

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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



**Th7a8a**

**Appeal A-3-MRA-19-0034  
(California American Water Co., Marina)  
&  
Coastal Permit 9-20-0603  
(California American Water Co., Monterey Co.)**

**NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

**CORRESPONDENCE  
Received Between 11/03/22 and 11/11/22  
From Interested Parties**

2107 San Vito Circle  
Monterey, CA 93940

November 1, 2022

California Coastal Commission  
725 Front Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: California American Water Application for Desalination Plant

Dear Commissioners:

Please approve the California American Water's application for a desalination plant.

Through the many years of drought and conservation, starting before the Monterey Peninsula Water Management Agency was formed to find a sustainable water source for the Peninsula (which they have not), the residents have suffered. Although the M1W proposal is a partial solution, it is not enough and there are issues related to source waters. This plant would help provide a new water source, as well as jobs and hope for community development.

Please give the Monterey Peninsula community the opportunity to have this plant as part of multiple solution options for our water needs. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Edie Lemon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Edie" and the last name "Lemon" clearly legible.

Edie Lemon



**From:** [Eessa Vanderspek](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 1:53:33 PM

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



My name is Eessa Vanderspek and I am a resident of Marina, California.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. This project does not benefit Marina residents in the slightest, destroys necessary dune habitat for endangered and threatened species, and is not as sustainable as alternatives such as [water recycling programs](#) that are already in place. Cal-Am's Desal Project does not have the support of the Marina community and it is atrocious to see how this company has been treating our community by forcing this project on us when we do have the resources of time and money that the rest of the peninsula has to show our stance on this issue. This project will contaminate Marina's only fresh water source and send water to the wealthier communities of the Monterey Peninsula without giving a drop of water back to our town.

Please deny this project. This desal project that Cal-Am proposes only harms our community.

Sincerely,

Eessa Vanderspek

**From:** [Audra Walton](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:57:24 PM

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

My name is Audra Walton. Marina is my twin sister. I was born at the hospital the day she was incorporated - and a few days later my parents brought me to my first home on Sunset Ave. Marina, CA. My parents met because both of my grandfathers (paternal =Black/African maternal = Polynesian/Samoan) were stationed at and later retired from the base formerly known as Fort Ord. My mother is an Army veteran. My ex-husband and I are both Air Force Veterans. I raised my children in Marina and my grandchildren will likely be born here - provided the Coastal Commission denies Cal-Ams proposed slantwell desal project. The proposed Cal-Am slant well desal project is too expensive, and will cause irreparable harm to Marina in the short run as well as harm to the Peninsula and Castroville in the long run.

I read that CalAms desal project is estimated to cost Monterey Peninsula ratepayers \$322 MILLION dollars. However, page after page the staff is reporting that the project will in fact cause irreparable harm to Marina, how the environment will be negatively impacted and the water will be much more expensive (except for Castroville ratepayers.) Staff reported that groundwater would in fact be extracted from Marina's basin but because the city of Castroville is technically still within the SVGWB, no worries. Castroville **needs** Marina's water to replenish its already saltwater intruded basin but does not have the water rights to that water - and, neither does Cal-AM. The staff report also explains how the potential for water intrusion exists and describes how our beaches and access will be affected by heavy equipment to facilitate monitoring of the groundwater.

With respect, what I especially don't understand is how the staff are saying that this desal is needed on top of the expanded pure water project because, "additional water supply will likely be needed at some point before 2050." BUT - if this project is built in 2025 and has a projected lifespan of only 20-25 years before needing to be moved - It doesn't seem like it would be worth the 322 MILLION dollar build-out. It doesn't seem worth tearing up our streets or disrupting traffic to lay pipes that won't service any of these communities for such a short length of time. It seems to me - this project should be put on the shelf until a better location can be found. Not moving forward with a staff recommendation of approval with conditions. Even if they are steep - Why not just deny it - and save our community the stress.

Please Deny the Cal-Am Desal Project.

From: [Anna Brigantino](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Cc: [Anna Brigantino](#)  
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
Date: Saturday, November 05, 2022 7:13:09 PM  
Attachments: [marina-state-beach-california-260nw-515345764.webp](#)

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To: California Coastal Commission  
From: Anna Brigantino, Marina resident

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

My name is Anna Brigantino. My partner and I have been **residents of Marina** for just over four years. I have a degree in Biological Science. I am from the Central Coast area originally but spent my working life living in Silicon Valley. When it came time to retire, I scoured Northern California for somewhere affordable. I feel so lucky to have found, in Marina, a beautiful new home for about half the cost of a home in the San Francisco Bay Area. Like most retired people, I rely on social security and my savings to get by. So even though I am luckier than most, I still **have to be watchful of my financial resources** to make sure they last as long as I hope to.

So it is very concerning to learn of the threat by Cal-Am to the affordable water we are provided here in Marina by our local, private water company. We here in Marina are very aware of the Peninsula's history with Cal-Am. Cal-Am disregards rules, mismanages water resources, and overcharges its customers. With a multi-billion dollar parent company based in New Jersey, what do they care about Marina or the Peninsula? They only care about the biggest of their customers and their stockholders--there is no concern about the current or future residents of our spectacularly beautiful area. And the plan they propose does not make any kind of scientific or common sense. Drawing water from our Aquifer area instead of from the open sea as a proper desal plant should, is such a poorly designed proposal it should be outlawed. **And what good does it do to help one area of Monterey Bay by hurting another community?**

The thought of extracting water from and potentially causing significant salt water intrusion to Marina's aquifer in order to provide that water to another city's customers--when this isn't even CalAm's water jurisdiction-- is so infuriating that I can't express my feelings in words except to say f@#!!!\*\*\*! **Damaging what little decent water we have is truly criminal and will hurt all the Peninsula communities, not just Marina.**

**We love** the small-town feel of **Marina**. The downtown may not be fancy, but is functional, fun and friendly. Where else can you go to the town's local Farmer's Market and rub elbows with the mayor and council people--all of whom are volunteers, I might add!! Marina is a sweet, friendly little town where residents make a big effort to help each other--especially when it comes to food insecurity. But Marina is also fun and oh, so beautiful. There is nothing prettier than the dunes when the buckwheat blooms creating a sea of pink. We regularly see whales and dolphins within a football field from the shore. I don't know of any shoreline in the state which

is so absent of man-made structures. It is inspiring to look from Marina State Dunes all the way to Del Monte Beach in Monterey and know you can walk almost all the way there along the beach. And along the way, you can be sure you will see some beautiful birds, unique vegetation and a few other like-minded humans who respect nature.

Don't ruin our dunes!! Don't ruin our beach!! Don't ruin our drinking water!! Don't ruin our town!! Don't ruin our lives. Do the right thing and say no to the CalAm desal project. Say No to bad science and corruption. **Wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it. Right is right even if no one is doing it.** Stand up for a small, struggling city that needs your help!! **Please deny the Cal-Am project that will do such harm to my town of Marina.** Thank you so much!!!

**From:** [Anna Brigantino](#)  
**To:** [Energy@Coastal](mailto: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:** Friday, November 11, 2022 10:12:44 AM  
**Attachments:** [239002-Fort-Ord-Dunes-State-Park.webp](#)  
[cemex photo.webp](#)  
[marina-state-beach-california-260nw-515345764.webp](#)

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My name is Anna Brigantino. I am a resident of Marina.

The current Cemex sand mining site and proposed Cal-Am desal site is the first glimpse of Monterey Bay that travelers see when approaching Hwy 1 from the east. It is the gateway to the Monterey Peninsula, undoubtedly one of the most beautiful and visited coastlines of the world.

Just to the north of the Cemex site the Salinas River enters into Monterey Bay at the Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge. Just to the south of the Cemex site are the beautiful and rare Florian Dunes of the Marina Dunes Preserve and Marina State Beach home to threatened and endangered plant and animal species. Continuing south is Sanctuary Beach and Fort Ord Dunes State Park—all beautiful and home to unique wildlife like the Smith's Blue butterfly and Western Snowy Plover. These are also places to fish, hike, or watch dolphins and whales from shore.

Also in Marina is the western entrance to Fort Ord National Monument, more than 14,000 acres of open space and a link between the Salinas Valley and the sea. In summary:

1. Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge
2. *Cemex site and gateway to the Monterey Peninsula (designated for future open space, but now threatened by Cal-Am's 35 acre industrial complex.)*
3. Marina Dunes Preserve and Marina State Beach
4. Sanctuary Beach
5. Fort Ord Dunes State Park
6. Fort Ord Dunes National Monument

There is only one choice here. Deny the Cal-Am Desal Project. Besides being technically flawed, an industrial complex does not belong adjacent to preserves, sanctuaries and state parks.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows




0 5  
MILES

**Cemex Lapis  
sand mine site**







Salinas River

An aerial photograph of a coastal region. The Salinas River flows from the top left towards the center. A large, irregularly shaped dredge pond is located in the lower left, filled with blue water. To the right of the pond is a large, brownish, sandy area labeled as the CEMEX Sand Mining Plant. Further right, a road labeled Hwy 1 runs along the coastline. At the bottom right, the waves of Marina State Beach are visible, breaking onto a sandy shore.

Hwy 1

CEMEX Sand Mining Plant

Dredge  
Pond

Marina State Beach











**From:** [Richard Ryon](#)  
**To:** [Energy@Coastal](mailto:Energy@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Monterey Area Water Supply  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:46:12 PM

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Water conservation and use of treated sewer water for irrigation all help extend our area's limited water supply. However, careful use and reuse is not adequate to meet current, let alone future, needs for drinkable water. There is an unlimited water supply just offshore in the ocean. It just needs to have the salt removed! The best method of desalinization is the 60-year-old technology of reverse osmosis. It is intolerable that this project is caught in a squabble between two State agencies (Water Quality Control Board (desist using the Carmel River) and the Coastal Commission (not on our turf!)). The project has an approved Environmental Impact Report. The slant-well ocean supply idea has been tested and passed with flying colors. Our area must get on with this project!

Reverse osmosis is the current best option for desalinization. The technology is tried and true. It is also expensive due to power consumption to force water through membranes. The local agencies should press the State to invest in newer technologies — money well spent in a State that was never designed by nature to sustain 40 million people. However, our area cannot wait for new and better technology. Our need is current, not in the future. While looking ahead to the future, we must use what is now available. Let's get on with the desalinization project!

Sincerely,  
Richard Ryon <[dickryon@comcast.net](mailto:dickryon@comcast.net)>  
2873 Coyote Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953

November 10, 2022

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

Re: Cal Am Monterey Desalination Project – Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Chair Brownsey, Commissioners and Staff:

There should be alarm bells going off at the Coastal Commission. This project is a threat to the integrity of the Coastal Act. The project is not appropriate, nor needed at this time and not in the public interest. As a lower income ratepayer in Seaside, I am especially concerned how this project will affect my water rates and ability to continue to live here. There needs to be an analysis of just what this means.

It is simply not just or even good business practice not to be told what the financial costs would be regarding this project. How can a project be reviewed and approved if it cannot forecast what the actual costs will be and how it will affect rates. The staff admits to the seriousness of the possible effects, but there is no real mitigation possible for the extreme environmental justice issues raised by this project for both Marina, Seaside and other lower income ratepayers.

All of Cal Am's supposed remedies for rates fall only to a small portion of the population. That leaves thousands of lower middle-class and struggling ratepayers who do not fit into a 200% of poverty level status abandoned to the most extreme water rates. We will also be subsidizing Castroville and crop watering to the tune of nearly \$8,000\* an acre foot. Cal Am is not revealing the true costs to ratepayers for this project. (\*Recent estimate from MPWMD)

Though staff stated this issue in a general way, staff did not closely analyze the actual current and future rate increases for Cal Am ratepayers prior to the project being built. In other words, *the true base rate* upon which Cal Am will add a very large increase. Cal Am offers none of this and does not even estimate what the total cost to build the project is going to be.

Let's do the math! I have taken on this task in regard to rates in order to make a fair estimate of what the rates might be that include rate hikes already approved or to be approved and added to current rates.

Below I am going to go through two scenarios – one with Cal Am's supposed average monthly bill (which their staff presented at recent public outreach meetings, which were poorly attended). Another will use the percentages and usage from the CPUC Public Advocates Office, which recently provided an estimate based on their projections. In either case, lower income ratepayers will be unduly burdened by this project, aside from the false statements Cal Am makes.

From the Coastal Commission Staff Report: “According to the proposal Cal-Am states the average single-family customer in the Monterey service area will have a monthly rate increase of approximately \$47 to \$50 due to Project construction and operation costs once the Project is put into service. This cost increase will occur in addition to any other general rate case increases or surcharges that Cal-Am already has applied for or received approval from the CPUC...”

