens for Just Water group occurred. Many Marina residents do not go on CSUMB campus, so many got lost. Marina has many favored well-known alternative venues had CalAm bothered to contact any of our city representatives. If Marina residents expend limited time resources to attend such meaningless meetings, CalAm chalks this up to their successful outreach; if we don't go, CalAm will claim we are uncollaborative or disinterested.

A community meeting on Sept. 16 in Salinas was almost impossible to find and only 4 people were in attendance. Again, 3 were there only to monitor the event for MCWD and Citizens for Just Water and one visitor from the Spreckles area had attended briefly to oppose the project. These meetings are only a distraction for the real stakeholders and create another task of having to monitor CalAm's deceptive actions.

Representatives of PWN, Just Water and/or MCWD have attended each of the ten Community Forums/Workshops that CalAm has hosted at the Embassy Suites in Seaside, at CSUMB with a Seaside address, and in Salinas whose residents are not directly affected by the project. None of these meetings have been held in Marina! The only meeting that had more than approximately 10 attendees was the 08/09/2022 meeting at CSUMB, when more than 100 Just Water and PWN people showed up to protest this harmful, unneeded and unwanted project. At the last minute, CalAm purchased parking tickets to cover the \$5 parking fee that is required on campus, only because we had contacted them about this. There were no directional signs to the parking lot or at

the building, and it was not clear where the parking tickets were being handed out (one unidentified person handed out parking permits across a large expanse of sidewalk).

For the final workshop at CSUMB on Saturday, 09/24/2022, two different times were posted on their website. After having contacted them, they confirmed that the correct time was in the afternoon (2-4 PM), but the website continued to show the morning and afternoon times. The day before the workshop, CalAm corrected their correction and announced that the correct time was in the morning (10 AM – 12 PM).

CalAm is doing a terrible job at informing residents about these community meetings. It seems that they will finally host community workshops in Marina but as of today, 10/11/2022, those workshops have not yet been posted on the MPWSP website. When asked at the community workshop in Salinas on 09/16/2022 how Marina residents would be informed about the workshop at CSUMB, scheduled for 09/23/2022, only one week away, the answer was that they would be informed by social media and that a notice would be included with their CalAm invoice... Did they not realize that residents of Marina receive their water and invoices from MCWD???

CalAm's outreach to American tribal governments is another ploy to garner support from others not directly impacted. The tribal leaders speak of the Carmel River ecosystems, not of the gross environmental injustice to other marginalized groups in Marina. Marina's Indigenous population by the U.S. Census 2021 estimates is 0.4%. When other more relevant Hispanic and Asian populations in Marina have not been directly approached by CalAm, we see the real purpose of such outreach by CalAm. CalAm states "the tribal representatives in attendance committed to pass along information they learned (from CalAm) to their tribal members". How are such groups to be educated beyond the falsehoods and manipulations by CalAm? Marina does not have the bandwidth to continually follow behind CalAm to correct such gross misinformation!

The only benefit that CalAm appears to offer Marina is their "Public Access Plan". What is not said is that the property will be bought by a public agency or agencies by the Cemex Settlement Agreement and that beach access will surely be built, along with restoration, conservation and low impact recreation in perpetuity. And with six large cement well pads surrounded by fences blocking the access to the beach, CalAm's contrived "pedestrian pathway" must circumnavigate around these unsightly well head pads that will line our shoreline and block future beach access. This kind of deceit is unconscionable!

Other outright falsehoods are captured in another CalAm claim in the letter:

"CalAm's proposed slant wells would access seawater- intruded groundwater aquifers that extend beneath the ocean and pump salty water that cannot otherwise be used without treatment".

The depth of deceit of such statements is mindboggling on so many counts (lack of GW water rights, pipes under the ocean floor, useless brackish water, etc.), not worthy of any time or effort to refute here. CalAm cites this, full well knowing that the CPUC decisions rejected serious review of the available state-of-the-art AEM aquifer imaging data and failed to seriously review the feasible PWM

recycled water expansion project in the final vote on the CPCN!

CalAm further cites:

“The CPUC extensively studied the MPWSP’s potential impacts to coastal ecosystems, including plant and animal species. The CPUC determined that the MPWSP would not result in a substantial negative physical effect to terrestrial wildlife and habitats during construction and operation with implementation of various mitigation requirements”.

How dare CalAm completely ignore the findings of the **CCC Staff Report for the September 17, 2020** hearing (that was canceled) in which the CCC reported:”neither the Coastal Act nor the LCP allows the disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from CalAm’s Project. Staff therefore recommends that the proposed Project be found inconsistent with the Coastal Act and LCP ESHA policies”. This is the kind of distortions and insidious misrepresentation of the facts that CalAm has utilized to garner support by susceptible, uninformed listeners.

There are too many grossly distorted details in CalAm’s letter to respond to, but this serves to highlight only a few of the intentional dishonest, manipulative themes used by CalAm.

Thank you,
Liesbeth Visscher
Chair, Citizens for Just Water

--

Liesbeth Visscher
Citizens for Just Water, Chair
2712 Bungalow Drive
Marina, CA 93933

Call/Text 408-569-2941

[Citizens for Just Water - Justice for our Water](#)

From: [Sam Minorini](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal plant
Date: Monday, October 10, 2022 8:33:25 AM

Sent from my iPhone. We do not need a desal plant With much more recycled water coming in the future , such a
plant is not needed. Sam Minorini. Retired
Public Works , Marina.

From: smistretta@att.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal plant
Date: Saturday, October 8, 2022 11:11:53 AM

As a long-time Seaside resident and Cal-Am rate payer, I would like to say I am strongly opposed to Cal-Am's extremely oversized and expensive and environmentally wasteful desal project. We already have some of the most expensive water in the state and it's the faraway investors who's profit will increase with the desal construction.

A majority of local voters agreed (with the passage of Measure J) that we, like the majority of Californians, are in favor of publicly owned water facilities, which we already have and are expanding.

Your staff has recommended turning down the Cal-Am desal, we hope that you on the Coastal Commission will listen to the local voters and agree.

Thank you,
Stefani Mistretta
1287 Sonoma Ave.
Seaside CA 93955

--

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.
www.avg.com

From: [merrilya](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please do not approve Cal-Am's deal project on Nov 17
Date: Friday, October 7, 2022 9:55:07 AM

Merrily Alley - Monterey resident
355 English Ave
Monterey, CA 93940

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Marilyn Mason](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Coastal Commission Hearing on Cal Am's Desal
Date: Friday, October 7, 2022 1:49:52 AM

Coastal Commission:

For the third time in the past three years, Cal Am is bringing its expensive and unnecessary desal project back to you in hopes of getting a permit to build it. I oppose approval.

Cal Am is using the drought and the need for new housing to scare people into supporting its desal.

This long awaited decision comes two and a half years after it should have been approved. Cal Am blocked the Expansion so that its proposed desal plant would have no competition at the Coastal Commission. Now that approval of the Expansion is eminent, Cal Am's last resort is to claim the Expansion is not enough water and we still need desal. Not true!

The facts:

The truth is the Pure Water Monterey Expansion will give us all the water we need for new housing for decades, drought or no drought. The Expansion is currently before the CPUC and should receive approval shortly. Then it will take about 24 months to complete. The Expansion of the successful Pure Water Monterey Project will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for thirty years, drought or no drought.

NO NEED FOR DESAL. The Water Management District, using AMBAG's population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will give us 2,250 acre-feet. Why does Cal Am claim we need 6,250 acre-feet?

I understand that Governor Newsom is putting pressure on Coastal Commissioners to approve Cal Am's desal. This is appalling.

If Cal Am were allowed to build it, we would all pay dearly. It would double the cost of the average water bill, and it would double the cost to buy Cal Am, , which was voter approved to pursue in earnest. It won't make the buyout infeasible, just much more expensive for all of us.

Cal Am is using people's fear of the drought and our urgent need for housing to scare people into supporting its desal plant. To make it's case Cal Am has overestimated our future water needs by adding RHNA housing numbers, legal lots of record, and more on top of the AMBAG forecast, which already accounts for these growth elements. Essentially Cal Am is triple counting to come up with a false future demand for water. Please examine this carefully, in your due diligence.

I urge you to deny the expensive, oversized boondoggle of a project of Cal Am's.

Marilyn Mason
Seaside, CA.

From: [Ken Robins](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: PMW's extra water if approved vs Cal Am's desal solution
Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022 4:17:31 PM

The statement below put out by PMW may or not be entirely accurate but I believe it is close enough to warrant your serious consideration and I personally and many others in this community that is paying some of the highest prices for water in the country wish you would, after due consideration opt for the PMW solution.

Clearly CalAm has a number of business smart self interests in a desal project that will add further enormous financial burden on a population that is already facing the onslaught of inflation and quite possibly recession.

The PMW's project offers a considerable amount of water in a much shorter time frame at a much cheaper price and while I imagine PMW has it's own interests to protect they are not anything like the financial rewards and ownership security that CalAm are motivated by.

Kind regards, Ken Robins - Carmel Valley Ca.93924

"If Cal Am were allowed to build it, we would all pay dearly. It would double the cost of the average water bill, and it would double the cost to buy Cal Am. It won't make the buyout infeasible, just much more expensive for all of us" PMW.

From: [Carole Ehrhardt](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey area water
Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022 3:03:59 PM

Dear Sirs,

We continue to be lied to by Cal Am water. They are a for profit company and operate to pay their management high salaries and pay the stockholders 19 million dollars a year, which was the last figure we found. It may be more now as they keep raising our prices.

We have voted to buy the Cal Am Water Company in order to have a municipal supply of water for the area. Already we pay the highest rates in the nation for our water and when stockholders do not have to be paid, the funds can go into maintenance and improving our water supply at the same time. Cal Am claims to do proper maintenance and are very talented in covering up what they refuse to maintain. American Water, their parent company, has bought up small water companies around the nation, not maintained them and charged higher rates than if they were municipal companies. They must have a huge legal system of attorneys and the pay to them must be very high. They also have a huge public relations outlay as when we were trying to vote to buy the company, we were bombarded almost every day with fliers telling us how wonderful they were. We received something almost every day in our mailbox as well as in the newspapers of the area for several months before we voted, explaining how wonderful the company was.