What is this based upon? Cal Am, in its own recent workshops, provided a display board with \$104 as the ‘average’ current bill. Therefore, in their estimation, bills would rise to between \$151 to 154 at a 50% increase? This is impossible since it does not address several rate hikes that will occur before the plant is built.

The CPUC’s own Public Advocacy Office (PAO) has recently estimated this increase to be between 65 to 70%, above the rate base for 2026.

The CPUC Public Advocate Office (PAO) has told Public Water Now’s inquiry that common usage for California is 7,200 gallons a month and that the Peninsula’s common usage is 5,000 to 6,000 gallons, using 5,500 gallons as the typical bill for \$150. Cal Am’s “average” bill of \$104 for 3,480 gallons is not typical usage because it includes all the second homes on the Peninsula that sit empty and use no water

Cal Am ratepayers are in the middle of a three-year rate increase phase that has the final increase in 2023. After that, there is another three-year rate increase in the works, in addition to a Cost of Capital increase requested this year.

In March 2022, Cal Am requested a 3.18% Cost of Capital increase for 2023. For the sake of this ‘average bill of \$104’ which is questionable, let’s add that 3.18% for this coming year 2023, likely to be approved, for a total bill of \$107.30.

In 2019, Cal Am applied and got a three-year rate increase and we are in year 2. So, in 2023, another 3.33% will be added, bringing the total average to \$110.87 next year (again, using their low estimate).

In July 2022, Cal Am filed General Rate Case A.2.07.001 with the CPUC requesting a three-year increase of revenues for water service in for the central division that includes peninsula cities for residential ratepayers with 5.48% in 2024; 2.44% in year 2025, and 3.41% in year 2026

Given they will in all likelihood receive their usual three-year rate increase, a compounded rate will be applied, floated over three years, and each subsequent increase is added upon the other, increasing the overall amount.

Here is how it lines up for additional rate increases using Cal Am's "average bill"

Cal Am's "average bill" now	\$104.00
2022 Cost of Capital 3.18%	107.30
2023 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of cycle 3.33%	110.87
2024 1 <sup>st</sup> year new cycle 5.48%	117.05
2025 2 <sup>nd</sup> year 2.44%	119.90
2026 3 <sup>rd</sup> year 3.41%	123.99

**Using Cal Am's underestimated average bill, \$123.99 or \$124 will be the base rate prior to plant construction and operation.**

**Using the CPUC Public Advocate Office (PAO) common usage—** The PAO states common usage is 5,500 gallons a month for the Monterey peninsula area, with the average bill \$150. (This conforms to my family usage which is just under that amount and fee. Paying this amount for water on a fixed income is a struggle.)

This is how the rates increase using the common usage rate:

Common Usage Rate	\$150.00
2022 Cost of Capital 3.18%	154.70
2023 3 <sup>rd</sup> yr. cycle 3.33%	159.80
2024 1 <sup>st</sup> yr. new cycle 5.48%	168.56
2025 2 <sup>nd</sup> yr. 2.44%	172.67
2026 3 <sup>rd</sup> yr 3.41%	178.56

**Using the PAO baseline of \$150, the common use base rate prior to the desalination project is \$178.56.**

The possible cost once the desalination project starts delivering water would be

**Cal Am's underestimated rate: If, as stated, it is \$47-50, the total is \$171-174 per month. If a 50% increase is applied, the new "average" would be \$186 per month.**

**CPUC Pubic Advocate Office estimate of 65-70% with common usage: Rates would total 294.62 to \$303.55 per month.**

These are outrageous increases in rates. For comparison, the current rate for Castroville, as noted in the staff report, is \$42.50 a month, usage level unknown; California Water for Salinas at 5,236 gallons a month is \$40.57; Seaside Municipal Water District is higher at \$113.87, but will not be affected by Cal Am rate increases.)



## DISADVANTAGED RATEPAYERS PROGRAM

Cal Am tells the Commission it “commits to the goal of completely offsetting cost impacts from the desalination facility to low-income customers.” By this definition, they only address those ratepayers who make 200% of the poverty level or less. The following is from the Staff Report.

- *First, Cal-Am would offer to all ratepayers enrolled in its Customer Assistance Program free installation of low-flow fixtures (sink and bathtub faucets, showerheads, and toilets) that met state efficiency standards.*

This is a non-starter since the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and Cal Am already offer free fixtures, and rebates for toilets, washers, laundry to landscape watering, drip irrigation and more. ([Residential Rebates | Monterey Peninsula Water Management District \(mpwmd.net\)](https://www.mpwmd.net))

- *Second, Cal-Am would take steps to ensure that any ratepayers enrolled in that Program, once deliveries of desalinated water from the Project begin, would have a rate increase of no more than \$10 per month for water provided by the Project for at least five years after those deliveries begin.*

On page 103 of the Staff report, a staff chart shows the number of those who are 200% of the poverty level in all cities and within Cal Am’s service area, with a total for the Monterey Peninsula service area of 18,050 at 200% of the poverty level.

Cal Am touts that “as of September 2022, 3,700 customer accounts were enrolled in the Customer Assistance program in the Monterey service area. It is highly doubtful that the company would seek out and register anywhere near 18,050 eligible customers.

Those enrolled in the program get a 30% discount on monthly water bills. To be eligible, customers need to either already participate in public assistance or meet maximum income guidelines. Cal Am states on their MPWSP site they are proposing to the CPUC a discount of 35%, not 50%, as mentioned in their Coastal Commission presentation. All of this is simply conjecture at this time because they need CPUC approval on any rate change.

- *Cal-Am will increase its contribution of up to \$500,000 to the United Way Monterey’s Hardship Benefit Program, which helps customers with impending water-shut offs, and that it would increase outreach to inform customers about the federal LIWAHP.*

Again, eligibility is based on 200% of the poverty level, leaving out anyone who makes more than that level, and the program only serves a small portion of eligible ratepayers.

- *Cal-Am will also seek approval from the CPUC for one or more of seven different proposals to achieve this goal of offsetting cost impacts to low-income customers. These proposals range from expanding participation to and increasing the Customer Assistance Program or CAP discount from 30% to 50%, to expanding existing programs*

to multi-family residences to eliminating bill impacts related to the cost of the proposed desalination facility.

This is pure conjecture. Cal Am has to have CPUC approval for all rate related issues. There is no way that they will eliminate bill impacts related to the cost of the desalination facility for more than a few customers for five years only. What happens after five years? Also, they will pass any costs for this assistance on to the rest of the ratepayers as this is a line item on Cal Am's monthly bill.

Staff rightly points out:

In regard to "Cal-Am's LIWAHP or CAP programs...using an average household of three, state income limits set by Housing and Community Development (HCD) in 2022, identifies low-income households with a median household income of below \$81,900 and very low-income households with a median income below \$51,200 in Monterey County. The LIHWAP threshold for a household of three, however, is a monthly max income of \$4,143 or \$49,719 per year, which means there are households experiencing housing or rent burden that may not benefit from the program. Similarly, Cal-Am's CAP program income guidelines identifies that a household of three must have a total combined income of \$46,060 to meet eligibility requirements."

<https://www.amwater.com/caaw/Customer-Service-Billing/customer-assistance-pr>

Before the desalination project begins, the 2026 base rate will be roughly \$124 by Cal Am's low-ball number and \$178.56 by CPUC Public Advocate Office (PAO) numbers.

Even with a 30% discount, disadvantaged ratepayers with incomes at 200% of the poverty rate or below would still be paying a base rate of \$86.80 by Cal Am accounts; and \$125 if we use the PAO values. Add the \$10 increase and the rate is \$96.80 or \$135, still extremely high for 200% of poverty ratepayers. The more accurate number here, based on CPUC PAO estimates, is \$135.04. This will be the five year deal.

While this rate evaluation is inclusive of planned rate increases, actual increases may be even more due to inflation and the higher construction costs and actual costs for production of water once the system is operating. Cal Am isn't telling you how much it will cost and what the real effect will be. Even in their presentation comparing the project to the recently approved Doheny project, they compare "apples to oranges". Doheny will raise ALL ratepayers' rates by just \$2-15, where Cal Am is only talking about reduced rates for a certain number of extremely low-income residents, and much higher increases.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion *is* a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Monterey Peninsula Water Management and the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports were not included in the Staff Report. These studies were prepared by our local public water agencies. They both show the Expansion will provide sufficient water for 30 years, even with drought.



As a lower middle class senior living on the peninsula, it is a struggle daily to meet living needs on a fixed monthly income. According to the State HCD, we are low income. My husband and I have buckets at all faucets to capture cold water; we collect rainwater in several collection tanks, we don't shower daily, and we water as directed twice a week. Paying possibly up to \$303.67 for water service on top of paying for wastewater services, and garbage, food, phone, gas, electricity, mortgage, etc. (we have no cable tv!) would be disastrous.

Monterey County has been my home, primarily on the peninsula, for 46 years. My husband and I have worked in nonprofit organizations serving the disadvantaged, in public service and in social work. We worked to help our communities. Now in our seventies, we had hoped to modestly spend our last years enjoying this area. The Monterey Peninsula has higher rates for nearly everything from groceries to gas, to any services such as plumbing or electricians, because they cue their fees to the very rich and tourist exploitation. If this project is approved, I can only say that the message to all of us living here who are lower income is to endure a descent into poverty or get out. Approving this project does nothing less than hobble the ability of lower income residents and seniors to live near the coast, contributes to gentrification and a two-class system of wealthy residents with a poverty class for servant jobs. This project has driven the communities here apart. This should not be allowed. It is an egregious case of environmental injustice. I hope you will vote to support the Coastal Act and deny this project.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Schiavone, Seaside

Attachments: Cal Am Notifications for rate increases and Cost of Capital; rate information for California Water-Salinas, and Seaside Municipal Water rates

# **NOTICE OF PUBLIC FORUM (Public Participation Hearing)**

## **California-American Water Company's (California American Water)**

### **Request to Increase its Cost of Capital**

#### **APPLICATION 21-05-001**

#### **How can I participate?**

California American Water and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) would like to hear from you. You are invited to participate in a Public Forum, also called a Public Participation Hearing (PPH), about California American Water's request to increase its cost of capital.

This Public Forum is part of a formal proceeding that will be documented and placed into the formal record so the CPUC can make a decision about California American Water's request. You can make comments and raise concerns to the CPUC Administrative Law Judge overseeing this application.

You can also provide written public comments at any time during the proceeding at [apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2105001](https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2105001). Here you can also view documents and other public comments related to this proceeding.

#### **Where and when will this Virtual Public Forum be held?**

**Tuesday, March 15, 2022**

**6 p.m.**

**Phone Number: 1-800-857-1917, Pass Code: 1673482#**

**Webcast: [www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/](http://www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/)**

The Public Forum can be viewed via internet, or listened to via phone, with the information above. If you wish to make a public comment, please participate by phone using the phone number and pass code above and **pressing \*1**. Your participation by providing your thoughts on California American Water's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

Please note: if you need a language interpreter, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office using the contact information at the end of this notice at least five business days before the Public Forum.

#### **Why am I receiving this notice?**

On May 1, 2021, California American Water filed its Cost of Capital application, A.21-05-001, with the CPUC. In the application, California American Water is requesting an increase to its cost of capital, which is the rate of return the company is authorized to earn on its investments in critical infrastructure to deliver safe and reliable water and/or wastewater service. If approved by the CPUC, California American Water's total revenue requirement will increase by 2.61 percent or \$7,305,000 annually.

If the CPUC approves this application, California American Water will recover forecasted costs in rates over a three-year period effective January 1, 2022. This will impact your bill.

#### **Why is California American Water requesting this increase to its cost of capital?**

- Every three years California American Water is required to file a Cost of Capital application with the CPUC.
- The Cost of Capital application determines the cost of financing infrastructure and determines the allowed return on equity and debt. It also determines the amount of equity and debt used by California American Water.
- California American Water is requesting an increased rate of return on its financing to attract investment in infrastructure used to provide safe, reliable water and wastewater service to its customers.

#### **How could this affect my water bill?**

If California American Water's proposed Cost of Capital application is approved by the CPUC, the typical bill impacts by customer class are outlined in the following tables for customers in the Central Division.