The Pure Monterey Water project will give us adequate water for years without the expensive desal project the Cal Am company wants to build. If that happens, most of us will not be able to afford water. And that is morally wrong.

Please do not allow Cal Am to build their desal plant. Thank you.

Sincerely, Carole and Frank Ehrhardt

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Carole Ehrhardt
P.O. Box 243
Pebble Beach, CA 93953

From: [Steven L](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAm desal
Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022 2:15:44 PM

I do NOT support CalAm's desal plans, and DO support a publicly owned water system.

Steven Lawrence
Pacific Grove, CA

--

sent from my ol' fashioned phone, plugged into the wall

From: [Edwin Lee](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Desal
Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022 1:26:45 PM

I've lived in Carmel Valley for over 30 years. I've paid for the dishonest claims of Cal Am's owners. Cal Am has illegally pumped water from Carmel Valley that has killed off trees and enabled massive erosions. Cal Am blocked a proposed desalination plant years ago because Cal Am wouldn't have owned it. We don't need it, yet Cal Am claims it must build one. California's perverse regulations guarantee profits, through rate increases, for capital investments. Cal Am's documented history of lies produced more income for its owners without improving the well-being of Monterey Bay communities. It is ever thus with absentee ownership.

Allow the community to own the desalination plant when it is needed. Please don't sell out your fellow Californians to a bunch of fat cats on the East Coast and Germany.

Edwin Lee
280 Del Mesa Carmel
Carmel Valley, CA 93923
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Andrew](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [Public Water Now](#)
Subject: Public Water Now
Date: Thursday, October 6, 2022 12:53:16 PM

Dear Commissioners,

It would be absolutely unconscionable, on both economic and environmental grounds, to approve a CalAm desalination plant. Pure Water Monterey can supply more than enough water for the next 30 years at a much, much lower cost on both counts. The Commission should keep in mind that under the gross mismanagement of water supply, the ratepayers are already paying the highest rate in the U.S.A.

Unlike PWN, CalAm has *repeatedly* failed to meet either completion deadlines or cost estimates of alternatives to over-pumping from the Carmel River. To ensure a timely and cost-effective solution to the over-pumping, the Commission should approve the PWN expansion and deny the CalAm desalination boondoggle.

Andrew Allison
25420 Via Cicindela
Carmel CA 93923

From: mwchrislock@redshift.com
To: Luster_Tom@Coastal; CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Letters to the Editor on Cal Am's proposed desal
Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 7:01:00 AM

Monterey Herald - Letters to the Editor | September 24, 2022

Comparing Cal Am's desal to regional desal project

This is in response to the Sept. 21 letters on water supply issues. Water supply issues? Tourism vs. Residents vs. Agriculture — what else is new? Can't we all just get along? Maybe we should resolve our differences on the basis of which group is paying the most property taxes. Or which group is paying the most for each gallon of water it uses. Why should residents pay for a desal plant that the tourism industry wants? Why should Marina bear the burden of a desal plant that provides no water or anything else for it and that Monterey Peninsula residents do not want or need?

Why should Monterey Peninsula ratepayers have to pay for yet even more water than they use or can afford?

Where was the tourism industry when Cal Am and Monterey County killed the regional desal project that would have provided water to both Marina and the Monterey Peninsula for a small fraction of the cost of Cal Am's proposed desal plant, a plant that creates more questions than answers — a plant seeking approval for over 10 years without success when the regional desal project had achieved approval in less than a single year?

The clock is ticking? Maybe, when we really need new water, we should go back to the future. It would take many fewer tick-tocks.

— *Ron Weitzman, President of the Water Ratepayer Association of the Monterey Peninsula*

A regional approach is needed on water issues

Recent Herald letters convey the same “stuck” approach that prevents innovation and neighborly consideration. A myopic approach that only considers the Monterey Peninsula fails to consider the broader issue.

The Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin is on the state’s critically overdrafted groundwater basin list. Self-centered concerns will not fulfill the regional vision we need. Agriculture interests use the majority of our water, so they must be part of the regional water supply brainstorming initiative Supervisor Mary Adams is spearheading.

Expounders forget that the Cal Am desal project would permanently destroy the endangered plover and environmentally sensitive habitat area in Marina, while potentially harming the Monterey Bay marine sanctuary.

The desal project description hides the fact that the slant wells, by design, induce seawater intrusion and also extract fresh water from Marina’s Dune Sand aquifer. Yet the desal project would not provide a single drop of water to Marina. This desal project further exacerbates water issues, it does not solve them.

Can the agricultural community work more to collaborate and cooperate in fairness to their neighbors? State Sen. John Laird pointed out the environmental injustice to Marina.

Law prohibits the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin aquifer water from being transported outside the area. Why isn’t this project being proposed for the Carmel or Monterey beaches instead?

Cal Am’s desal seems sheer folly. We need both a regional and a reasonable approach that does no harm to any neighbor. Can we please work together with wisdom, kindness, and a broader regard for each other? We must!

— *Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Marina*

Monterey Herald - Letters to the Editor | September 20, 2022

A bad neighbor

Cal Am's a bad neighbor! Here's why ... For years you stole water from the Carmel River which is bad for the fish and other wildlife, bad for the environment, and bad for consumers.

Cal Am you're a bad neighbor! You overcharge Cal Am users. We have the highest water bills in the nation. Your tiered system has failed which, in turn, fails the average consumer.

Cal Am you're a bad neighbor! You might have influenced LAFCO to overturn a legitimate vote by stopping Measure "J" — the proposition to buy you out so we can get rid of your shenanigans. Way over 50% of your ratepayers voted to boot you off the Peninsula. Yet the overwhelming vote of the people meant nothing to LAFCO. Two independent studies concluded that it is feasible to buy you out. The LAFCO vote is a sham — why are people down county voting to stop a Peninsula election? Can you imagine what they would say if we overturned something they overwhelmingly voted for?

Cal Am you're a bad neighbor! With all this under your belt, you should be ashamed to stay here. You should put your tail between your legs and scam. You have quite a collection of being a bad neighbor. So why should we believe in anything Cal Am says or does? We are not for anything you want to do in our neighborhood. Adios!

— *Dan Presser, Carmel*

Monterey Herald - Letters to the Editor | September 18, 2022

Buy out Cal Am

If the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District buys Cal Am, it will be paid for on our water bills in place of Cal Am's profit, and be financed with a low-interest 20-30 year loan. The system will operate to benefit local ratepayers and communities, and we'll have a voice in the way it's governed and managed.

It can operate more affordably because public water agencies do not charge profits and are eligible for grants and low-cost financing that are not available to for-profit corporations. Recently, MPWMD and M1Water have qualified for about \$30 million in grants for the Pure Water Monterey recycled water projects. This lowers the cost of water to us.

The Public Utilities Commission allows for-profit corporations to charge the costs of capital projects and financing to ratepayers. So, if Cal Am owns the system and builds a desal plant, we ratepayers will pay for the desalinated water and the costs of building and financing the plant, plus profits. But after we've paid for all that, Cal Am will still own it.

It's easy to see why 84% of California residents get their water from public water agencies. Let's join them.

— *Marli Melton, Carmel Valley*

Monterey Herald - Letters to the Editor | August 18, 2022

Cal Am Buyout is Necessary

In a recent Herald article, Cal Am's new manager of external affairs, Josh Stratton, claimed that the Water Management District should focus on water solutions instead of wasting money on the Cal Am buyout.

By law, the Water Management District must proceed with a buyout of Cal Am. Would Stratton have them break the law and ignore the voter-mandated buyout of Cal Am?

The Water Management District's record has proven it's quite capable of developing new water projects and pursuing the voter-mandated buyout of Cal Am at the same time.

Stratton seems to overlook the fact that the Water Management District in partnership with Monterey One has given us the 3,500 acre-feet of new water from Pure Water Monterey that allowed Cal Am to stop

overpumping the Carmel River and meet the state's cease and desist order last January.

Stratton also claims the buyout is unnecessary. Is it? How else will we get control of our water costs?

To be feasible and in the public interest the Water Management District has to show water costs would be lower under their ownership.

Remember, the buyout cost is not added to the current cost of water because the lack of profit under public ownership offsets the buyout cost.

Staying with Cal Am ownership is a risk we can't afford. It means ever escalating water bills. The only motivation for Cal Am is profit. This is the problem with private investor-owned water systems. And it is the reason that 84% of Californians get their water from locally owned public water systems.

— *Susan Schiavone, board member Public Water Now Seaside*

No Cal Am desal

In response to the article "Tensions high at Cal Am community meeting" I would like to ask this: how would you like to spend countless hours of your life in public meetings, CPUC hearings, Coastal Commission hearings, supervisor meetings, online, in-person, and via phone, repeating the same thing over and over to Cal Am; "We don't want your desal project, it's too expensive, working-class people can't afford it!" Only to have Cal Am reply nonsensically "We need more community input!" Enough already.

The community has spoken loud and clear; no Cal Am desal. The Cal Am desal is too expensive, it's detrimental to our neighbors in Marina, Cal Am doesn't have the water rights, and the "slant well technology" is unproven for desal intake. How many times do we have to repeat ourselves in these so-called "community forums" where people have to

hand write their comments on cards that will just end up in Cal Am's trash bin like all our previous comments? I feel especially sorry for the Cal Am employees forced to be spokespersons at tables in said forums." They have to represent a company that is gouging its customers with the highest water prices in the US, and wants to double down on those prices with an unneeded desal plant.

— *Saoirse Folsom, Carmel Valley*

From: [Ron Weitzman](#)
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](#); [Luster_Tom@Coastal](#); [Dadamo_Dorene@Waterboards](#); [Sobeck_Eileen@Waterboards](#); [Esquivel_Joaquin@Waterboards](#); [Firestone_Laurel@Waterboards](#); [Morgan_Nichole@Waterboards](#); [Maguire_Sean@Waterboards](#)
Subject: FW: Water Article in Today's Herald
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 4:40:42 PM

FYI.