<b>AUTHORIZED REVENUE INCREASE</b>		
	<b>AMOUNT (\$1,000)</b>	<b>%</b>
CENTRAL DIVISION	\$2.401	3.18%



<b>MONTEREY MAIN TARIFF AREA</b> <b>(Including service areas in cities of Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Rey Oaks, Sand City, Seaside, Hidden Hills and Ryan Ranch subdivisions, Bishop subdivision and certain unincorporated areas in the County of Monterey)</b>						
<b>CUSTOMER CLASS</b>	<b>Typical Meter Size (Inches)</b>	<b>Average Monthly Usage (CGL)</b>	<b>2022 Projected Bill at Current Cost of Capital</b>	<b>\$ Increase</b>	<b>2022 Projected Bill at Proposed Cost of Capital</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Single Family Residential	5/8 x 3/4"	38.44	\$116.28	\$3.69	\$119.97	3.18%
Multifamily Residential	5/8 x 3/4"	184.00	\$970.18	\$30.80	\$1,000.98	3.18%
Non-Residential - Division 1	1"	194.00	\$631.63	\$20.05	\$651.68	3.18%
Non-Residential - Division 2	1"	194.00	\$687.02	\$21.81	\$708.83	3.18%
Non-Residential - Division 3	1"	194.00	\$742.40	\$23.57	\$765.98	3.18%
Non-Residential - Division 4	1"	194.00	\$1,296.37	\$41.16	\$1,337.53	3.18%
<b>CENTRAL SATELLITES TARIFF AREA</b> <b>(Including service areas in Ambler, Toro, Ralph Lane, and Garrapata)</b>						
<b>CUSTOMER CLASS</b>	<b>Typical Meter Size (Inches)</b>	<b>Average Monthly Usage (CGL)</b>	<b>2022 Projected Bill at Current Cost of Capital</b>	<b>\$ Increase</b>	<b>2022 Projected Bill at Proposed Cost of Capital</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Residential	5/8 x 3/4"	92.26	\$123.57	\$3.92	\$127.50	3.18%
Commercial	2"	503.69	\$866.75	\$27.52	\$894.27	3.18%
Public Authority	2"	413.92	\$734.97	\$23.34	\$758.31	3.18%
<b>CHUALAR TARIFF AREA</b>						
<b>CUSTOMER CLASS</b>	<b>Typical Meter Size (Inches)</b>	<b>Average Monthly Usage (CGL)</b>	<b>2022 Projected Bill at Current Cost of Capital</b>	<b>\$ Increase</b>	<b>2022 Projected Bill at Proposed Cost of Capital</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
Residential	5/8 x 3/4"	146.74	\$43.79	\$0	\$43.79	0.00%
Commercial	1"	82.91	\$36.93	\$0	\$36.93	0.00%
Public Authority	2"	581.22	\$74.40	\$0	\$74.40	0.00%

#### How does the rest of this process work?

This application has been assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt California American Water's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding will review California American Water's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information, please call **1-415-703-1584**, email **PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov**, or visit **PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov**.

#### Where can I get more information?

##### Contact California American Water

Phone: **1-888-237-1333**

Email: [cawc.customeradvocacy@amwater.com](mailto:cawc.customeradvocacy@amwater.com)

Mail: California American Water  
4701 Beloit Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95838

A copy of the Application and any related documents may also be reviewed at [amwater.com/rate\\_app](http://amwater.com/rate_app).

#### Contact CPUC

If you have questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at:

Phone: 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free) or 1-415-703-2074

Email: [Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov)

Mail: CPUC Public Advisor's Office  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Please reference **Application 21-05-001** in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.



# NOTICE OF APPLICATION

## California-American Water Company's Request to Increase Water Rates in its Central Division

### APPLICATION 22-07-001

#### Why am I receiving this notice?

On July 1, 2022, California-American Water Company (California American Water) filed its General Rate Case A.22-07-001 with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The application is requesting an increase of revenues for water service in its Central Division by \$12,923,200 or 14.93% in the year 2024, by \$2,424,300 or 2.44% in the year 2025, and by \$3,475,500 or 3.41% in the year 2026.

If the CPUC approves this application, California American Water will recover forecasted costs in rates over a 3-year period beginning January 1, 2024. This will impact your bill.

#### Why is California American Water requesting this rate increase?

Every three years California American Water is required to file an application with the CPUC detailing its infrastructure improvement plans and operations and maintenance needs. In this rate case we are requesting the following increases for 2024:

- \$5.8 million in funding for infrastructure improvements
- \$0.7 million to consolidate small water systems with California American Water
- \$1.7 million for staffing
- \$1.8 million in inflationary increases
- \$2.4 million in operating and administrative expenses

#### Customer Impact

California American Water's revenue proposals for the Central Division are shown by customer class in the chart below.

CENTRAL DIVISION-PROPOSED REVENUE INCREASE (INCLUDES SERVICE AREAS IN MONTEREY, PACIFIC GROVE, CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA, DEL REY OAKS, SAND CITY, SEASIDE, HIDDEN HILLS, RYAN RANCH, BISHOP, TORO, MONTEREY COUNTY, AMBLER PARK, OAKS, RIM ROCK, RANCHO EL TORO COUNTRY CLUB, CHUALAR, RALPH LANE AND GARRAPATA)							
	2024		2025		2026		
CUSTOMER CLASS	\$ Increase	% Increase	\$ Increase	% Increase	\$ Increase	% Increase	Total \$ Increase
Residential	\$2,221,514	4.82%	\$1,211,958	2.51%	\$1,688,591	3.41%	\$5,122,063
Multiresidential	\$1,346,782	16.43%	\$214,201	2.24%	\$332,714	3.41%	\$1,893,697
Commercial	\$6,646,380	26.63%	\$761,073	2.41%	\$1,103,814	3.41%	\$8,511,267
Industrial	\$37,734	28.13%	\$4,055	2.36%	\$5,999	3.41%	\$47,788
Public Authority	\$2,393,269	49.13%	\$178,546	2.46%	\$253,799	3.41%	\$2,825,614
Sales for Resale	(\$13,803)	-20.10%	\$1,466	2.67%	\$1,921	3.41%	(\$10,416)
Construction	(\$80,026)	-17.79%	\$9,330	2.52%	\$12,929	3.41%	(\$57,767)
Residential Fire Protection Service	\$347,936	43.66%	\$30,937	2.70%	\$40,112	3.41%	\$418,985
Private Fire Protection Service	\$8,787	1.13%	\$0	0.00%	\$26,928	3.41%	\$35,715
Total	\$12,911,135		\$2,412,004		\$3,467,002		\$18,790,141

If California American Water's General Rate Case is approved, a typical residential customer's monthly water bills (with a 5/8-inch meter size) would resemble those below and on the reverse. **Rate impacts may vary due to pending proposed changes in rate design. Amounts shown include fees, taxes, and surcharges.**

MONTEREY MAIN DISTRICT AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL BILL						
Year	Meter Size	Average Use (CGL) <sup>1</sup>	Current Bill <sup>2</sup>	\$ Increase	Proposed Bill	% Increase
2024	5/8-inch	34.83	\$102.60	\$5.62	\$108.21	5.48%
2025	5/8-inch	34.83	\$108.21	\$2.64	\$110.85	2.44%
2026	5/8-inch	34.83	\$110.85	\$3.78	\$114.63	3.41%



**CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY**

1720 North First Street  
 San Jose, CA 95112  
 (408) 367-8200

This tariff has been approved by the California  
 Public Utilities Commission and is effective 1/1/2022.

Revised Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 12715-W  
 Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 12429-W

**Schedule No. SVR-1-R**  
**Salinas Valley Region Tariff Area**  
**RESIDENTIAL METERED SERVICE**

Page 1

Note: On January 1, 2017, the rates of the King City District and the Salinas District were consolidated into a ratemaking area called the "Monterey Region." In 2020, the name of the area was changed to the "Salinas Valley Region."

**APPLICABILITY**

Applicable to all metered water service provided to single-family residential customers.

**TERRITORY**

Salinas Service Area:

Salinas and vicinity, Monterey County, including the Bolsa Knolls, Las Lomas, Oak Hills and the Buena Vista service area.

King City Service Area:

King City and vicinity, Monterey County.

*Handwritten:* 21.28  
 \$ 40.57 + 19.29 = 59.86

**RATES**

1 CCF is 100 cubic feet (748 gallons)

*Handwritten:* 7 CCF = 5,236 gallons

Quantity Rates:

✓ For 1 - 7 CCF, per CCF	\$3.0405	(I)
For 8 to 14 CCF, per CCF	\$3.8007	
For over 14 CCF, per CCF	\$5.7011	(I)

Service Charge:

		<u>Per Meter Per Month</u>	
✓ For	5/8 x 3/4 - inch meter	\$19.29	(I) ✓
For	3/4 - inch meter	\$28.94	
For	Fire Sprinkler with 1 - inch meter	\$20.25	
For	1 - inch meter	\$48.23	
For	1-1/2 - inch meter	\$96.45	
For	Fire Sprinkler with 2 - inch meter	\$24.31	
For	2 - inch meter	\$154.32	
For	3 - inch meter	\$289.35	
For	4 - inch meter	\$482.25	
For	6 - inch meter	\$964.50	
For	8 - inch meter	\$1,543.20	
For	10 - inch meter	\$2,218.35	
For	12 - inch meter	\$3,182.85	
For	14 - inch meter	\$4,340.25	(I)

The service charge is a readiness-to-serve charge which is applicable to all metered service and to which is added the charge for water used computed at the quantity rates.

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)	Issued By	(To be inserted by CPUC)
Advice Letter <u>2433</u>	<u>Greg A. Milleman</u>	Date Filed <u>11/15/2021</u>
Decision	<u>Vice President</u>	Effective <u>01/01/2022</u>
		Resolution _____

# Seaside Municipal

## Current Water Rates as of 1/1/2022

Base Rate Meter Charges	
Meter Size	\$ / month
¾" or less	\$39.67
1"	\$66.12
1.5"	\$132.24
2"	\$211.59
3"	\$396.73
4"	\$661.21
6"	\$1,322.42

$$\begin{array}{r}
 39.67 \\
 + \quad 74.20 \\
 \hline
 113.87
 \end{array}
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 \begin{array}{l}
 70cf (5,236 \text{ gallons}) \\
 \text{at } \$10.60
 \end{array}$$

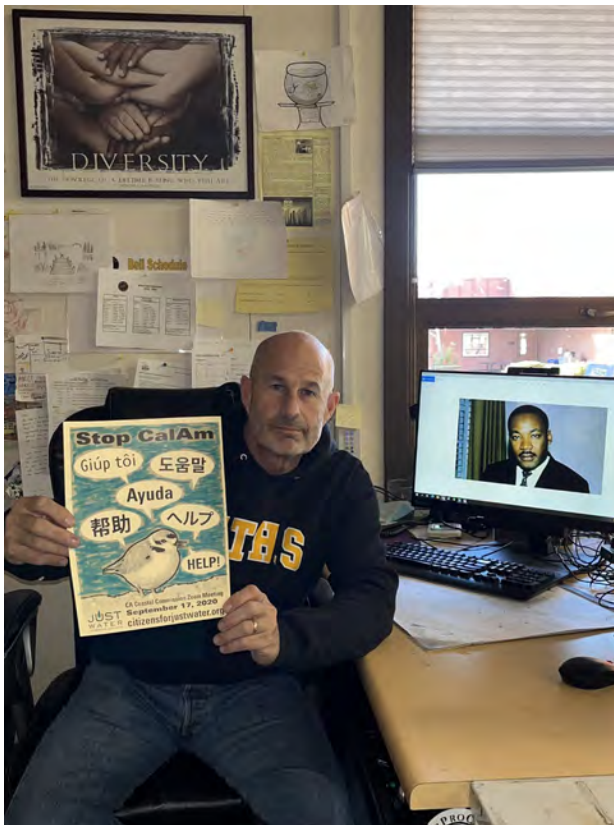
Monthly Consumption Charges					
Residential			School #1 (per student)		
Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf	Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf
0 - 49	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60	0 - 5.714	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60
49 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60	5.714 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60
School #2 (per student)			School #3 (per student)		
Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf	Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf
0 - 5.864	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60	0 - 5.357	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60
5.864 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60	5.357 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60
Multi-family #1 (per meter)			Multi-family #2 (per meter)		
Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf	Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf
0 - 8,165	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60	0 - 2,067	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60
8,165 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60	2,067 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60
Church #1			Church #2		
Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf	Consumption (tcf)	\$/tcf	\$/ccf
0 - 262	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60	0 - 49	\$ 1.06	\$ 10.60
262 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60	49 +	\$ 1.76	\$ 17.60

**From:** [Barry Covington](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 5:02:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