From: Ron Weitzman [mailto:ronweitzman@redshift.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2022 11:55 AM
To: waterplus@redshift.com
Cc: Chris Lopez; John Phillips; Luis Alejo; Mary Adams; Wendy Root Askew; Gail Morton; Herbart Cortez; Jan Shriner; Matt Zefferman; Paula Riso; Tom Moore; 'Bruce Delgado'; David Burnett; Kathy Biala; 'Layne Long'; Lisa Berkley; Medina Dirksen; ssmyers@att.net
Subject: Water Article in Today's Herald

All, in reference to the article below: Cal Am's proposed desalination project and all the alternative projects considered in its EIR are inferior to one that was explicitly and unaccountably excluded from consideration there. That is the Marina Coast Regional Desalination Project which in 2010 swiftly, in less than a year, traversed all hurdles that have hobbled Cal Am's project for more than ten years now. Different from Cal Am's privately-owned project, the Marina Coast project:

- (1) being publicly owned, satisfied the Monterey County desalination ordinance;***
- (2) did not violate the state Agency Act because it retained within the Salinas Valley the freshwater component of brackish groundwater while exporting only the desalinated seawater component;***
- (3) for the same reason, did not require return water to the Salinas Valley (Castroville) that would be highly costly to Monterey Peninsula ratepayers;***
- (4) did not require unlawful exacerbation of seawater intrusion into Salinas Valley aquifers to provide project source water because, different from Cal Am, Marina Coast has groundwater rights in the Salinas Valley;***
- (5) for the same reason, did not require the use of costly and unproven slant wells to extract mostly or solely seawater;***
- (6) did not have to depend on the use of recycled, along with desalinated,***

water to help control costs; and,

(7) not having to surmount all these and other hurdles, could charge ratepayers \$2,250/\$7,688, or 29 percent, of what Cal Am's project could charge per unit of desalinated water.

The Regional Desalination Project obviously had not been excluded from consideration in Cal Am's EIR for reasons of merit. These seven reasons for not having excluded it are powerful reasons for the exclusion of any private ownership of a desalination plant in Monterey County. --Ron

MONTEREY COUNTY

Officials to debate desal law change

By Dennis L. Taylor

newsroom@montereyherald.com

SALINAS >> Desalination projects have always been a contentious issue in Monterey County and a proposal that will be mulled by elected officials Tuesday afternoon is sure to raise the eyebrows of advocates for publicly owned desal projects.

The idea that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors during its afternoon session beginning at 1:30 p.m. is an amendment to an existing ordinance allowing only public ownership of desal plants rather than private ownership.

Tuesday's action won't approve or deny the ordinance, rather it will allow supervisors to give the nod to placing it on the June 21 agenda where they will consider what's called a negative declaration, meaning under the California Environmental Quality Act requirements, the presiding governmental body — in this case the county — finds that a project will have no significant environmental damage.

Support for the negative declaration proposed by the county Housing and Community Development Department in tandem with the county Health Department is based on the fact that there is no proposed project yet, so there can be no environmental damage simply by amending an ordinance to allow private ownership.

“The proposed revision of (the ordinance) would expand the type of operators that could be eligible for a desalinization treatment facility operation permit,” according to the staff report. “However, expanding the allowable types of operators to include private entities does not in and of itself result in an impact to the environment.”

If there is ever a project proposed, that would be the time for a detailed, in-depth study called an environmental impact report. But for right now, there is only a textual change recommended for the ordinance.

The focus of the county staff, in its submitted documents, is that allowing private ownership would help growers to construct small desal equipment on their well heads to clean out brackish water resulting from seawater intrusion pushing inland.

But critics say there is another reason Supervisor John Phillips pitched the idea in what’s called a board referral last summer. A board referral is an instrument allowing members of the Board of Supervisors to make requests to the county’s chief administrative officer to have work by staff or additional information on a specific topic.

Critics have charged that Phillips is supporting a proposal by Liberty Power, a billion-dollar corporation based in Ontario, Canada, to construct a desalination plant in northern Monterey County. According to at least one presentation by Liberty Power official Kim Adamson, the proposal calls for a desal plant capable of producing up to 32,000 acre-feet of drinking water per year at a cost of about \$1,000 to \$1,500 per acre-foot for Salinas, Castroville and Marina, and perhaps even eventually other parts of the Monterey Peninsula.

The 32,000 acre-feet of water per year are more than California American Water’s proposed desal project and Pure Water Monterey’s recycled water project combined. And this is not the first time supervisors have heard about a desal project in northern Monterey County. In 2018, another board referral asked supervisors to look at possibly changing county code when DeepWater Desal was still active. That project stalled because of a lack of funding.

Phillips has denied supporting any particular project despite his North County supervisorial district standing to benefit the most from the proposed desal facility.

Melodie Chrislock, director of Public Water Now, said during a meeting last summer that private ownership is ignoring the public's desire for publicly owned water supplies, noting that Measure J, which requires the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District to pursue a takeover of privately owned California American Water, was passed with a substantial majority.

"Phillips wants the change to allow one company to control the water," Chrislock said, adding that she doesn't oppose desal projects, only privately owned ones.

And public water advocates aren't the only ones decrying the proposed negative declaration. Salinasbased Ag Land Trust, a nonprofit whose mission is to preserve ag land, filed a letter back in April throwing its support behind a publicly owned desal project. "The Ag Land Trust supports the existing ordinance (prohibiting private ownership) and also supports the development of a publicly owned, regional desalination plant that will make inexpensive water available to farmers, residents and landowners around the Monterey Bay region," the letter states.

Viewers may comment on and observe the supervisors' meeting via Zoom at <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747#success>.

"Phillips wants the change to allow one company to control the water."

— *Melodie Chrislock, director of Public Water Now*

From: [Barbara Bell](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: ["Liesbeth Visscher"](#); ["Bruce Delgado"](#); ["Layne Long"](#)
Subject: Please Deny Cal-Am Project
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 8:33:54 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

ATTN: Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff
CA Coastal Commissioners

My name is Barbara Bell, I am a resident of Marina. I moved here with my family in 2020 from Lodi CA. My husband and I looked at various areas to move and choose the City of Marina over Oceanside CA. Marina has many wonderful things including the history, small town feel, diversity, and extraordinary gifts from nature. Monterey County as a national sanctuary and the commitment to our ecological environment is what makes this a unique and special place. So many people I talk to from around the United States including California have shared that this area is their favorite place to visit because of the commitment to protecting our ocean, ocean life and environment. Some have even described as a little piece of heaven.

My son was just asked to do a TED talk and he did his talk on "Building Community" that's what we the Marina residents are doing is building our community through having a voice and being the change, we want to see happen. The community has a deep passion for continuing to keep this the sanctuary it is and not be destroyed and controlled by a company that has no commitment to the environment or community only to their shareholders.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina and change this special place forever.

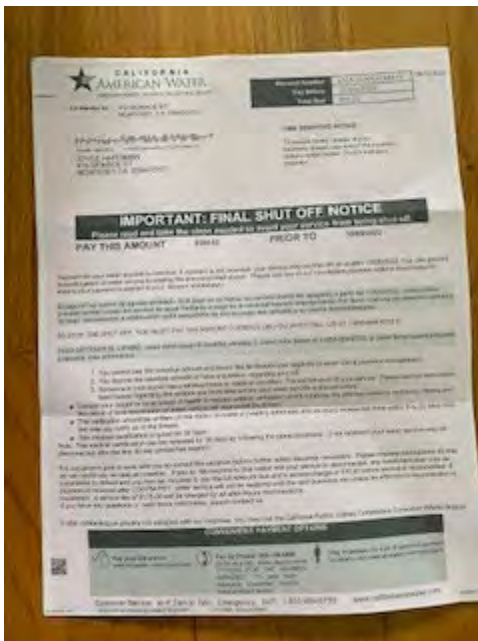
Thank you
Barbara and Dan Bell



From: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: FW: I just received a cut off notice today. please don't let CalAm raise rates
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 3:35:17 PM

From: Joyce Haferman <joyce.haferman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2022 2:36 PM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: I just received a cut off notice today. please don't let CalAm raise rates

Dear Sumi,
Please don't let CalAm raise water rates in November. I received this cut off notice today. I cannot afford the bills they send me now. I am very low income. Is there someone that can put a meter in front of the CalAm meter to determine if I am truly using \$200 a month water? Please provide me someone to contact to install a meter verifying my water usage matches CalAm?
I need help.
Thank you!
Joyce Haferman



Sent from my iPhone

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted]
Subject: [redacted]
Date: [redacted]

From: S. Folsom <sfolsom@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 10:57 AM
To: sfolsom, Sarah <Sarah@amwater.com>
Subject: Under Water w/ Cables

Hi! I am under water with my Cables and have been since 2016. I am constantly receiving threats of shut off. My most recent shut off notice is attached.

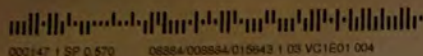
My family makes every effort to conserve water but we can't seem to afford to catch up. I don't know what we would do if Cables took their deal project on us. How will working people afford it if we can't afford the water now?

I'm not alone. I know many families who are struggling to pay their water bills but they're too embarrassed to come forward.

I speak for at least ten other families with children who are behind on their water bills.



For Service To: 85 CALLE QUIEN SAB E
CARMEL VALLEY, CA 93924



000147 1 SP 0.570 06384/00884/015643 1 03 VC1E01 004
SAOIRSE FOLSOM
85 CALLE QUIEN SAB E
CARMEL VALLEY CA 93924

Account Number	1015-210042602184
Pay Before	09/12/2022
Total Due	194.00

07/20/20

TIME SENSITIVE NOTICE:

To ensure timely receipt of your payment, please use one of the payment options noted below. Do not mail your payment.

IMPORTANT: FINAL SHUT OFF NOTICE

Please read and take the steps needed to avoid your service from being shut off.

PAY THIS AMOUNT \$194.00 PRIOR TO 09/12/2022

Payment on your water account is overdue. If payment is not received, your service may be shut off on or after 09/12/2022. You can prevent discontinuation of water service by paying the amount printed above. Please use one of our convenient payment options listed below to ensure your payment is applied to your account immediately.