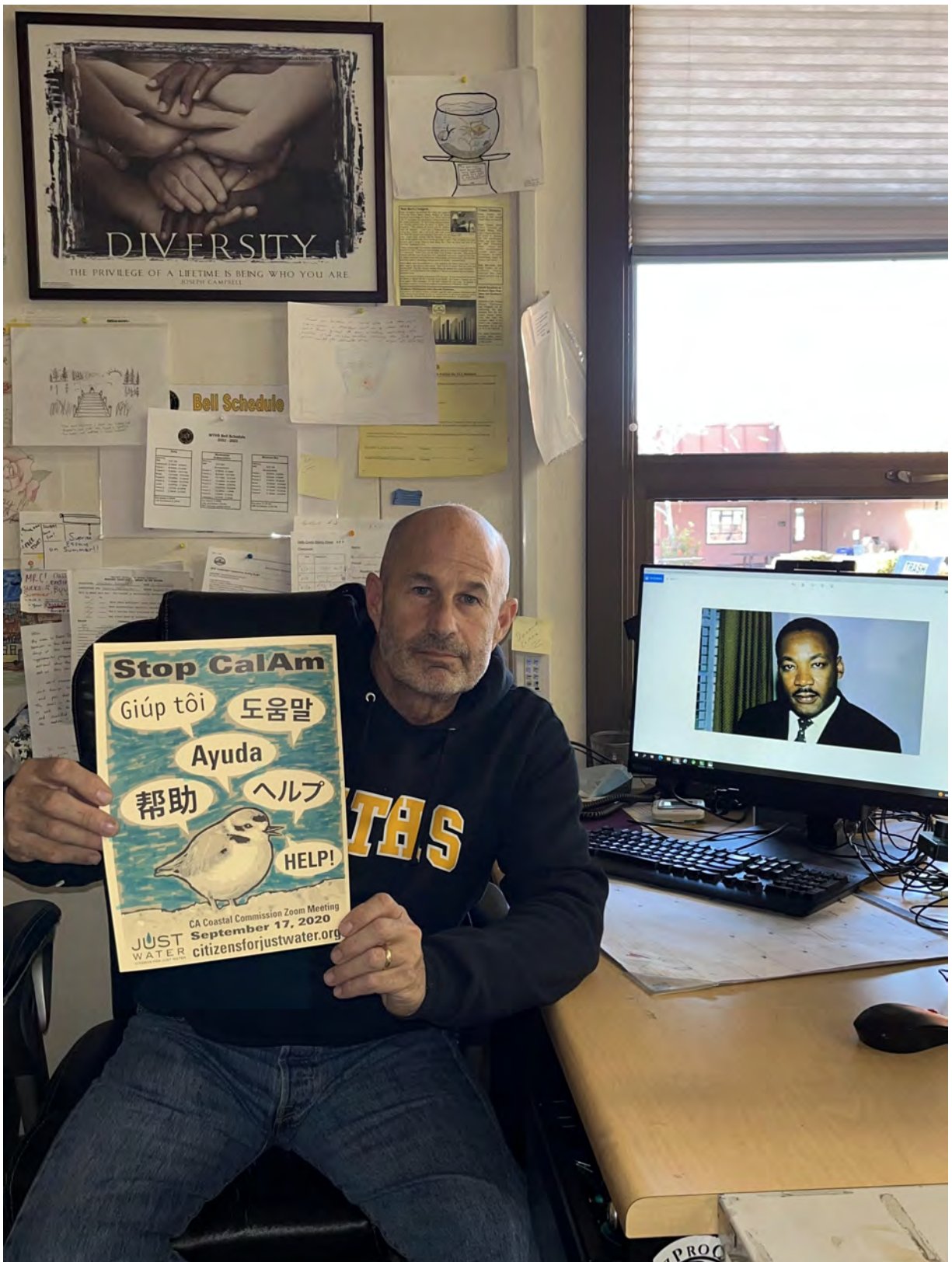
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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:

I have been a home-owner in Marina for over twelve years. I am a local public school teacher, and my wife teaches at Santa Catalina High School in Monterey. My son graduated from Salinas High. Our family is ready to fight the good fight for Marina's water rights and to stop the illogical and unethical steal of our city's water.







We have taken many long walks on that stretch of Marina's beach now under threat. The time spent there has helped us all in our stressful lives as teachers and student. Who can say how much of that time spent there has also benefited countless students in our county, including our own who recently graduated from Cal, Berkeley



and is now working in his field of computer science in Washington D.C.?

I have fished the shoreline in front of the former sand plant for years—and can comment directly on my personal interaction with nature at this pristine site. I have literally spent hours upon hours, adding up to months and months of time, spent on the sand and in the waves. I am absolutely dismayed with the state and local officials I have voted for who are not representing me or my family's interests--nor the fauna and flora we are blessed to be able to observe and be a part of.



As an American, I am seeing firsthand what so many other Americans experience these days: Big money pushing its weight around. I have followed the issue, but never thought things would come to this. We are incredulous, dismayed, and yes... *furious* this is happening. As a high school English Literature instructor, I am often called up to cover Thoreau's *Walden and on Civil Disobedience* in my classroom. I wish I could sound more polite in this letter to you all: Quite frankly, I feel the need to be "disobedient."

Yes, I am willing to go to jail for what is right here. I'm sure my students and

colleagues will miss me, but I have a year of sick leave saved up. And I'm certainly sick over the situation Marina now finds itself.

Please, for God's sake, for the sake of all Californians and a small town without deep pockets--stick up for us and take care of our coast and water.

Sincerely,

Barry W. Covington  
3115 Flower Circle  
Marina, CA

English Teacher  
Salinas High School / Mt. Toro High School  
Salinas, CA

**From:** [KATHY COOK](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:56:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [PastedGraphic-1.tiff](#)

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

My name is Kathy Cook. My family and I are residents of Marina. We live in this beautiful city for the clean air and access to our local beach where we spend most of our free time. It's very important for us to walk and stay healthy. We would love to see our area continue as a Project Blue Zone.



We are appalled by what CalAm is proposing to do to our beach which will harm our water supply, create blight on our beautiful beach, damage the sand dunes and the Snowy Plover habitat! This project does NOT help Marina and will harm our aquifer.

Please DENY this project that will harm Marina! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Cook

Coastal Commission:

As residents of the City of Monterey and customers of the Cal Am corporation, we oppose the construction of an expensive, energy-intensive, unnecessary desalination facility.

The local government and citizenry of Monterey County have worked hard to develop new water conservation technologies and habits. As a result, we are on track to meet our regional water supply needs. The proposed construction is not needed, particularly at the scale and cost proposed.

Sincerely,

Jennifer B. Paduan

Jeffrey D. Paduan

265 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey, CA 93940

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Jenny and Jeff Paduan

[jpaduan@comcast.net](mailto:jpaduan@comcast.net)

Dear Coastal Commission,

My name is Lila Glazerman. I am in Girl Scouts. My Brownie troop number is 35506. The Marina Brownies say please don't take our water. We all say so. Our water will cost more because Cal Am will take it and sell it to us for not a reasonable price. The people who have jobs will have to work harder and then they won't have any money to do fun things. It isn't fair for Cal Am to take our water.

From,  
Lila Glazerman  
Marina Brownie Troop 35506











November 9 2022

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

**RE: Support for Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, Application No. 9-20-0603 (Agenda Item Th8a)**

Members of the Coastal Commission,

My family and I are longtime residents of the Monterey Peninsula. We have lived with the Peninsula's water issues for over 40 years and have grown increasingly tired of the impact on our daily lives. I have worked as a regulator and utility executive and been involved with water supply issues throughout the state and believe the only viable and sustainable water supply for replacing the Carmel River supply is desalination. My wife led the Monterey County Boys and Girls Club for over 2 decades. Together we understand our community and know a bit about water. We urge you to support the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project and end the dialogue and debate by special interest groups and politicians that have their own agenda and have not put the interests of our community first.

As observers of the fight over water on the Monterey Peninsula for many years we have seen us move closer and further from solutions. In recent years the stakes have grown and the clear and urgent need has increased. The MPWSP will provide a critically-needed, reliable water source for our region. We 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.

My wife and I have seen the real-world impact of the lack of affordable housing on the Peninsula firsthand. The Boys and Girls Club has supported local families who are working long hours to keep their housing and coming from communities far away from the Monterey Peninsula to put food on their families' table. You only need to look at the cars driving Highway 68 and Highway 1 every morning and evening to see the how the lack of affordable housing is impacting working families.

We are lucky to have our grandchildren growing up here on the Monterey Peninsula and see how the housing crisis impacts them, their parents, and our nephews and nieces that also live here. It is hard to imagine how families will be able to make the Peninsula their home in the coming decades if the water isn't there to provide for reasonable, thoughtful development. 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. Our community desperately needs the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Thank you,

Stan and Donna Ferraro  
3001 Bird Rock Road  
Pebble Beach, CA



**From:** [Kenia Acevedo](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 5:30:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Pic.eml.msg](#)

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

It's my daughter's first birthday at the end of the month. My only wish for her on her first birthday is that she and the wonderful community we live in not be made victims of environmental racism at the hands of a for profit company. Instead of planning for her birthday or making a registry to send to friends and family, I've spent the little free time I have emailing and texting friends, family and neighbors to send you written comments asking you to do the right thing and deny the CalAm project.

My name is Kenia Acevedo. I am a long term resident of Marina. I have lived in Marina for more than 10 years. The main reasons my partner and I decided to live, buy a house and start a family in Marina is because of its diversity and its beach access. Marina is a very rare and special place; it is one of few remaining affordable coastal communities primarily inhabited by persons of color. It is incredibly important to us to raise our interracial daughter in a community that welcomes and embraces people of all racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. It is also extremely important to us to protect our oceans and protect wildlife so my daughter can get to enjoy them.

I am extremely disheartened and infuriated by the staff's recommendation for approval despite blatant, well documented environmental justice issues. The conditions imposed are inadequate and do little or nothing to mitigate the tremendous harms and indignities imposed on our community. Staff's recommendation is antithetical to its claimed concern for environmental justice issues and its acknowledgement of a long history of racism and exclusion of people of color from coastal communities. A community engagement plan does nothing to correct the harms or mitigate the clear message in staff's report: **It's ok to surround one of the only affordable coastal communities of color with industrial facilities**. Nothing CalAm can offer will mitigate this egregious harm,

Please do right by my daughter and my community, deny the CalAm project.

Best,

Kenia Acevedo

**From:** [Anna Brigantino](#)  
**To:** [Energy@Coastal](mailto: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:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 5:20:11 PM

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**To:** California Coastal Commission  
**From:** Anna Brigantino, Marina resident

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

My name is Anna Brigantino. I am a concerned resident of Marina. There is so much injustice surrounding the CalAm Desal proposal that it is hard to know where to begin.

1. Marina is a community that has managed its water resources so well that it is able to support the development of thousands of new homes (Dunes, Sea Haven, East Garrison) that the State of California so desperately needs—unlike on the Monterey Peninsula where it is difficult to even get a water permit to add on a bathroom.
2. We don't need the water that would be produced by the Cal-Am desal plant so why are we being forced to have it located in Marina when it should be located where it is needed—on the Peninsula?
3. Like the people of Hawaii, Marina's culture is expressly tied to its nearby beaches. People fish for surfperch and other species of fish—not just for sport but often for sustenance. Our daily routines involve walking, running or biking the trails accessed at Fort Ord Dunes State Park. Regulars also grab dinner and gather at Marina State Beach to watch the sunset and enjoy each other's company. Students frequently volunteer to help maintain the health of our beaches and dune wildlife. The community has been looking forward to the closing of the Cemex plant, so damage to this beach would be felt in a deep way.
4. Marina has a beautiful culture. It is also a working class culture. As a city, we don't have the financial resources for ongoing litigation. As a community, it is a serious challenge for many to take a day off of work or take the kids out of school in order to attend a meeting in Salinas. We have to charter buses or help people find parking. Many residents cannot spend all day waiting for the opportunity to speak. White privilege comes to mind when thinking of all these obstacles. Although, there are satellite sites in Marina for people to attend via zoom, it seems unjust that the CCC has never had a meeting in the city of Marina anytime in the last six or more years that Marina has been engaged in this battle for our water and beaches.