El pago en su cuenta de aguas atrasado. Si el pago no se recibe, su servicio puede ser apagado a partir del 09/12/2022. Usted puede prevenir la interrupción del servicio de agua mediante el pago de la cantidad impresa anteriormente. Por favor, use una de nuestras opciones de pago convenientes a continuación para asegurarse de que su pago sea aplicado a su cuenta inmediatamente.

TO STOP THE SHUT OFF, YOU MUST PAY THE AMOUNT OVERDUE OR YOU MUST CALL US AT 1-855-669-8753 if:

PARA DETENER EL CIERRE, usted debe pagar la cantidad vencida O Usted debe llamar al 1-855-669-8753, si usted tiene alguna pregunta o necesita más información.

1. You cannot pay the overdue amount and would like to discuss your eligibility to enter into a payment arrangement.
 2. You dispute the overdue amount or have a question regarding your bill.
 3. Someone in your home has a serious illness or medical condition. We will not shut off your service. Please see the instructions listed below regarding the actions you must take before your water service is disconnected.
- Contact your doctor or local board of health to request written verification which confirms the affected person's residency, illness and the period of time termination of water service will aggravate the illness.
 - The verification should be written on the doctor or board of health's letterhead and we must receive the letter within five (5) days from the date you notify us of the illness.
 - This medical certification is good for 30 days.

Note: The medical certification can be renewed for 30 days by following the same procedure. If not renewed, your water service may be disconnected after the first 30 day period has expired.

It is our sincere goal to work with you to correct this situation before further action becomes necessary. Please respond immediately so that we can assist you as best as possible. If you do not respond to this notice and your service is disconnected, any installment plan may be considered in default and you may be required to pay the full amount due and a service charge of \$10.00 before service is reconnected. If payment is received after 3:00 PM PST, water service will not be restored until the next business day unless an after-hours reconnection is requested. A service fee of \$175.00 will be charged for all after-hours reconnections. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact us.

If after contacting us you are not satisfied with our response, you may call the California Public Utilities Commission Consumer Affairs Branch

CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS



Pay your bill online:
www.amwater.com/myaccount



Pay by Phone: 855-748-6066
24 hours a day, seven days a week
TTY/TDD FOR THE HEARING
IMPAIRED: 711 (and then
reference Customer Service
number listed above)



Pay in person: for a list of approved payment
locations, visit www.amwater.com/myaccount

Customer Service: M-F 7am to 7pm Emergency: 24/7: 1-855-669-8753
1015-P-00884/015643 VC1E01 ETM1C00002 (VC1E01 00884010300)

www.californiaamwater.com

AMW01CF

From: [Billy Perry](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny Cal Am Desal in Marina CA
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 5:31:21 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff.

My name is William Perry I am a resident of the City of Marina. As an avid surfer, angler, hiker and naturalist, I value the undeveloped coastline that Marina provides. As former water systems specialist for the Monterey Bay Aquarium and current mechanic at Monterey One Water, I am also keenly aware of the water quality issues for our marine sanctuary and need of water for residential use. I think putting a desal plant on the coast of Marina is an environmental and social injustice. We, the residents of Marina would not gain any water supply from this industrial water plant and it would degrade our local coastline, which after the Cemex plant is closed, will provide additional recreational opportunities on our coast. With this in mind, please deny the Cal-Am desal project that will harm Marina's coastline. Thank you for considering the residents of Marina.

Sincerely,

The Perry / Azhderian Family



Sent from my iPhone

From: [Tito Acosta](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: justwater93933@gmail.com
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 4:47:19 PM

“Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff”



My name is Tito Acosta. I have been a resident of Marina since 1989. My wife’s family moved to Marina in 1970. We met in high school. I am retired military since 2013. We are a heritage mixed

family. Myself of Hispanic and Native American heritage and my wife of Caucasian and Japanese heritage. I believe in the future, Marina may need to pursue other options for water supply but, that time is not now. Other cities in the Monterey county may need a desalination facility for water supply now and that's their choice. My concern is, why are they not looking to place their facility in their vicinity?

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will directly harm Marina's water source and the surrounding environment while proved no benefits to Marina. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jo Ann Gullo](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 4:55:20 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:

My name is Jo Ann Gullo and I have been a resident of Marina for 4 years.

I'm a single woman of Italian American heritage and currently unemployed due to working in the mortgage industry for 30 years, but was recently laid off along with thousands of others, due to increasingly high interest rates.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you,
Jo Ann Gullo



From: [catina.smith](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 4:03:54 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Catina Smith, and I am writing on my and my family's behalf as residents of Marina. As a child, my father was stationed at Ft. Ord, and we chose to live in Marina. As an adult, I joined the military and traveled the world only to find that Marina was the best place to live. I moved back in 2015 and bought a house. I have counted my blessings since. Marina is an ideal community, it comprises many different ethnicities, different education levels, family structures, blue/white collar, and a retirement population. To add to its beauty of diversity, we are near a beach with extraordinary views and precious wildlife.

The sanctity of this community has been threatened in the past with the CEMEX violation of our land, and other attempts to take advantage of this community. Nevertheless, we as citizens have been able to stand strong to protect our community. We proved it when the CEMEX operation was shut down. The location of the CEMEX plant was promised as a preserve going forward. The CalAm Desalination Project goes against that promise and we are once again up for a fight.

When I think about the threats to this community's environment, I find myself asking questions that I hope you will consider as part of your decision:

1. Why is the dump in Marina?
2. Why was CEMEX in Marina when other locations across the peninsula were shut down?
3. Why does Marina keep finding its water and land resources under attack, over and over?
4. Why does CalAm propose to do this project in Marina when the recycled water project will more than cover the peninsula?
5. Why is CalAm able to propose this project again when it was denied the last time they proposed it?

The only reason I can come up with is that this community doesn't have the affluence of Monterey, Carmel, and Pacific Grove. Marina doesn't have the resources to put up the legal fight that other communities may be able to. There are a lot of minority communities across the nation that suffer from environmental injustice, please don't add Marina to this list. I cannot make the meeting in person since I work full-time and take care of my elderly mother. In its place I am sending this comment, I am humbly asking you to please protect our community and keep it well for the generations to come. Please deny CalAm's Desalination Project.

Very respectfully,

Catina Smith and the Smith Family



From: CentralCoast@Coastal
To: Energy@Coastal
Subject: Fw: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project-Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 3:55:36 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-geblkabq.png](#)

Central Coast District Office

725 Front St., Ste 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 427-4863



From: Marli Melton <marlimelton@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 11:12 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal <kevin.kahn@coastal.ca.gov>; CentralCoast@Coastal <CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project-Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose

Previously sent to CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov and Tom.Luster@coastal.gov.
Re-sending to Kevin Kahn because of typo in address, and to centralcoast@coastal.ca.gov to comply with the recorded announcement. Thanks so much for all the good work you do. Letter follows:

October 28, 2022

To: Chair Donne Brownsey and California Coastal Commissioners and Staff

Please deny the California American Water Company's application for a coastal development permit.

On September 4, 2020, I wrote urging you to support your staff's exhaustively researched and carefully reasoned recommendation to deny Cal Am's application because the Pure Water Monterey Expansion was a feasible and affordable alternative -- better for the coastal environment and more environmentally and economically just.

Since then, the PWM Expansion has been approved. At a cost of \$45 million (\$60 million less a \$15 million grant), it's a fraction of the cost of desal. The California Public Utilities Commission has examined it carefully and confirmed that its source water is and will continue to be adequate and secure.

The PWM Expansion is outside the coastal zone. It will not lead to increased saltwater intrusion or endanger snowy plovers, coastal habitats, or marine life. It will not disadvantage the people of Marina and their community. The Expansion can be completed more quickly than Cal Am's proposed desal and will produce 2250 AF per year.. It will also be more secure against sea level rise, erosion and storm damage.

Will it be sufficient? Yes! The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments prepares and updates population and economic forecasts regularly. AMBAG has had its forecast methods verified using three different modeling approaches, and also, independently, by the Population Reference Bureau. Its 2022 forecast provides reliable data for calculating our water needs through 2045.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's supply and demand report, based on the AMBAG forecast, confirms that the PWM Expansion will meet water needs for residential use, remodels, new housing, commercial uses, population growth, and economic growth for at least the next 30 years and possibly longer. For example, current use is 9725 AF/yr. By 2045, we will need 10,511 AF/yr, just an additional 786 AF/yr. By then, the Expansion will have been providing 2250 AF/yr for 20 years, allowing us to build substantial reserves in the Seaside Basin.

The AMBAG figures and the resulting water demand forecast include all of the water requirements for RHNA housing plus more, and for population and job growth. Because the Expansion can be completed more quickly and affordably than desal, it will allow affordable housing with affordable water and earlier completion of many other needed projects. It would be a mistake to believe Cal Am's fear tactics and bad math about demand. Even if new housing is built at rapid and historically unprecedented rates, there will still be enough water. The Expansion will also increase water reserves for drought, firefighting, peak use, and other needs, and help preserve the Carmel River and its steelhead and riparian environment.

The PWM Expansion is also far more economically just. Cal Am has not disclosed its updated costs, but they are likely to be much greater than the outdated estimate of \$322 million, even if they start with a smaller plant. In fact, building in stages will probably raise total project costs even higher, to \$400 million or more. (In 2019-20, their engineers forgot water doesn't run uphill, and in 2022 Cal Am neglected to drill a recommended extraction well for PWM Phase I, so there could be problems with desal).

Local Cal Am ratepayers now pay some of the highest water rates in the entire country, and more than 21,000 low income residents on the Monterey Peninsula already struggle to meet basic needs. If built, Cal Am's desal is likely to double many water bills. Using PUC data, this desal would add \$73 to Cal Am's average monthly water bill of \$104. Perhaps a monthly water bill of \$177 doesn't seem like a lot to desal proponents, but it can be a week's food for many families. Furthermore, water bill amounts will increase over time – making it even harder for thousands of local families and individuals to pay for food, medicines, transportation, rent, childcare, educational and other needs. High water costs also make it more difficult for local communities to raise revenues to maintain services and infrastructure.

Also, Cal Am plans to sell desal water to Castroville at \$110 per AF to make up for fresh water extracted from the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin. Cal Am will then bill local ratepayers about \$5890 per AF for that same water to cover its full cost-- about \$5 million per year for water we do not use.

Although desal for California has become politically popular, in this case, it is unnecessary, unjust and wrong. Please do not force people to pay for decades of expensive desal they simply don't need, especially when a feasible and environmentally superior alternative is readily available.

If the Monterey Peninsula needs desal in the future because of climate change, it should be publicly owned like the Doheny desal. The PWM Expansion will allow us the time and flexibility to plan for and build a project, when needed. It will be one that politicians can be proud of – similar to the much less expensive project you approved for Doheny (\$1479 per AF, vs. \$6,000+ per AF for Cal Am.)

If we eventually need a regional desal plant, our public agencies have a history of finding win-win solutions. Cal Am seems to have tried to pit agricultural areas against urban ones, but there are many intelligent people here who have a greater vision that includes water and wellbeing for all.

In summary, at only a fraction of the cost of desal, the PWM Expansion is the superior alternative. It will not cause any harm to the coastal environment and will be more environmentally and economically just. It has sufficient source water, a safe location and reliable functionality to meet our needs for many decades, and will assure a strong future for all the people of the Monterey Peninsula.

Please deny Cal Am's application for a coastal development permit. Thank you

Sincerely,

Marli Melton

Marli Melton, Carmel Valley, Monterey County, CA

From: [M.O](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 6:13:48 PM

To the CA Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:

I just moved to Marina last year and one of the reasons I was attracted to Marina is the proximity to the coast and opportunities to explore the beauty that this area provides. I work remotely from home full-time so I value the peace, quiet and safety that I find here in Marina and appreciate very much. I am here for the long haul and hope to retire here to continue enjoying everything that the city and the area offers. I'm all for improving my new home city but I fail to see what benefits the desalination project will provide to this community and threatens to contaminate and reduce our water supply and damage a significant portion of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas on Marina's dunes and beach.

Please do not approve the CalAm Desalination Project here in Marina.

Marylou Orayani
Marina Resident

From: [Leland R Smith](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant not necessary
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 5:35:32 PM

If Pure Water Monterey provides all the water we need for new housing, commercial development, and drought reserves why do we need the Desal Plant?

Secondly, why do you insist on having ads about conservation in newspapers, email and home delivered articles when everyone I know fixed their leaks, turn down their water systems in the winter or when it rains, collect water and conserve water.....at our expense.

Leland Smith

From: [Elaine M](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 3:54:07 PM

Dear California Coastal Commission,

We, the undersigned, are 25 year Cal Am customers on the Monterey Peninsula. We vehemently oppose Cal Am's **costly, risky and unnecessary** desal project.

There is a environmentally superior alternative in the Pure Water Monterey expansion project that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Pure Water expansion will provide all the water needed for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought. Pure Water Monterey has already been providing us with water for two+ years now—ironically, enabling Cal Am to stop its decades of illegal over-drafting from the Carmel River.

The Monterey Peninsula does NOT need this energy intensive and environmentally risky desal plant. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), using the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) population and economic growth forecast, estimates that by 2045 we will need 786 acre-feet a year more water than we use today. The expansion of Pure Water Monterey will provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet a year. Cal Am's claim that another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet is ended is ridiculously overblown.

As investor owned for-profit company, Cal-Am's primary accountability is enriching its executives and shareholders. We already pay the highest water rates in the country! The water from Cal-Am's proposed desal plant would cost more than \$7,000 an acre-foot, outrageous and unjustifiable. And at a price tag of more than \$400 million, it's nearly 10x the estimated cost of the Pure Water expansion. It is abundantly clear that this desal plant is NOT in the best interests of the community and rate payers. Our water bill has doubled in recent years. We cannot afford to add the cost of this extraordinarily expensive desal water to the extremely high Cal Am water bill we already pay.

We also strongly oppose siting Cal-Am's desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina, CA would get none of the resulting potable water, but would bear most of the environmental damage to its beaches and the risks to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As coastal Californians, we cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. We are alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects - whether needed or not.

We strongly urge you to DENY Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project.

Respectfully,
Elaine Mackoff
Joe Aki Ouye
Pacific Grove, CA

From: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: FW: Cal Am & LIHWAP Central Coast Energy Services
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 3:04:27 PM

From: S. Folsom <sgfolsom@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 11:17 AM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>; Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>; Plascencia, Liz@Coastal <liz.plascencia@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Cal Am & LIHWAP Central Coast Energy Services

Sorry-I meant more like 3 hours so far invested, still without the actual application in hand.

Saoirse Folsom (pronounced sairsha)
phone & texts: (831) 293-4731
fax: (831) 288-8286
email: sgfolsom@gmail.com

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On Thu, Oct 27, 2022 at 11:14 AM S. Folsom <sgfolsom@gmail.com> wrote:

I forgot to mention, how I even found out that CEC Services is the non-profit that services the LIHWAP program in which Cal Am participates, it went like this:

1) I see "low-income water bill assistance" on the Cal Am website, I click on that, it takes me to the water discount application, but also mentions the LIHWAP program, I click on that, it takes me to a government website describing the LIHWAP program, but there aren't any links to apply for it. I click through and through this website for goodness knows how long, finally I find a link that says; "look up agencies" I input my zip and look through a list of LIHWAP service providers all of them, very far away from me, I pick the closest one in Watsonville; CEC services, I search all over their website, clicking on all the links from the landing page, and can't find anything about the LIHWAP program. I do a google search: "LIHWAP and Central Coast Energy Services" finally, I land on the form to send in order to get an application sent to me in the mail.

Time from finding out about the LIHWAP program touted on Cal Am's website to finding out how & where to send a form in order to get an application for it: 1.5 hours. one week later, still no application. My time invested so far: 4-5 hours.

Saoirse Folsom (pronounced sairsha)

phone & texts: (831) 293-4731

fax: (831) 288-8286

email: sgfolsom@gmail.com

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On Thu, Oct 27, 2022 at 10:53 AM S. Folsom <sgfolsom@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Sumi. You're probably already on top of this, but have you reached out to the Central Coast Energy (CEC) Services to find out how many low-income people have applied for the "Low Income Home Water Assistance Program" or LIHWAP, who live in Cal Am's service area here on the peninsula?

Here's CEC Service's web page for LIHWAP, it's impossible to find on their landing page, I had to do a google search: <https://www.energyservices.org/LIHWAP/>

If Cal Am's and CEC Service's data says that there aren't many of us who have applied for LIHWAP, I would like to tell you why. The Central Coast Energy Services non-profit is riddled with inefficiencies and has many, many, application documentation requirements, making it a very "High Barrier" public service agency.

Here's my recent experience with Central Coast Energy Services in attempting to get help for my \$400 Cal Am water bill, which I service, but cannot afford to pay down.

1) The phone tree never mentions the LIHWAP program, I had to go through all the options before realizing that every option ended in you leaving a voicemail. So I left two voicemails at two different options and hoped for the best.

2) No one seems to answer the phone no matter what time of day I call. Apparently you're supposed to leave a message and they will either call you back or send you an application. What if you want more info before applying?

3) If you try to send a contact form through their "contact us" page the form won't go through, saying "email format error." (see attached website screenshot).

4) After finally getting in touch with someone last Friday I was assured that my LIHWAP application would be going out via mail that day (no email?). 8 days after sending the initial online inquiry form, I have yet to receive anything. (see form confirmation screenshot)

5) I called back yesterday and left another message asking them to FAX the application to me. As of today I haven't received a response.

6) I haven't received the actual LIHWAP application yet, but if it's anything like my previous experiences with CEC services to replace my aging woodstove, the documentation requests are going to be heavy; bank statements, taxes, paycheck stubs for the last three months, a signed employment verification, etc. etc. In attempting to get a woodstove grant, I submitted all of the above documentation to CEC services twice, and was rejected on the grounds that the first application was now out of date by one month. I gave up, and I am now dreading the CEC Services LIHWAP application requirements.

I wanted to share my experience with the Coastal Commission so that you could counter any Cal Am claims that there is "plenty of help" for water ratepayers that are "under water" in their bills. Don't believe it, it isn't true. The barriers for help with water bills are so high you need a Bachelor's degree to get through it, I have one so I'm persistent, but most working-class people and minorities don't have the time to pursue assistance this diligently. AND, I already received Cal Am's paltry low-income water discount, which is so small that I called them up to ask if I had actually qualified or not for the discount and was assured that I had and that it had been applied.

On another note, I am very glad to hear you have someone in the office who speaks Spanish who is willing to field calls from the public regarding their water bill costs. Thank you for documenting us.

Saoirse Folsom (pronounced sairsha)

phone & texts: (831) 293-4731

fax: (831) 288-8286

email: sgfolsom@gmail.com

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From: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: FW: Cal Am's project workshops
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 2:56:17 PM

From: susan schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 11:17 AM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Cal Am's project workshops

Hi Sumi,

I have attended three of these workshops. The first had about a dozen people in Seaside, the second had about 100 mostly Marina irate people who oppose the project and several others opposing the project from peninsula cities. I also went to their second Seaside event last Saturday, and there was only one other person attending other than a few opposers. We have asked the below questions and they have no answer. I got referred to three people from the man who was explaining billing there and none of them could say how the project would increase our bills, especially since they just put in for another three-year rate increase in July, and we haven't had that rate increase yet. They simply say they don't know and that the company is working on it. I asked if they would know before the Coastal Commission hearing in November and they said they don't know that either. I don't see how they can present this application for approval without the information about how it will affect ratepayers in terms of monthly charges. Given the inflation rate, increased costs of construction and labor, including possible chemicals needed, their original estimate of \$320 million for construction and nearly \$6,000 an acre foot must be significantly higher now. This should be something they have in place before seeking approval. The public deserves to know what it means if this project is approved. These costs will be onerous on lower income residents on the peninsula. They are talking about increasing the low income assistance but the extremely low-income levels they are using are Federal based and not in line with California. They are also encouraging customers to apply for a Federal program, which can take some costs off the customers but onto general taxpayers. However, increasing the assistance from 30 to 50% will only add to the bills of those who are above those levels who will pay higher bills to subsidize the LIRA program. They mentioned spreading the cost for low-income assistance across the state to reduce this, thus increasing the costs for other areas to fund this project, which is NOT needed since expansion of Pure

Water Monterey will provide adequate water for decades, despite drought.