The water shortage of the Peninsula is NOT Marina's problem. We should NOT have to defend our beaches, roads or have our single source of water source damaged to solve a problem that is not ours to begin with. We are NOT anti-Peninsula, or anti-desal. We are just pro-Marina. And we are tired of having to waste our time, our energy and our finances on a project in Marina where it does not belong.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows













Handicap  
Only  
Permit  
Required

**From:** [S. Folsom](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 4:22:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [Get Help Paying Your Bills United Way Worldwide.pdf](#)

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Honorable CA Coastal Commissioners:

I am a low-income Cal Am water ratepayer and my family is in debt with our water bill by \$400. We service the bill but we can't ever seem to pay it down. The Cal Am bills pile up fast and the constant threats of shutoff looms large over my family. We pay some of the highest water rates in the United States, so much so that low-income ratepayers like us who make under \$50k/year are really suffering. I found out today that we make just a little too much money to qualify for the LIHWAP water bill relief. I was actually counting on getting water bill relief so I could afford to cook a Turkey for our Thanksgiving meal but it looks like that isn't happening, I have to service my debt with Cal Am instead. I want you to know that this is an especially heart-felt and sensitive comment for me to make.

As you know, Cal Am is forcing a failed desal plant on our community. The estimated cost for this dirty and poorly designed desal is so high; \$426 million dollars, that it will make our water bills even higher. So my family's current water bill of \$100+ which we already can't afford, might be \$150 or \$170 or maybe more, in fact, Cal Am doesn't have hard numbers on the desal cost, only project estimates. Basically Cal Am is asking the CA Coastal Commission to let them charge their ratepayers whatever they need for the desal with interest, and in exchange for this favor, Cal Am can afford to be generous to the "United Way," which will also give Cal Am a charitable tax break.

Commissioners, all the United Way does is point someone to Federal & State relief programs that may or may not have funds and for which someone may or may not qualify for. The United Way does not provide utility bill relief directly. I've attached the almost useless United Way "get help with your bills" webpage for the commission's review. According to the United Way if I have a threat of a water shut-off I can start with selling things online and having a garage sale. Surely that will get me out of my \$400 water bill debt, right?

So the working poor are denied the right to affordable water and then we can supplicate charities and federal programs for relief that we likely won't even qualify for due to the artificially low income guidelines. It's yet another act of economic violence perpetrated on local families by Cal Am. My family is just one of many.

I would really like to know, this is not a rhetorical question; ***does the CA Coastal Commission genuinely care about protecting low-income families on the Monterey Peninsula?***

**Commissioners, if you truly weigh equity and are concerned about affordable water, if you honestly care about helping families that are in water-debt like mine, you will vote to deny the Cal Am desal permit.**

We don't need the desal and we can't afford it. Working families are underwater already and we can't bank roll a failed desal just because Cal Am needs more money. Don't cave to Cal Am's lobbyists and political special interests in Sacramento. Protect the coast, protect working-class families in our coastal communities.

Please, help the working poor on the peninsula; deny the Cal Am desal permit. Families like

**From:** [Grace Silva-Santella](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm desalination proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 8:27:15 AM

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

My name is Grace Silva-Santella. I am a homeowner in Marina. I have been a resident of the Monterey Peninsula since my birth year of 1958. For 40 years I operated a garden maintenance business in the cities of Carmel, Carmel Valley, Monterey and Pebble Beach.

I am opposed to the CalAm desal project. I urge you to vote No.

The CalAm behemoth, astronomically expensive project is not needed. The Pure Water One expansion project meets future growth expectations and is affordable, socially just and environmentally responsible, and at a fraction of the cost of the CalAm project.

The CalAm project has no current estimates of the cost to rate payers. I have family living in Monterey who are adamantly opposed to the CalAm project. They have expressed concerns as to the impact to their water bill. Analysts put the price tag of the CalAm project at \$426M, not the outdated \$298.2M CalAm estimate.

In addition, this is NOT a desalination project. This is a project that draws from the groundwater aquifers that provide all of Marina's water needs. How is this just, to approve a project that supplies expensive water to cities south of Marina while endangering the source water for my community and the projected growth of my community.

The site where this project is located will encompass a 35 foot enclosed footprint at the former CEMEX operation that is planned to be preserved for conservation of native dunes habitat and low impact recreation. The CEMEX site is the first opportunity for Marina residents, and tourists to Marina, to enjoy easy and safe access to the beach. It will be the first opportunity for Marina to provide ADA walkways to the beach. While the cities of Carmel, Pacific Grove and Monterey enjoy CA State funds to build boardwalks and restrict impacts to sensitive dunes habitat, CalAm project will cut off Marina's first opportunity to welcome people to enjoy our dunes. Do not be fooled by CalAm graphic renditions of what they propose. No other Peninsula city would accept the fenced enclosure of 35 acres on prime dunes habitat!!!

Please, I urge you to vote no on this proposal from CalAm. I urge you to tell CalAm to participate fully in the expanded Pure Water One recycled water project.

Respectfully,  
Grace Silva-Santella  
3230 Susan Ave  
Marina, CA 93933  
831-238-4286

## ALEXANDER HENSON

P.O. Box 1381, Carmel Valley, CA 93924

831 659-4100 | Email: zancan@aol.com

**November 8, 2022**

California Coastal Commission

Re: Application no. 9-20-0603 Oppose Cal-Monterey Desal Project

Honorable Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of Public Water Now, made of of over 4000 ratepayers of Cal-Am who oppose this costly, unnecessary and unjust project. The staff report valiantly seeks to justify approval by tacking on “special conditions” that will require substantial proofs that are currently lacking. But, ultimately, the project should be denied as untimely in that there is no current need in the next twenty years for desalinated water to meet the water needs of the Monterey Peninsula .

With the completion of the PWM Expansion in two years, the total available water supply will be 11,468 acre-feet a year. 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.

Cal-Am only recently agreed its proposed plant was far bigger than needed, and proposed to reduce the size and phase the development This is a tacit acknowledgment of how inappropriate its proposed project is.

It is acknowledged by all, the environmental injustice of imposing this project in Marina which will receive zero benefit from the project’s location in their city. However, placing the project within the boundaries of Cal-Am’s service area requires an affirmative vote by the affected populace pursuant to the MPWMD laws. Cal-Am evidently thinks its ratepayers will not vote to approve such a project.

The plant design to take brackish water distinguishes this proposal from the recently approved Doheny Project that proposes to use strictly ocean water. Cal-Am has no water right for the freshwater component of the brackish water. This project, by design, will encourage saltwater intrusion where the pumping is taking place. Monitoring wells may be helpful in determining the impact from the proposed wells. However, there is little that can be done to reverse the saltwater contamination once detected.



Timing is everything. Why is Cal-Am pursuing this Coastal Commission approval now? The proceeding to approve Cal-Am's purchase of recycled water is pending before the CPUC. The use of recycled water has the potential for providing sufficient water for the foreseeable future. Given that the valuation of Cal-Am is currently being examined for condemnation, it is clear Cal-Am hopes to boost the price of its assets without regard to what is actually needed to accomplish its mission. There is no compelling need for this project at this time.

For each of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested the Commission deny project approval.

Sincerely,

**ALEXANDER HENSON**

**From:** [PETER LE](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 and Coastal Permit Application No. 9-20-0603  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 4:05:29 PM

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November 8, 2022

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

ATTENTION: Mr. Tom Luster

Dear Commissioners:

**Regarding: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project**

**Item 7a: Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 (California American Water Company)**

**Item 8a: Coastal Permit Application No. 9-20-0603 (California American Water Company)**

I would like to submit comments on Item 7a, Continued Appeals, California American Water Company, and Item 8a, Coastal Permit Application, California American Water Company, of the Commission Agenda of the meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2022.

My comments, shown in bold and underline, are as follows:

1. **As described in the Staff Report, shown below, Marina residents bears all the adverse impacts of this proposed project and receives no benefit whatsoever. The proposed mitigation measures suggested by Cal Am are totally inadequate. The Commission needs to apply its adopted Environmental Justice policies more effective and creates special**

**conditions for this project that truly provide Environmental Justice to Marina residents.**

“The Project’s well field and some of its pipelines would be sited within the City of Marina, which is not in Cal-Am’s service area but would be burdened with many of the adverse coastal resource impacts discussed herein. Marina is already disproportionately affected by other industrial uses, including a regional landfill, regional composting facility, regional sewage plant, a municipal airport, a contaminated site listed on the U.S. EPA’s national priorities list, and the former CEMEX sand mining facility, which has ceased its operations.

This Project affects several environmental justice communities in the region. While the Project provides a benefit to the Monterey Peninsula by providing a secure water source and helps to avoid future over-withdrawal of water from Carmel River, it will disproportionately burden low-income ratepayers in the service area and residents in the City of Marina. Cal-Am proposed a number of measures to help offset costs to low-income ratepayers and provide community benefits for the City of Marina.”

2. “Cal-Am has also modified its proposed wells so they will extend as far as feasible seaward and thereby reduce any potential impacts to the City’s and District’s groundwater resources. Several recommended Special Conditions also address these concerns – for example, [Special Condition 11](#) would require Cal-Am to construct its wells to extend as far seaward as feasible to reduce their potential groundwater impacts.”

“**Special Condition 11: Groundwater Protection.** The Applicant shall install the Project’s slant wells to extend at least 1,000 feet seaward of the proposed well head locations and shall screen the wells so they extract from the 180-Foot Aquifer as far seaward as is feasible and without penetrating the 400-Foot Aquifer. Any proposed changes to this approved installation must be reported to the Executive Director for a determination as to whether those changes would require an amendment to this permit.”

**This Special Condition 11 appears unrealistic since the existing test well experienced failures and could not extend beyond 900 feet during its construction several years ago.**

**Assuming that Cal Am can extend the new slant wells at least 1,000 feet seaward, it does not make any financial sense since Cal Am stated that it will relocate these slant wells in 20 to 25 years which is the end of life of these slant wells. And Cal Am does not know where the location of the replacement slant wells is and what environmental and financial impacts of the new slant wells are.**

**Cal Am did not propose and the Staff Report did not discuss the construction of new slant well heads beyond the 2040 or 2050 sea-level rise like the CCC approved Doheny desalination plant. Why not constructing the new slant wells similar to the Doheny project so that Cal Am does not have to address the relocation of its proposed slant wells**

**and environmental impacts? The Coastal Commission can require Cal Am to construct a new slant well intake system similar to the Doheny intake system that the Commission approved a few months ago.**

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3. **“Special Condition 12** would require Cal-Am to develop a comprehensive monitoring and reporting program to detect any potential groundwater impacts its Project would cause and identify measures it would implement before those impacts occur.”

**But It appears there is no special condition and details that require the Applicant to continuously monitor and measure the actual percentage of potable water that Cal Am pumps from the slant wells and needs to be returned to users of Monterey County Water Resources Zone 2 and cannot be delivered to consumers of Cal Am. And there is no condition that requires Cal Am to post these potable water percentage or content measurements on its website for public review.**

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<!--[endif]-->

4. “The Project will have adverse effects on ESHA. Its construction and operation would directly or indirectly result in several dozen acres of both temporary and permanent impacts to terrestrial ESHA, most of it consisting of relatively rare coastal dune habitat.

However, even with these Special Conditions, the Project would not be fully consistent with several Coastal Act and LCP policies that do not allow the type of disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from Cal-Am’s Project.”

**Again, Marina residents suffered environmental injustice when the California Coastal Commission does not apply relevant Coastal Act and LCP policies on this project.**

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5. **The Staff Report did not address the existing slant test well that was constructed near existing shore line several years ago and will be used for this project. This slant well is expected to fail before other new slant wells or in-operable before the 20-year time frame due to erosion and sea-level rise.**

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6. **How can the public review and provide comments of various monitoring data that are required and described in the Special Conditions? Will the Commission require California American Water Company to post all monitoring data and information on its website and on the Commission website so that the public can review?**

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7. **How can the public review documents, biological surveys, habitat monitoring and mitigation plans, construction plans, mitigation measures**



**and other materials as specified in the project conditions and Special Conditions and provide comments?**

I do hope you will consider my comments seriously and thoroughly. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the Cal Am Appeal and Coastal Permit Application.

Sincerely,

Peter Le and Family

Sent by email to CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov

This electronic mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and/or otherwise protected from disclosure to anyone other than its intended recipient(s). Any dissemination or use of this electronic email or its contents (including any attachments) by persons other than the intended recipient(s) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by reply email so that we may correct our internal records. Please then delete the original message (including any attachments) in its entirety. Thank you.