How much will this desal plant cost now?

How much will this raise water bills?

How much will this water cost per acre-foot?

How will you resolve the Environmental Justice issues with Marina and Seaside?

Why should Peninsula ratepayers subsidize 700 acre-feet of water for Castroville?

I just think the EJ dept. should be aware of all this and thank you for your work. Melodie Chrislock also sent a similar letter to Tom Luster.

From: [Plascencia, Liz@Coastal](mailto:Plascencia.Liz@Coastal)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: FW: Cal-Am Outreach to Marina Residents - OPPOSITION
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 2:53:56 PM

Hi Tom,

Below is an email from a Marina resident in opposition of the project.

Best,
Liz

Liz Plascencia | she/they/elle ([What's This?](#))

NOAA Coastal Management Fellow

California Coastal Commission

liz.plascencia@coastal.ca.gov | (818) 588-2464

From: Kathleen Founds <kathleenfounds@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 29, 2022 3:12 PM
To: Plascencia, Liz@Coastal <liz.plascencia@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Cal-Am Outreach in Marina

Hi Liz,

Thanks for getting in touch.

I'd be happy to share a bit about myself as a Marina resident and my thoughts on the slant wells. I've lived in Marina for ten years. I teach Philosophy of Nonviolence at CSUMB, and I am also an author. I have two children, aged 7 and 10, who attend JC Crumpton elementary here in Marina.

I oppose Cal-Am's slant well project because it will drain water from Marina's aquifer. Then Marina won't have its own water, and will have to seek water elsewhere--and pay more for it. I think about my daughters and the water scarcity they may encounter as they grow up. I also think it isn't right for a company to build on land against the wishes of a city and the people of the city. Every Marina resident I talk to who hears about the issue does not want Cal Am building on our beach. Everyone in Marina treasures the fact that we have a beautiful, pristine, beach where we can walk, swim, and picnic with our families. We are a diverse working-class community, and we should be able to keep our wonderful pristine coast.

Marina has lost so much money battling Cal-Am---money we need for a new firetruck and a senior center--or for programs for local children and families. Cal Am is draining the resources of our

community as we continue fighting against the slant wells. Marina residents already rallied and organized to speak at previous Coastal Commission meetings, and Cal Am keeps dragging out the fight. I am afraid Cal Am will use its greater financial resources to drain our lesser financial resources until we can't fight anymore. Cal Am would never try to build a slant well in Monterey or Carmel or Pebble Beach--those communities are so rich and powerful Cal Am wouldn't have a chance. But because Marina is a small, diverse, working class community, Cal Am thinks they can build here.

We have the Coastal Commission meeting coming up, and I am going to take a day off work to attend and speak up against the issue. However, so many Marina residents are just scraping by and cannot afford to take the time off to attend a meeting and speak up. Even more residents are so busy just getting by that they aren't able to engage with the issue. There is a reason most of the Just Water members are in the phase of their lives where they no longer have small kids at home. The working families of Marina don't have the bandwidth or resources or time to become activists against the slant wells.

My daughter's Brownie troop would like to speak out against the issue, but most parents are not able to take a day off work and pull their child out of school for a day to speak at the meeting. The Brownie troop is going to make posters and a short video. My daughter and I (I am a parent volunteer for the group) are hoping to present the posters and video at the meeting on behalf of the group.

I would be happy to talk to you and share more, or answer any questions that would be helpful. My phone number is 831-246-3149. I should be free Sunday (the 29th) all day and on Monday roughly between 8:30 and 2, as well as between noon and two on Tuesday and Thursday.

Thanks so much for your work on this issue! Marina really appreciates the effort you are going to reach out and listen to our community.

Take care,

Kathleen Founds

On Wed, Oct 26, 2022 at 2:40 PM Plascencia, Liz@Coastal <liz.plascencia@coastal.ca.gov> wrote:

Hello,

Kathy Biala provided your contact information to our Environmental Justice Unit at the Coastal Commission because we are interested in hearing from Marina residents in relation to California-American ("Cal-Am") Water Company's proposal to build a desalination plant, including new slant wells, near the Monterey Bay shoreline in Marina. Earlier this month, I called and was unable to reach you. I wanted to follow-up to my phone call and see if you are still interested in discussing this project. If so, please feel free to email us directly or we can set up a call to discuss.

I have also attached two FAQ documents about the project with information regarding the upcoming hearing on November 17th and how to participate in both English and Spanish. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you,
Liz

Liz Plascencia | she/they/elle ([What's This?](#))

NOAA Coastal Management Fellow

California Coastal Commission

liz.plascencia@coastal.ca.gov | (818) 588-2464

From: [Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal](mailto:Selvaraj.Sum@Coastal)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: FW: Low Income Monterey Resident
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 2:53:52 PM

From: nancy@nancyrunyon.com <nancy@nancyrunyon.com>
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2022 5:18 PM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Low Income Monterey Resident

Dear Ms. Selvaraj,

I heard from the Public Water Now group that you are looking for low income residents of Monterey who are concerned about the cost of water. I am definitely one of those people.

I am 74 years old (75 in November), single, with a Social Security check of \$1100.00/month. I am still working measuring homes and drafting digital floor plans for real estate brochures that brings me another \$4-6,000/year. I qualify for every utility low income utility discount.

I am fortunate to have purchased my first home in 1973---the only reason I own a home today. But the taxes and insurance are over \$600/month even without a mortgage. After paying for a Medicare Insurance Supplement and food, there is not much left over---why I still work whenever I get a job. I am not physically able to work full time

Before moving to Monterey in 1999, I lived in Palo Alto for 30 years, where all utilities were owned and operated by the City (publicly owned). I was shocked at how expensive water and all utilities were here in Monterey for my smaller home with less people. I can wear a coat inside and turn down the heat to save money. But letting all landscaping die, never washing my car and not showering every day, etc. does not lower our water bills from privately owned for-profit Cal-Am. When we conserve water---Cal-Am says they have to charge us more.

I was one of the speakers at the Coastal Commission in November 2019 against the Cal-Am desalination project because it is projected to at least double our already highest water rates in the country. The Doheny Desal Project is projected to cost about 1/3 of what Cal-Am's project will be. I have seen nothing but mismanagement and greed from Cal-Am since moving to Monterey. Why should they care how much anything costs the rate payers when they have guaranteed profit on top?!

Please let me know if I can be of further help to you or provide further information.

Thank you,

Nancy Runyon
Email: nancy@nancyrunyon.com
1195 Hoffman Avenue
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 649-8132 home/office

From: [John Mott](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am Desalinization Project
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 12:37:35 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners
Mr. John Ainsworth Ex Director, CA Coastal Commission

I am a resident of East Garrison, near Marina. I moved here two years ago after a 40 year career with CA State Parks. I relocated to East Garrison with my life partner because of the ambiance, affordability, and secure water supply from the Marina Coast Water District.

Cal Am proposal is wrong on so many levels. It will harm Marina and Marina will get no benefit from it.

Please deny the CAL AM Project.

Thank you,

John Mott
17823 Banks Street
East Garrison, CA 93933
johnsac2020@gmail.com
(916) 539-7300

From: [Setiva Woodring](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Setiva Woodring - Deny CalAm Desalinization Project Permit
Date: Wednesday, November 02, 2022 11:40:38 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Setiva Woodring; I am a resident of Marina. I have lived in Marina for over 12 years now and work locally as well. I also do volunteer work with local charities. I pray you make the right decision for the citizens of Marina to keep Marina SAFE!! Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

Regards,
Setiva Woodring
3297 Abdy Way, Marina, CA 93933

From: [Karin Locke](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Cc: [karin locke](#)
Subject: desal and low-income seniors comments
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 11:05:58 PM

Please consider the concerns of the costs on seniors on fixed incomes, everything is going up and it is difficult to keep up.

Thank You for your consideration,
Karin Locke
Pacific Grove Resident

The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction. Rachel Carson

From: skip_kadish
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal plant in Marina (Cal Am Water)
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 8:10:31 PM

Dear Coastal Commission,

I oppose the desal plant that Cal Am wants to build in Marina, Ca.

I am a Marina resident. I walk that beach quite often. It is beautiful. The birds on the shore, the ocean surf, the unfettered expanse of sand.

The proposed plant will endanger several plant and animal species. It will cause salt water intrusion. They do not have a permit to suck out the groundwater. It will be a visual eyesore. There may very well be noise pollution.

It will be quite expensive. An alternate and much less expensive plan is on the table.
The water supply for residents of Marina will be jeopardized.

I ask that you deny permission for Cal Am to build a desal plant in Marina,

Thank you,

Skip Kadish 831-601-3057

From: jettssystem@sbcglobal.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project-Application No. 9-20-0603-OPPOSE
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 5:33:56 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. Over the years I have shared with you the many reasons for my opposition both in writing and in person.

Now I have a new concern that somehow Cal Am will turn the Doheny Desal Project that you recently approved to its advantage.

I trust you Commissioners--along with us concerned citizens on the Monterey Peninsula and in Marina--note the numerous DISSIMILARITIES between the Doheny Project and what Cal Am proposes to build.

These DISSIMILARITIES are as follows:

1. The Doheny project, although similar in size to Cal Am's proposed project, safely draws water through slant wells from under the ocean, while Cal Am's proposed slant wells draw water from an over-drafted groundwater basin.
2. The Doheny project will cost \$140 million. Cal Am's most recent cost for its proposed desal project was \$322 million, and that was six (6) years ago!
3. The Doheny project is \$1,479 per acre-foot of water. Six (6) years ago Cal Am's project was over \$6000 per acre-foot. And, Cal Am has not updated that cost since then.
4. The anticipated increase to customer water bills for the Doheny project is \$2-15.00 per month. Relying on CPUC data, Cal Am's project is estimated to raise water bills by 70% (or \$73.00 on an average Cal Am monthly bill of \$104.00).
5. The Doheny project is the product of a non-profit publicly-owned water agency. Cal Am's project is the product of an investor-owned, for-profit conglomerate.
A COMMODITY AS IMPORTANT TO LIFE AS WATER SHOULD NEVER BE SOLD FOR PROFIT.

6. The South Coast Water District is heavily dependent on imported water and therefore, has a bonafide need for the Doheny Desal plant. For two years the Monterey Peninsula has benefitted from the award-winning Pure Water Monterey project, an advanced, reliable, potable recycled water plant and a 50,000 acre-foot groundwater basin in which to store this water. AT THIS TIME WE DO NOT NEED DESAL. WHAT WE NEED IS FOR CAL AM TO STOP BLOCKING THE EXPANSION OF PURE WATER MONTEREY.

When we attend your meeting in Salinas on November 17, 2022, I trust you will make it clear to Cal Am that it's proposed desal plant is not comparable to the Doheny desal plant. Please deny Cal Am's coastal Development permit for its desal project.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Jeana M. Jett
Monterey, CA

From: [Sherry Adler](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am Desalination Project
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 3:44:55 PM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My husband and I are residents of Marina and oppose the unjust Cal Am desalination project for the following reasons:

- It would harm and diminish our water supply and provide none to the city of Marina
- It is unnecessary because expansion of the existing Pure Water Monterey project is sufficient, which local public water agencies have determined
- It is environmentally unjust to the city of Marina which already has several major industrial facilities
- It will damage sensitive habitat areas and adversely impact endangered species such as the snowy plover
- It violates the Cemex settlement agreement
- The corporation has no legal right to the water in this area

We live in an era in which protecting nature and the environment is crucial to the future of our city and our planet. We cannot afford to make decisions as if these things don't matter. Please deny the Cal Am project that will permanently harm Marina and the beautiful Monterey Bay coastline.

Thank you,

Sherry and Peter Adler
174 Lillian Place
Marina CA 93933

From: [Megan Coleman](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No desal.
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 12:08:01 PM

Hello,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the desal plant. It's an energy intensive, expensive, polluting, and unnecessary project.

Thank you,

Meg Coleman
Monterey CA

From: [Vicky Thomas](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: CalAm Monterey Desal Project Applic. No. 9-20-0603 OPPOSE
Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 11:50:58 AM

Dear Commissioners,

I oppose this project. I prefer to see an expansion of Pure Water Monterey which is working well and has fewer environmental impacts.

I watched Cal Am ignore non-binding requests to stop over drafting the Carmel River for twenty years. It made me question their judgment and whether they truly

have the interest of our community as their first priority.

Victoria Thomas

From: [Michael Gunby](#)
To: Energy@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on November 2022 Agenda Item Thursday 7a - Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 (California American Water Co., Marina)
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 7:03:41 PM

I urge the Commission to deny the appeal for the Cal Am desalination plant at the Cemex mining property in Marina for the following reasons:

- 1) The project is no longer needed within the next 30+ years since the Pure Water project has begun injecting recycled water into the local aquifer and the phase 2 expanded recycled water project has been approved. The project is too large.
- 2) The project has significant and unmitigated impacts to the marine habitat and the local Marina aquifer.
- 3) Cal Am has not shown they have rights to Marina aquifer.
- 4) The proposed cost that Cal Am is several years old and once updated will be significantly higher making the cost of water on the Monterey Peninsula even higher that it is now. For example, my wife and I (both retired) use approximately 35 gallons of water per person per day (very low) and still pay almost \$80.00 per month now. If the project is approved our cost is likely to double.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Gunby
Pacific Grove

Sent from my iPad

From: [susan schiavone](#)
To: [Energy@Coastal](#)
Subject: Re: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 5:07:09 PM

Thanks so much!!!

On Monday, October 31, 2022 at 03:59:57 PM PDT, Energy@Coastal <eorfc@coastal.ca.gov> wrote:

Replaced. Thanks, Sumi.

From: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2022 4:45 PM
To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>; CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>; Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <noaki.schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>
Cc: susan schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: FW: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project

Hi Everyone,

Susan notified me she had some errors in her letter she sent. She has requested to replace the letter with the attached. Is that possible?

Thanks,
sumi

From: susan schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 6:49 PM
To: Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project

Sumi, thank you! - I found some errors in the letter and fixed them. Could this version be used instead? Thanks, if possible. If not able to switch it, I understand! Thank you for all your work on the project.

On Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 05:57:26 PM PDT, Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <sumi.selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Susan – thanks for sending. We will add it to the record.

Sumi

From: susan schiavone <s.schiavone@sbcglobal.net>

Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 7:27 AM

To: Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>

Cc: Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal <Noaki.Schwartz@coastal.ca.gov>; Selvaraj, Sumi@Coastal <Sumi.Selvaraj@coastal.ca.gov>; CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: Letter regarding Cal Am Desalination Project

Attached is my letter in opposition to the desalination plant proposed by Cal Am which will be considered by the Coastal Commission on November 17, 2022. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

From: [Linda Parise](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalination
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 5:03:27 PM

Dear Madam or Sir:

First of all I'm dubious this email will get to the Coastal Commission as it's addressed to Cal Am and they have a vested interest in keeping negative comments out.

Anyway, we do not want an increase in our water bills. We do not want this area to grow over the next 30 years.

We voted that we didn't want a desalination plant. Cal Am was suppose to be researching and procuring a different water source.

Thank you,
Linda Parise

From: [William Graessley](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny Cal Am's permit to build a desal plant
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 5:01:54 PM

Dear Coastal Commission,

I respectfully request that you deny Cal Am's permit to build a desal plant.

Why?

1. **Huge cost impact** which is especially hard for elderly on fixed income and the disadvantaged in our communities. The cost of \$400MM and likely to grow distributed over a relatively small number of users will result in huge rate increases. We don't need more debt and astronomical water rates.
2. **Environmental impacts** of construction, emissions from added power generation needed to operate the plant, salt water intake and discharge of concentration salt slurry.
3. **Energy demand** of desalination on an **already overtaxed power grid**. This can only contribute more to rolling brown outs.

I'm a local resident retired, on fixed income and a citizen concerned about impacts to our critical coastal environment and an overtaxed power distribution grid.

Pure Water Monterey phase 1 is complete and has demonstrated the technology. The planned expansion will reliably and sustainably meet the long term water demand of our Peninsula at a far lower cost and reduced environmental impact.

Please deny Cal Am's permit to build a desal plant!

Thank you,
William W. Graessley

From: [Colleen Devlin](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Urging Vote Against the DeSal Plant
Date: Monday, October 31, 2022 2:40:52 PM

We are residents of Monterey and are adding our voice in opposition to CalAm's proposed desalination project.

We are concerned about the energy usage for a desalination plant, and mostly for the adverse environmental impact on the ocean & it's wildlife.

Based on the success of the Pure Water Monterey Expansion project and the opportunity for even greater conservation of existing water supplies, we ask the Coastal Commission to deny this environmentally challenging project.

Sincerely,

Colleen Devlin and Richard Rosenthal
17 Spray Avenue, Monterey CA 93940

Sent from my iPhone

From: [June Henry](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 11:17:27 AM

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff

Giúp tôi

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Ayuda

帮助

ヘルプ

HELP!

Stop CalAm

JUST
WATER
CITIZENS FOR JUST WATER
citizensforjustwater.org



Our names are Dene and June Henry, we are retired and have lived in Monterey for more than five years, and walk Marina State Beach weekly with our dog. We were so happy see to the Cemex Plant being decommissioned after a hard fight to accomplish it. Now the desalination plant requires a renewed fight to stop the continued raping of the natural environment that we

and our earth needs.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you,
Dene & June Henry

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

From: [Kerry Smith](#)
To: CalAmMontareys@coastal
Cc: [Kerry Smith](#)
Subject: Dery CalAm Desalination Project
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 10:47:21 AM

Citizen-drawn rendition of what the Cal Am slant wells in Marina might look like.

**Cal Am has not provided
any illustrations or
elevations for the proposed
six well sites. The distance
between sites is most likely
greater, so this industrial
area will probably be larger
than this depiction.**

Public Access allowed on this side



Citizen-drawn rendition of what the Cal Am slant wells in Marina might look like... at night.

**Cal Am has not provided
any illustrations or
elevations for the proposed
six well sites. The distance
between sites is most likely
greater, so this industrial
area will probably be larger
than this depiction.**



Dear Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

My name is Kerry Smith and I have been a resident of Marina for 27 years. I am a retired graphic artist, and in lieu of speaking at the November 17 meeting in Salinas, I am writing to ask that you deny Cal Am's Slant Well project.

While I understand that others on the peninsula need more water, expansion of the Pure Water Monterey project will meet those needs. Why do we even need Cal Am's slant wells?

It is not right to take resources from Marina's aquifers to provide subsidized water to Castroville and pass that cost on to Peninsula water users. Also, our lovely beach, which our city negotiated to be returned and restored as open space once CEMEX closed, is now supposed to have industrial wells built on it instead? That is wrong.

Before writing this letter, I searched Cal Am's Final Environmental Report and saw no architectural rendering of what these six well sites will look like. Either Cal Am doesn't know or they don't want the community to be able to visualize this project.

So I used Photoshop to make my own visualization of what the six wells might look like, in the day and in the night. I have furnished these to you here, so that you may also consider what Marina's "restored dunes" might really look like.

If Cal Am protests that this is not what their project looks like, please have them furnish what they do plan. Also, have them present it to Marina residents so everyone will know the true extent of Cal Am's project and understand how much habitat and beauty will be forever lost from our dunes.

Sincerely,

Kerry Smith
Marina resident and concerned citizen

From: ghbabbitt02@comcast.net
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Big no on Cal Am
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:41:08 PM

Folks at the Coastal Commission –

There was a day that perhaps Cal Am would have/could have solved the Monterey County water challenges. They have had years. Decades.

At this point far better solutions have been proven, meanwhile Cal Am has gravely ruined its credibility by insulting us/you with an unacceptable delay and profit-driven persistence. Given there is no perfect answer -- I urge you to not approve Cal Am's desal permit. Pure Water has a far more reasonable and affordable solution.

Time to move on and accept desal is NOT the answer.

Thank you for your extensive time and effort on this issue.