November 08, 2022

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

**RE: Support for Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, Application No. 9-20-0603 (Agenda Item Th8a)**

Honorable Members of the California Coastal Commission:

I am the daughter of a Bracero (Mexican guestworker) who came to Monterey County in 1945. As an attorney, I have devoted my life to helping immigrants, families and people of color who face fewer opportunities and greater hazards in their lives here in California. As a customer and external board member of California American Water, I have witnessed how vital water is to all life. Indeed, without water, there is no hope of lifting the State Water Board's Order 95-10 and the 2009 Cease and Desist Order, which resulted in a building moratorium on the Monterey Peninsula. Because of this moratorium, new construction and new businesses have declined dramatically.

Clearly, 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. 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. 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 Monterey Peninsula has been in dire need of additional drought-proof, reliable water supplies for too long. There's no time left to wait. Without new water supplies, our region could face water rationing, further pressure on local habitats and the animals that depend on them, continued building moratoriums and a strained economy. As a resident and advocate for the people who work arduously for our local economy, I ask the California Coastal Commission to approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.

Respectfully submitted,

Blanca Zarazua  
Attorney at Law

November 8, 2022

Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose

Dear California Coastal Commissioners:

I am opposed to Cal Am Monterey Desalination Project – Application No. 9-20-0603.



Cal Am's Monterey District ratepayers do not need or want Cal-Am's over-estimated, over-priced, and environmentally destructive desalination plant. With the Pure Water Monterey Expansion of recycled water, a much more cost effective and environmentally friendlier source of new water, we have enough water for the next **30-years** of sustainable growth.

On Nov. 3, 2022, the CPUC approved Pure Water Monterey **Expansion** to produce 2,250 acre-ft. a year, in addition, to the annual 3,500 acre-ft. already being produced since Sept. 2020. Overall, PWM recycled water is an over-whelming success! Extra water not used immediately will be stored in the Seaside aquifer for replenishment and future need. Source water for this project is both secure and planned carefully to be available for both wet and dry periods.

The entire Earth depends on recycled water. We are the model community of how we created a "new water source" from previously discarded water.

On October 25, 2022, Pure Water Monterey received a prestigious national civil engineering award, the only one in Northern California from the American Society of Civil Engineers.

"Pure Water Monterey is the first potable reuse project to purify unused municipal effluent, food industry wash water, agricultural drainage water and urban stormwater," the award entry reads. The project has also received Federal awards and grants for its outstanding operations. This project will also soon be carbon free, using methane from the waste site to power the plant.

Christopher Stevens, the assistant deputy director of the finance division of the State Water Quality Control Board, said on this type of “project like Pure Water Monterey is increasingly becoming an important part of the state’s portfolio of water projects.” In order to achieve Gov. Newsom’s 1.8 million afy of recycled water by 2040, California needs more projects like Pure Water Monterey.

### Why Marina?

Citizens and Cal-Am ratepayers demand protection of Marina’s aquifers. Where are Cal-Am’s water rights? They don’t have ANY!!

The twenty special conditions your staff has written in their Nov. 3, 2022 report heavily depend on other state and local institutions/entities for Cal-Am to receive the CCC’s desal development permit. Cal-Am won’t get all of these special conditions met, ever!

Cal-Am’s slant wells desal plant will go through Marina’s 180 ft. aquifer and possibly the 400 ft. aquifer according to your staff report. Siting the wells slightly off shore does not take it out of the aquifer as the Marina aquifers extend off shore.

The wetlands and vernal ponds are also sources of fresh water that filter down into the Sand Dunes aquifer. According to the purchase agreement, 690 afy will be sent to Castroville who will only pay \$110 an acre foot. While Monterey Peninsula customers under Cal-Am will pay over \$6,000 (2017 estimate) an afy for desal. Almost **55-times** more than Castroville!! The city of Seaside and the Monterey Peninsula have **7-times** the number of people who are also of low-income than Castroville. How is this Environmental Justice? Making low-income Seaside and Monterey Peninsula customers pay for low-income Castroville people’s water! Further, any excess return water that cannot be used by Castroville will be used for some very expensive crop watering in the CSIP project, at ratepayer expense!

Cal Am will steal Marina’s (a non-Cal Am service district) sole source of potable water by destroying their aquifers and allowing seawater intrusion.

I have high expectations the CCC commissioners will uphold the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, SGMA of 2014 that PROTECTS the 21 CRITICALLY over-drafted ground water basins in California. Cal-Am’s proposed desal plant draws brackish and fresh water from Marina’s groundwater and NOT the ocean!

### Environmental (In)Justice.

Marina already “host” the county’s dump and sewage plants and in 2017 closed the CEMEX sand-mining plant from removing sand from Marina State Beach. Under the closure agreement,



CEMEX must restore Marina State Beach to its previous condition that dates before 1906!

The Western Snowy plover is an endangered species. Marina State Beach is one of its few habitats for breeding. If Cal-Am's desal plant is built on said beach, the plover's habitat will be destroyed and hence the plover will stop breeding and become non-existent, here.

Marina is a disadvantaged community with 64% people of color and 12.4% who live below the poverty level. To not acknowledge the environmental injustice is egregious to Marina. There is no mitigation possible for this.

Cal-Am's proposed slant well desal plant no matter its size does not negate the environmental damage it will create. There is no mitigation that will not destroy Marina's sole source of potable water. Cal-Am's desal plant does not comply with the Ocean Plan requirements for seawater desalination facilities because this project takes water from ground water, a.k.a. Marina's aquifers. Cal-Am's desal project violates the California Coastal Act. This desal facility has significant public impact and totally ignores Environmental Justice to Marina.

Cal-Am is a piranha to its ratepayers. They aggressively purchase distressed municipal water districts outside of the CCC's jurisdiction (e.g., East Pasadena, Baldwin Park) within the last 12-month period where ratepayers are forced to pay for new acquisitions without consent. A publicly owned water district operates to serve its customers and would not buy out other water districts throughout the state of California. If pointing fingers is rude, Cal-Am is solely looking to profit from ratepayers and nothing else. They don't even need to sell water and they will still produce profits for their shareholders!

Finally, before you vote, please connect your hearts and minds and vote "No," otherwise you will ruin the lives of a combined 135,000 Cal-Am and Marina Coast Water District ratepayers/customers.

---

Sincerely,

Troy Ishikawa  
Carmel, CA  
Cal-Am Ratepayer

**From:** ClerkoftheBoard <[cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 7, 2022 4:11 PM

**To:** CentralCoast@Coastal <[CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: Water Commentary in Today's Herald (11/6/2022) with Attachment of Article in Statistical Journal "Chance"

Good Afternoon,

Please see the email below and attached file.

Sincerely,



Emmanuel H. Santos

Board Of Supervisors Clerk  
COUNTY OF MONTEREY | COB  
168 W. Alisal Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Salinas, CA 93901  
Office: (831) 755-5066 (Opt. 6)  
Direct: (831) 755-5841  
Email: [santoseh@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:santoseh@co.monterey.ca.us)

**From:** Ron Weitzman <[ronweitzman@redshift.com](mailto:ronweitzman@redshift.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 7, 2022 11:08 AM

**To:** ClerkoftheBoard <[cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us)>

**Subject:** FW: Water Commentary in Today's Herald (11/6/2022) with Attachment of Article in Statistical Journal "Chance"

[CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the County. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ]

**FYI.**

**From:** Ron Weitzman [<mailto:ronweitzman@redshift.com>]

**Sent:** Sunday, November 06, 2022 5:00 PM

**To:** [EORFC@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:EORFC@coastal.ca.gov)

**Cc:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov); [tluster@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:tluster@coastal.ca.gov)

**Subject:** Water Commentary in Today's Herald (11/6/2022) with Attachment of Article in Statistical Journal "Chance"

Dear Commissioners of the California Coastal Commission:

I am sending you this commentary, which appeared in the Sunday, November 6, Monterey Herald, to provide you information for you to consider when responding to your staff recommendation for approval of Cal Am's application for a coastal development permit.

The staff report refers to two articles I wrote in statistical journals accessible via links in the commentary, with one of them attached here for your convenience. The staff report indicates that these articles may invalidate results of some of the models used in the EIR for Cal Am's

# From Divining Rods to Statistics: A Forensic Analysis of the Misuse of Statistics in the Estimation of Environmental Impact

[R. A. Weitzman](#)

Pages 18-20 | Published online: 17 Nov 2021

- [Download citation](#)
- <https://doi.org/10.1080/09332480.2021.2003634>

## Abstract

Shortly after my retirement, I became involved in local water issues and learned that I could be of especial use in work on those issues because of my background in statistics. What I am reporting here is a minimally-technical account of the experience I had using statistics as a forensic tool to unearth what appears to have been a misuse of statistics in the modeling of the environmental impact of a proposed desalination project to provide water for the community where I reside. Of potential interest to statisticians is how statistics can be useful in detective work.

## Article

Most experts who search for underground water no longer use divining rods—they use statistics to estimate the water levels in aquifers below specific sites on the ground. Unfortunately, users of statistics can also misuse them, sometimes with costly consequences. This is the story of how statistics were applied as a forensic tool to identify misuse in estimating the impact of a proposed public project on groundwater levels.

The Monterey Peninsula in California has been over-drafting the Carmel River groundwater basin for years. In 2012, after two decades of fits and starts seeking water elsewhere, all faithfully documented in the *Monterey Herald* newspaper, the Monterey district of the privately owned water utility California-American Water filed an application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to build a desalination plant on the coastline of the Monterey Bay in the city of Marina, about eight miles north of the Monterey Peninsula.

A number of parties joined the proceeding on the application, which also included recycling and storage components, in a total package called the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). The Water Ratepayers Association of the Monterey Peninsula (Water Plus) was one of those parties. The proceeding lasted six years, until 2018, when the CPUC certified the project and the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on its desalination component, which is the focus of this story.

A critical part of the EIR was modeling the impact of the operation of the project's coastal wells on nearby groundwater levels and seawater intrusion, which occurs when groundwater levels go below sea level. Stochastic and linear modeling being one of my strongest interests in statistics, that aspect of the project particularly caught my attention. What I learned and reported to the CPUC about the EIR's treatment of modeling had not only great interest for me, but also substantial impact on the fate of the project.

## Modeling Groundwater Levels

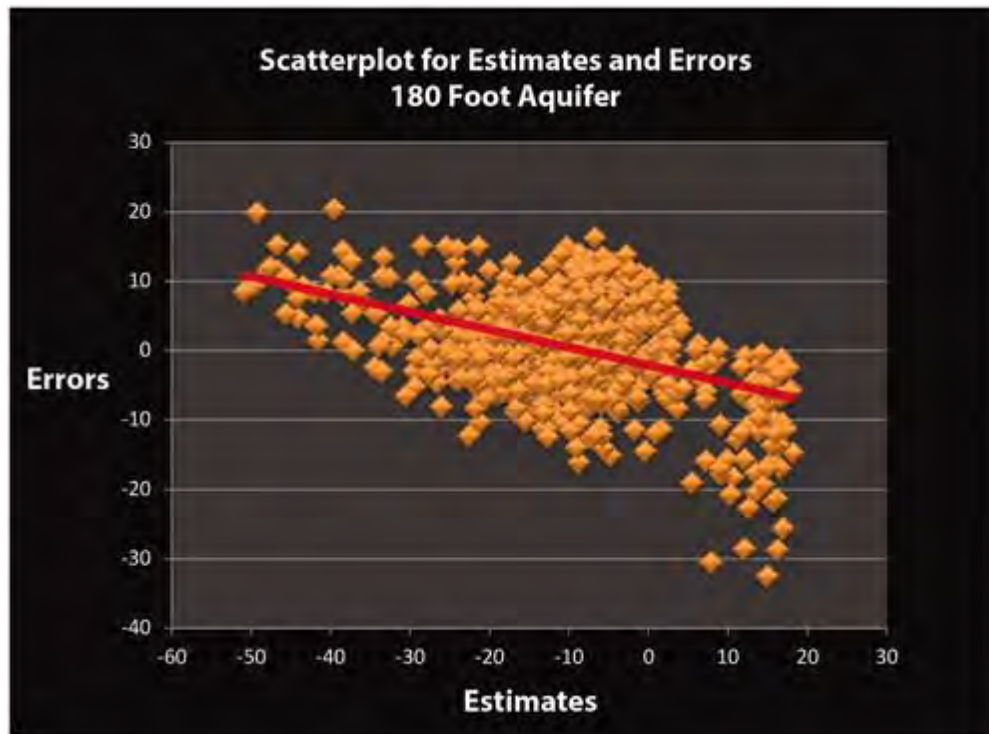
The CPUC circulated three versions of the EIR: a first draft in 2015, a second draft in 2017, and a final version in 2018. Expert 1, the modeling consultant for the first draft, used a linear model to estimate groundwater levels over time in a checkerboard of zones covering an inland region around the proposed project wells. The model divided each water-level measurement into two components: an estimate and an error component. The estimate component was a weighted sum of independent variables that could vary in value over time and zones.

To evaluate the model's accuracy, Expert 1 used a statistic called "the relative error" that measured the extent to which the error components varied from zero: the smaller the variation, the more accurate the model. In hydrogeology, the relative error, expressed as a percent, is equal to 100 times the decimal fraction, consisting of the standard deviation of errors divided by the range of observed measurements; in this case, water levels.

Considering a model to have satisfactory accuracy if its relative error was below 10.0 percent, Expert 1 computed the relative error of the model applied to combined data from three aquifers and, finding the relative error to be 9.5%, concluded that the model's accuracy was satisfactory. That result might have marked the successful end of the proceeding on the project if not for a number of events that occurred at the time.

**Figure 1. Graph of data showing highly negative correlation, equal to  $-0.45$ , in slope of straight red trend line.**





[Display full size](#)

One of those events was the result of my curiosity. The project was to draw its water from two aquifers, but only one of them—the 180-foot aquifer—was among the three to which Expert 1 applied the model in testing it.

Because I wondered what the results might be if the model were applied only to the 180-foot aquifer, I requested and received data from the CPUC to find out. What I found out and reported in filed comments on the first draft EIR is that the relative error for the 180-foot aquifer was 11.2%, indicating a less-than-satisfactory evaluation of the model when applied to data for that aquifer.

Snooping around further, I also found and reported for that particular data set, consisting of 993 water-level observations, that errors and estimates were highly correlated: Estimates above average tended to have errors below average (zero) and vice versa. That is a no-no in modeling and made me wonder what might be the cause of it. See Figure 1.

That is the kind of slope likely to describe the relationship between estimates of water elevation in a well and the well's pumping activity, with high estimates corresponding to low pumping activity, but not between estimates and errors. Water elevation should be predictable from pumping activity but, by definition, errors are unpredictable. Prediction of errors is an oxymoron. The straight trend line describing the relationship between estimates and errors should be horizontal to reflect unpredictability, with a zero correlation between them. Any other straight-line trend indicates data that have somehow become corrupted.

The CPUC managed these events by replacing Expert 1 with Expert 2 to respond to the Water Plus critique of the modeling by Expert 1 that supported the project. In the resulting second draft EIR, Expert 2 confirmed that the relative error for the 180-foot aquifer was larger than 10.0% and that the correlation of errors with estimates was far from zero—but provided different interpretations of those numbers to help support the project.

For the relative error, Expert 2 raised the threshold for a satisfactory model from 10.0% to 15.0% despite that for a normal distribution having a practical range of six standard deviations, 15.0 is 90% of the highest possible value for the statistic—16.7% (one-sixth of the range), representing a model having virtually zero predictive power.

No less questionably, Expert 2 attributed the non-zero correlation between errors and estimates to model “bias” due to other non-zero correlations with error that Expert 2 discovered, including one in which errors moved up (from negative to positive) while estimates moved down over time.

Finding these biases intractable, Expert 2 replaced the model, which had not done well on its tests, with an untested one that applied the replaced model (with the same weights and independent-variable values), to estimate periodic changes in water levels and, by adding the estimated changes over time, to predict the project’s impact on aquifer water levels and seawater intrusion. The untested application of a model developed to predict one thing to predict something else, with no known relationship between the two, can only produce results that have zero credibility. The final version of the EIR made no further modeling changes.

The data for the 180-foot aquifer were, no doubt, corrupted. The question was whether the cause of the corruption was inherent model bias in the estimation of water levels, as Expert 2 claimed without verification, or something perhaps more sinister had occurred, such as manipulation of the data. The evidence supports the second answer.

Common practice among hydrogeologists in model “calibration” is to “adjust” values of unreliably measured independent variables (such as directional groundwater flow rates) in the estimation equation to reduce the relative error. Reducing the relative error by this means not only moves errors toward zero, but also moves estimates equally in the opposite direction to avoid altering the sum of each estimate and error, which is equal to an observed water level.

The movement of errors and estimates in opposite directions is what created the negative correlation between them that I observed as a sign of data tampering. The model itself, having been developed to have minimal error variation with zero estimate-error correlation, was not responsible for that bias; by tampering with data in their model calibration, Expert 1 and Expert 2 were sufficiently, if not solely, responsible. As Pogo observed, “We have met the enemy and he is us.”

Neither was the model itself responsible for other biases observed by Expert 2. Errors went up as estimates went down over time, for example, because during that time,

water levels were going down. When they go down, estimates follow them down while, being negatively correlated with estimates, error go up. Other biases observed by Expert 2 were likely also due to the negative correlation between errors and estimates caused by model calibration.

Model calibration may be acceptable in hydrogeology if the altered data are subjected to a weight-estimating process like the one that created the model in the first place and produced water-elevation estimates that were uncorrelated with errors. Subjecting the altered data to that process probably would have erased the biases that led Expert 2 to replace a tested and improvable model with one having implausible and untested applicability to make predictions of project impacts. Inexplicably and unfortunately, both Expert 1 and Expert 2 failed to do that, although that process today constitutes standard practice in hydrogeological modeling.

## Epilogue

In addition to CPUC certification, the MPWSP needs a number of permits enabling its development. The most critical of these is a coastal development permit from the California Coastal Commission. In 2019, aware of project problems identified by Water Plus and others, including their own hydrogeological consultant, commission staff members recommended that it reject the utility's application for the permit. Commission action remains pending.

This story is only an example. Statistics may have widespread use as a forensic tool, even in the legal world itself, where an amateur sleuth like me might turn out to be an actual one.

## Additional information

### Notes on contributors

#### R. A. Weitzman

**Ron Weitzman** received his BA and MA from Stanford and his PhD from Princeton. He has received a Stanford Honors Fellowship; Psychometric Fellowship of Princeton and the Educational Testing Service; and two post-doctoral fellowships, from the National Science Foundation and the United States Public Health Service. He has served on university faculties in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Israel. His specialty areas are mental tests and survey statistics, and he has dozens of publications and two patents in those fields (one patent in each). He is a United States Army veteran.

*TAMMY L. JENNINGS*

---

423 Dela Vina Avenue • Monterey, CA 93940 • (831) 373-2151

November 8, 2022

Dear California Coastal Commission:

I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desalination projects, whether they are needed or not. Please don't be pressured by Governor Newsom's political agenda and DENY the California American Water coastal development permit for the desalination project.

As a resident of Monterey and a customer of Cal Am, I oppose the California American Water desalination project. There is an environmentally superior and financially feasible 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 a drought, without putting the financial burden of a \$426 million facility on the Monterey Peninsula customers of Cal Am.

Besides the exorbitant facility cost, Cal Am's investor-owned desalination plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. No one should be able to make a profit on something we all need to LIVE! I am a disabled woman living with multiple sclerosis on a fixed income and I can't afford today's water prices (which are the most expensive in the country), much less the prices that will be imposed if Cal Am's desalination plant is approved. Ten years ago, my water bill averaged \$21/month. My water bill currently averages more than \$40/month with no increase in water use. This desalination plant could raise my water bill by 50% to 70%. It is not in the interest of our community and only serves to enrich American Water shareholders.

Cal Am has been our water provider for almost 70 years, but the only new water source they have come up with is this extremely overpriced and environmentally damaging desalination plant. Pure Water Monterey has provided the Monterey Peninsula residents with 3,500 acre-feet of new water for the past two years. It is the only reason that Cal Am has been able to stop *illegally* 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 of water per year which will be enough for the next 30 years. We don't need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet of water.

*TAMMY L. JENNINGS*

---

423 Dela Vina Avenue • Monterey, CA 93940 • (831) 373-2151

November 9, 2022

Dear Ms. Selvaraj:

I sent the following letter to the Coastal Commission yesterday, but was told I should let you know, as well, about how difficult it will be for me financially if Cal Am is allowed to build their expensive, unnecessary desalination plant.

In 2015 my average water bill was \$21.15 per month. In 2021 my average water bill was \$45.06 per month with no increase in water use. I am currently on Cal Am's low-income assistance program. I received \$13.12 last month and yet I still paid \$41.13. I have been in conservation mode for the last 15 years. I live by the rule, "If it's yellow, let it mellow; if it's brown, flush it down." I have replaced every appliance in my home from my toilets to my washing machine with low flow devices and have only watched my water costs continually increase.

I only shower 2-3 x a week (thank goodness I live by myself ... I can't smell myself most of the time). I've lived in my home for 26 years and still have no landscaping because I can't afford the water! I had to quit work in 2006 and go on disability because my multiple sclerosis had advanced to a stage where I could no longer work. I live on a fixed income. And the annual increases in Social Security do not come close to keeping up with the cost of inflation.

Cal Am's investor-owned, desalination plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. No one should be able to make a profit on something we all need to LIVE! And if Cal Am is allowed to build their desal plant, my water bill will likely increase 50% to 70%. At that point, I will have no choice but to choose between eating and buying water! What kind of choice is that, especially when we have a viable alternative that will provide enough water for the next 30 years (for growth and development) at a fraction of the price. Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit application.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tammy Jennings



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.

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 the California American Water Coastal Development Permit for their desalination project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy Jennings". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large initial 'T'.

Tammy Jennings  
423 Dela Vina Avenue  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831.373.2151

Nancy Runyon  
1195 Hoffman Avenue  
Monterey, CA 93940

November 10, 2022

California Coastal Commission

Email to [CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov); [executivestaff@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:executivestaff@coastal.ca.gov);  
[tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov); [elizabeth.moore@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:elizabeth.moore@coastal.ca.gov)

Subject: DENY or Delay Cal-Am Desal CDP (Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Item #9)

Dear California Coastal Commissioners and Staff,

I am sorry my letter is so long---but it is so very important to me and my neighbors for you all to understand why Cal-Am's Desal is the wrong project, in the wrong location, has the wrong management, is not sustainable, is too expensive and will do irreparable damage to the environment and county community relationships.

As a Cal-Am customer for 24 years, I strongly oppose California American Water's (Cal-Am) proposed desal project in Marina.

We, the forced customers of Cal-Am, have been struggling for over 30 years with their mismanagement which appears only to be based on greed. We don't trust Cal-Am to do anything right, especially build a super expensive desal project that we cannot afford and don't even need.

I am a senior citizen, who has worked hard all my life at modestly paying jobs, but was smart to save and purchase my first small home in 1972. I have paid off my mortgage and am fortunate to still be able to work part time to supplement my small Social Security check. Will I have to move away from my home because **I can't afford water here?** My water bill should not be my third largest expense.

Your staff's report is correct that residents who planned to retire here, or grew up here, or used to work here, will have to give up their homes because of the cost of water. We have given up landscaping, showering daily, and do ridiculous things to re-use water. I also wear 3 layers of clothes to cut the PG&E bills, but that does save me money. There is nothing else I can cut back on to save money on my Cal-Am bill. We all feel abused by them, and live in fear that an old sprinkler pipe that hasn't been turned on is 20 years might be broken by a tree root and cost us hundreds of dollars on our next water bill.

The voters of the Monterey Peninsula chose to pursue a public takeover of Cal-Am in 2018. The feasibility studies completed for MPWMD showed that publicly owned water (as 84% of our country has already) will be much less expensive without the environment damage that would be caused by the proposed Cal-Am Desal project. The award-winning Monterey One Water project will provide adequate water to meet growth and RHNA goals for 30 years. We do not need an expensive, environmental harming, litigious desal project, built on sand dunes with Sea Level Rise.

Cal-Am should have been taken over by the public years ago. The company's history shows inept management and little done to find a new water supply since the State's first Cease and Desist Order in 1995 to stop the overdraft the Carmel River. They should have been looking before 1995.

Here are some questions you should ask Cal-Am:

- Why did Cal-Am choose such an expensive desal project rather when they could? Was it because the more they spend---the more they earn with their guaranteed profit margin?
- Why did Cal-Am delay for years signing a water purchase agreement with recycled water project (Monterey One Water, Pure Water Monterey developed by our publicly elected Monterey Peninsula Water Management District) until they were forced to? Was it because they will not make as much profit off it?
- Why does Cal-Am think it is the right thing to do to build a desal plant on environmentally sensitive habitat that belongs to a Jurisdiction that will fight them in court? The gall of a monopoly?
- Why does Cal-Am keep telling us that the public cannot run water systems when 84 % of US water are publicly owned and operated? I have experienced publicly owned water everywhere else I have lived and want it here.
- Why did Cal-Am choose a location on sand dunes threatened by Sea Level Rise that they do not own and likely never will? Why didn't they pursue a regional desal plant?