Ginny

Ginny Babbitt
990 McClellan Ave.
Monterey

From: [Lynn Blair](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: deal plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:35:00 PM

As I watch my Cal/Am bill go up every month and see that more than 50% of it is going to fees, taxes, and a myriad of other things that appear to have nothing to do with water usage, I have to think this is not a good fix. I have done my part...I don't shower every day, full washing machine and dishwasher before I run. And there is very little left of my garden. The more we cut back, the more we are charged. And over \$400 million....NO. The water management program is far more sensible.

A very concerned citizen here for 50 years.

Lynn Blair
Carmel

From: [Ron Beck](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal am desal plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:29:56 PM

Please, review the numbers from pure water monterey. The CalAm Desal plant will take years to come online and cost so much that our already ridiculous water rates will go up even more. Please consider what the residents and non-profits want not the for profit alternative wants, a cute demonstration project.

Ron Beck
A monterey resident

From: [Betsey Skinner](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Abandon Desalination Project
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:21:25 PM

You're several days late and millions of dollars short. It is time to walk away from the desalination project.

Elizabeth Skinner

From: [tamara.g](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am desal plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:13:26 PM

Hello,

I am a Cal Am customer who lives in Seaside, California. We do not need the desal plant. Please don't approve it. The Pure Water Monterey project will provide plenty of water.

Cal Am charges too much for poor quality water already. As a corporation, their priority is profit.

We don't need the desal plant. Please don't approve it.

Thank you.

Tamara Goode

From: [Michael Grimmer](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Pure Water Monterey
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:12:57 PM

Dear Coastal Commission Members:

I would like to speak out in favor of Pure Water Monterey, with its PWM Expansion, as the only and preferred viable option forward. Pure Water Monterey has already demonstrated its ability to produce and deliver drinking water to the Monterey Peninsula.

CalAm, on the other hand, is planning a prestige desal project without clear and demonstrated impact to the ocean environment or energy demands. As a current CalAm water customer, I refuse to finance a project squarely aimed at raising stock prices and shareholders' dividends.

Michael Grimmer
1323 Shafter Ave
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

From: [Tom Post](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: desal plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:09:46 PM

as a cal am ratepayer, i am opposed to the construction of a desal plant on the peninsula: the monterey peninsula water management district has many times assured residents that the expansion of the monterey pure water project will be able to more than satisfy the needs of a growing population WITHOUT a desalination plant; and the expense of a desal plant—which would UNDOUBTEDLY exceed the estimated costs by many factors—would raise ratepayer costs many fold.

there is no need to waste millions and millions of dollars for a white elephant no one needs.

tom post
pebble beach, CA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Daniel Marrah](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Cal Am request
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:08:19 PM

Please deny Cal Am request.
Dan Marrah

From: [Roelof Wijbrandus](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Please deny Cal-Am's request for desal
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:07:22 PM

I have lived on the Peninsula and Seaside since 1977. Cal-Am has always shown it's about profits first, ratepayers last. I trust the figures from our public leaders that say we have a great and plentiful source of water with our recycling plant. No need for de-sal.

Roelof Wijbrandus
1495 Mescal St
Seaside, Ca 93955

Sent from my iPhone

From: shirmaine@shirmainejones.com on behalf of [Shirmaine Jones](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal; mwchrislock@redshift.com
Subject: Deny Cal Am's Desal Project, it is a money making venture for a for-profit corporation
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:07:22 PM

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desalination project. There is an environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for the next 30 years, even in drought

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal Am to stop over-drafting the Carmel River.

Also, it is bad public policy that water, as a crucial resource be owned and managed by a for-profit corporation! There are already violent conflicts throughout the world over access to clean and affordable water resources. Global warming will make those clashes more frequent, and desperate. That could happen right here, if we do not buy-out Cal Am and own our water as a community. Remember, only 11% of drinking water resources are privately owned in the United States. And all of those charge higher rates than publicly owned resources. Do the right thing: deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desalination project.

I also oppose the siting of these desalination slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion. It is an untested, first time technology that could be disastrous for the environment.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desalination projects, whether they are needed or not. He is wrong in the case of Cal Am's project in Marina!

Sincerely,
Shirmaine Jones
560 Madison Street
Monterey, CA 93940

From: [Andrew](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Re: Facts on Water Supply
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 3:04:37 PM

On Thu, Nov 3, 2022 at 2:35 PM MPWMD <outreach@mpwmd.net> wrote:





The Supply and Demand Forecast developed by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) confirms that the expansion of the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) project will deliver enough drinking water for new housing and economic growth on the Monterey Peninsula for the next 30 years. It will supply 2,250 acre-feet a year at a cost of \$59 million, minus several grants received and applied for, and will be completed two years from approvals.

But Cal Am still claims that the Peninsula also needs its proposed desal plant. It would produce 6,250 acre-feet of water a year and cost an estimated \$426 Million. That could raise ratepayer water bills by as much as 50%, if not more.



In September of this year, MPWMD updated its comprehensive [Water Supply & Demand Forecast](#) by gathering the data required to clearly understand current and future demand for water and the growth rate. It is based on the fully-vetted third-party Regional Growth Forecast developed by AMBAG (Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments).

A Surprising Discovery

With the completion of the PWM Expansion in two years, the total available water supply will be 11,468 acre-feet a year (see table above). The Peninsula only currently uses 9,725

acre-feet a year. Research using the AMBAG growth forecast revealed that demand by 2050 will be 10,668 acre-feet a year, which will still allow a valuable surplus for drought reserves and protective water levels.

So, if we have all the water we need for the next 30 years, why would Cal Am continue to insist on burdening the Peninsula with a \$426 million desal project that supplies us with over 6,000 acre-feet a year of very expensive water? As a for-profit company beholden to stakeholders, Cal Am's motives certainly come into question.

MPWMD, on the other hand, is a non-profit public agency focused on providing more affordable water for our community.

Choose Your Future

Please share your thoughts and concerns with the Coastal Commission before November 11. They are anxious to hear what ratepayers have to say. Do you believe they should approve or deny Cal Am's desal permit? Do you consider Pure Water Monterey a more affordable alternative? We've included some links to help inform you.

Send email to: CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov

LEARN MORE:

Water Supply & Demand Forecast

mpwmd.net

Pure Water Monterey

purewatermonterey.org

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

mpwmd.net

[View this email in your browser](#)

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5 Harris Court, Bldg G
Monterey, CA 93940

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From: [Daryl Jones](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: desal plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:55:49 PM

Hi. While it is possible we will need more water in the future, I don't think we need the desalination plant now. Besides the extra expense the plant would add to water consumers, I believe it could also be damaging to the environment. I know they can put screens on to keep fish from being sucked up, but they need to do something with all the salt they are extracting, and discharging that back into the ocean is toxic.

Regards,

Daryl Jones
740 Crocker Ave, Apt 12, Pacific Grove

From: [Susan Blich](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desalination project
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:53:59 PM

Please approve Cal Am's desal project. It is the only way Monterey County will be assured of an adequate water supply. Pure Water Monterey is drawing ground water in support of its project which is significantly contributing to sea water intrusion.

Susan Blich
Monterey

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deborah Blue](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: DO NOT APPROVE CAL AM's Desal Plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:50:08 PM

Please **DO NOT APPROVE** the Cal Am proposal for a desal plant that we don't need. CAL AM only has their best interest in mind and not the rate payers. MPWMD stepped up and provided a solution with the success of Pure Water Monterey (PWM) . This madness with CAL AM needs to stop and you have the power to do so. **Please DO NOT APPROVE** their proposal.

Deborah Blue

Long time resident on the Peninsula

From: [Chris Mack](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey calAm desal
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:48:35 PM

Dear coastal commissioners

At the moment, I feel we don't need the proposed CalAm desal plant for the Monterey Peninsula.

We have ample water through many sources.

When in the future, 20-30 years from now, we can revisit desal if needed.

Our water is expensive enough and CalAm is typical of private utilities which don't spend much on old infrastructure updates until some emergency dictates spending.

Thank you
Chris Mack

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dan LeSeure](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: No to CalAm desal plant
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:44:41 PM

The California American Water desalinization plant proposal is based on a dubious and unproven design. Indeed, CalAm has a long history of actions that don't mesh with good stewardship of our water supply but do produce extraordinarily high water rates. Please don't approve their desal permit.

--

Dan LeSeure
dleseure5@gmail.com
154 11th St, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

From: [Info](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Monterey resident
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:43:08 PM

Do you believe they should approve or deny Cal Am's desal permit? deny

Do you consider Pure Water Monterey a more affordable alternative? yes

We've included some links to help inform you.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathleen Catania](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal permit
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 2:38:05 PM

I do not agree with Cal Am and its need for the desal plant.
Please stop this project!!

--

Kathleen

From: peter@butterflygrove.com
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Desal Plant - yes
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 12:10:58 PM

I recently was given a “stop cal am’s desal plant” flyer at my house. I want to state that I fully support the plans for desalination for the Monterey peninsula and surrounding area. Desalination has been proven effective by other plants here in the US and around the world. As we have seen with the Colorado River, it is foolish to plan long-term on existing water supplies. Desalination, coupled with reclamation and effective water conservation systems and landscaping (not the silly construction water-credits system that does not address actual water use) is critical to the future sustainability of the Monterey area.

From: [Wayne E. Harlan](#)
To: CalAmMonterey@coastal
Subject: Deny Cal Am Desal Permit
Date: Thursday, November 03, 2022 11:31:27 AM

I want to highlight the excellent article by Dennis Taylor in today's Monterey Herald regarding the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award given to Pure Water Monterey by the ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) for their work on replenishing ground water aquifers with recycled water.

To my mind this represents a great deal of success in improving the supply of potable water for this area. We as a community need to solidly back this effort with focused legislation and funding. Since the Soquel Creek Water District has a similar effort, it makes sense to work together with other agencies to ensure timely success.

Now, while desalination will likely be needed in the future, it makes little sense at this time to allow a company whose forecast numbers and environmental impact are suspect. (This from the recent community forum on October 27, 2022)

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne E. Harlan
PhD-EE '73 University of Wisconsin, Madison
585 Bluffs Drive, Marina CA 93933
831-718-0062