The more pipe line they add, the more they spend---the more they can charge us, all with PUC guaranteed profit on top. We all live in fear of receiving a bill from Cal-Am that is more than 10 times the usual amount without explanation or findable cause, which I and many neighbors have received. We are tired of paying for Cal-Am's mistakes.

Citizens of the Monterey Peninsula, who have been the very best at water conservation in the entire state, **do not want to steal water from Marina**. We **do not want to cause environmental damage** to our coastal habitats. We love Snowy Plovers. We do not want to cause salt intrusion into aquifers and potentially destroy the Salinas Valley agriculture. And we have learned from experience to have **no faith or trust in Cal-Am's management decisions**.

Pure Water Monterey is a proven project. It has been providing water for over two years now, and it has allowed Cal-Am to stop over-drafting the Carmel River. Public agencies accomplished that---not Cal-Am. They had to be forced into agreements to purchase the less expensive water.

Expansion of the **Pure Water Monterey project will supply all the water we need** and provide for growth for 30 years. Cal-Am had to be forced to agree to buy this water because they will have lower profits. We will still conserve water as it has become our lifestyle. We know water is precious and the rest of the world will follow our examples. In the future we may need to develop a desal plant. Local experts, agree that a regional project would be the best choice for all of us. We can choose a better location, with proven technology and management in a location that will not cause damage to the environment or bankrupt us all. A Regional desal project with solar and wind power to reduce the energy cost would be a much solution for the entire Monterey-Salinas North County area including Castroville. But Castroville's need should not be come at this ridiculous expense.

The Expansion of Pure Water Monterey (Monterey One Water) will cost an estimated **\$45 million**. Cal Am's desal project will cost an estimated **\$426 million**---ALMOST 10 TIMES AS MUCH. If Cal Am cared about their customers, were responsible business people, were ethical and/or even sensible, they would not be asking for approval of their desal project!

The Cal-Am Desal Plant proposal will provide more water than the Monterey Peninsula will need but not enough to share costs with another water district. **Cal-Am has not said that a scaled down desal plant will save any money. Their current cost estimates are certainly out of date.** Is their smaller plant just like the groceries that have less in the box instead of raising the price? Do we have to pay Cal-Am for the desal water production, and then have Cal-Am sell the extra water to others making more money on ours? With our **current water being the most expensive in the country**, we can't afford to pay for water we aren't using. And we certainly **can't afford to pay the expected 2-3 times** what we are paying now for the Cal-Am Desal project nor Cal-Am legal bills to fight the City of Marina.

After Cal-Am has charged us for all our water management expenses with guaranteed profit for over 40 years, haven't we paid off the mortgage on their facilities by now? We should already own the system outright!

Who supports Cal-Am's Desal Project? The hospitality Industry does. Are all of their managers making such great profits that they don't care how expensive the water is? Are the businesses given better rates than the residents? Yes, their employees want guaranteed jobs, but they can't afford to live here either and are forced to commute long distances, adding more to climate change. Is it fair to make the residents pay more for water than the tourists do? We already have to pay for the burden of the tourist traffic, do we have to subsidize their water too?

Please DELAY any action on this Cal-Am desalination facility until completion of the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) reassessment of supply and demand. At this point, the Commission lacks critical information about the project and its alternative, the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) Expansion. Or please DENY the CDP because the Commission does not currently have adequate information as required by the Coastal Act to make findings related to Sections 30260 and 30013 of the Act.

Californians needs good, environmentally just and sustainable desal projects; not damaging, litigious, expensive, ones. We applaud the wisdom of the Coastal Commission for approving the Dana Point Desal Project; and for NOT approving for-profit Poseidon.

**Please, just put us all out of our misery and DENY any size of Cal-Am Desal Project!** A smaller project won't save us any money---not even in the short run. If there is one thing that Cal Am customers know it is LESS WATER COSTS US MORE MONEY. We already use less water than the rest of our state, maybe the country, but our rates keep going up. We just need to take over Cal Am and stop their wasteful plans. It not right that No one should suffer from privately owned water, like we do.

Thank you for all your efforts to protect our beautiful coast and its dependent marine and land species.

Sincerely,

*Nancy Runyon*

Email: [nancy@nancyrunyon.com](mailto:nancy@nancyrunyon.com)

## California Coastal Commission

We are 2 Monterey residents. We oppose the CalAm desalination proposal for the following reasons:

1. The proposed location places a discriminatory burden on the City of Marina. Marina already hosts the community landfill, wastewater treatment plant, and community recycling facilities.
2. CalAm has abused the trust placed in it as a public utility.
3. CalAm is accelerating the project in spite of factual analysis by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District showing an adequate water supply for at least 20-30 years.
4. Cal Am appears to be inflating it's liability value to discourage a public takeover.
5. We (56% of us) voted to go public!!

Sincerely,

Pat McNeill & Lynn Hamilton





**November 9, 2022**

**To: CalAmMonterey@coastal.CA.Gov**

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

**My name is Scott Runtzel. I am a resident of Marina, CA. Myself and my partner, Joyce (pictured above) have lived and worked in Marina since 2018. We were both born and raised in California. Our children were all born and raised in California. My grandfather was born in California in 1899. We have a long history in this state.**

**We ask that you PLEASE DENY the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. It will provide NO BENEFIT to the residents of Marina, CA.**

**Thank you.**

**Scott Runtzel**

**Joyce Lynch**

**PO Box 611**

**Marina, CA 93933**

**montereycountyappraiser@gmail.com**

Dear California Coastal Commission:

One of my favorite things about Marina is that my family has access to a coastal resource that is normally reserved for much wealthier communities. We enjoy many trips to the Marina beach with our one-year-old daughter (pictured below). I hope she will grow up in our town running and playing on the beach – and drinking affordable sustainable water.



Four years ago, I was elected to the Marina Coast Water District Board because I vowed to fight to protect our Sand Dunes Aquifer from CalAm's pipes (and also our beach from CalAm's industrial facilities).

Our community does not want CalAm's industrial facility on the beach where our families gather and our children play. We also need our groundwater which is already threatened by saltwater intrusion made even worse by CalAm sucking fresh water from the aquifer.

Our city was founded by groups who were excluded from Monterey, Pacific Grove, and Carmel by redlining. Since then, it has been unsurprisingly burdened with many industrial facilities including the regional landfill and wastewater plant. With the coastal commission helping us finally close California's last coastal sand mine on Marina's beach, your staff recommends that you now reverse course and approve the construction of another industrial facility on our coast.

Your staff report details the environmental injustice that will be done by this project, but then proposes that as long as CalAm and Coastal Commission Staff agree, **behind closed doors and out of the public view**, there are no environmental justice concerns with the project, it can continue. The staff proposal not only cuts the impacted communities completely out of the conversation, but it also **removes the vital role that your own commission plays** in making sure that the public has a voice in your decisions.

I ask you to please deny the permit given that the environmental justice concerns it raises have not been addressed. **CalAm should have to come to you, with the agreement and input of the impacted communities, to demonstrate that their project is fair and equitable.**

To do otherwise is an abdication of your important role in this process.

Sincerely,

Matt Zefferman, Marina CA

November 11, 2022

Donne Brownsey, Chair  
California Coastal Commission  
455 Market Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**RE: CalAm Desalination CDP Application #9-20-0603 – Recommend Denial**

Dear Chair Brownsey and Members of the Commission:

I write to add my voice to those urging the Commission not to approve the desalination plant proposed by privately held California American Water (CalAm) in the City of Marina's coastal zone. As detailed in the comments submitted by [LandWatch Monterey County](#) and supported by the analysis of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), this project unnecessarily jeopardizes land and water quality and imposes disproportionate impacts on already burdened communities such as Seaside and Marina without providing the secure water source that is more readily available by the feasible alternative Pure Water Monterey.

The CalAm project fails to meet Coastal Act section 30260 which requires the Commission to find that there is no feasible alternative with lesser environmental impacts and that denial of the permit would adversely affect public welfare. Pure Water Monterey is clearly a feasible, less environmentally harmful alternative. Even though the Commission cannot know the true rate impacts of the changed CalAm project until the CPUC completes its reassessment, the huge rate increases from a desalination project would clearly harm, not benefit, the public welfare.

The CalAm project also fails to meet Coastal Act section 30013 which requires the Commission to take environmental justice impacts into account by advancing "the principles of environmental justice and equality." The Commission must determine that "the effects of the pollution are not disproportionately borne" by communities already experiencing such impacts. As noted in the Commission staff report, this project raises the "most significant environmental justice concerns the Commission has considered." Please protect vulnerable communities.

The CalAm desalination project is not the answer to the region's water supply challenges. Local solutions are up and going and more is on the way. The portfolio approach to water supply is alive and working in the Monterey Bay Area. Please do not approve CalAm's CDP application. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Ann Notthoff, Chair  
LandWatch Monterey County  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924 [abnotthoff@gmail.com](mailto:abnotthoff@gmail.com)

**Andrew Clarke  
926 Angelus Way  
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940**

November 9, 2022

Via Email: [tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:tom.luster@coastal.ca.gov) & [EORFC@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:EORFC@coastal.ca.gov)

Hon. Donne Brownsey, Chair and Commissioners  
California Coastal Commission  
Attn: Tom Luster  
455 Market Street, Suite 300  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Re: Support for California American Water's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project,  
CDP Application No. 9-20-0603**

Hon. Chair Brownsey and Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to approve the Coastal Development Permit for California American Water's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP) that is desperately needed to provide a long term solution to the Monterey peninsula continued water issues. As a former member of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, I am very well aware of the water issues facing our community and what we need to do to get that resolve those issues.

The MPWSP is a critical part of the solution needed to answer to the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) 2009 Cease and Desist Order, which limits pumping from the Monterey Peninsula's primary water source, the Carmel River. This water project, in conjunction with the continued water conservation efforts of the Monterey peninsula that will help us replace our historical reliance on the Carmel river.

Your approval of this project will help protect the Carmel River and will allow the Monterey Peninsula community to comply with state regulations. The community has come together to bring the Carmel River back to its former glory and protect all of the plants and animals that rely on that environment.

The project has been the subject of an extensive environmental review by state and federal agencies and was unanimously approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in 2018. This project is not without its opponents but has been exhaustively reviewed in the 13,000-page EIR/EIS and found to be in compliance with all laws and regulations. In fact, the California Supreme Court previously denied a parties petitions for writ of review of the CPUC's approval, upholding the EIR and the CPUC's decision.

The project has been designed in an environmentally responsible manner. It utilizes a state-of-the-art subsurface intake well system and a commingled brine/wastewater discharge, a desalination technology that minimizes marine impacts and is preferred by the SWRCB, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and your agency. The project's subsurface intake wells will also be located on a disturbed former industrial site, reducing impacts to biological resources.

**Andrew Clarke  
926 Angelus Way  
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940**

Without the approval of this Coastal Development permit, our community may face severe water restrictions, including possible water rationing, unless a long-term permanent replacement source is put in place. Our communities other water potential water supply projects, including the expansion of Pure Water Monterey, have not completed the required environmental review and has not been approved by the CPUC which is required for California American to integrate it into its water supply.

The timing of this approval is critical as failure to complete the project in timely manner would be harmful for the Monterey Peninsula community and the environment. The construction schedule for the project requires work begin as soon as possible in order to meet the Cease and Desist Order deadlines. Your review of this important project cannot be delayed.

My time serving on the MPWMD I worked very hard to get a new water supply online but was not successful. Approval of this project will help our community have the necessary water we need to provide economic opportunities that we have been held back from for the past 25 years. Our community has become the gold standard in the state in water conservation. However, given the already low water usage rate, conservation alone cannot replace the shortfall between California American's water supplies and anticipated future demands.

The benefits of the Project are clear. I ask that you approve California American's application for a Coastal Development Permit at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Clarke", with a stylized, flowing script.

Andrew Clarke

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

We know that all new vehicles sold in California by 2035 will be required to be electric to help with the reduction of climate-warming pollution. I view this as a very positive initiative; the switch from fossil-fuel burning cars to electric cars will be good for our planet, and us.

Experts warn that our electric grid may not readily manage the demands of electric cars; a gradual enhancement over time of our electric grid will be necessary as electric cars are phased in.

But the proposed CalAm desal plant will almost immediately require an enormous amount of electricity. This will dramatically and significantly increase the strain on our over-stretched power grid.

This may be a reason to deny the proposed CalAm slant wells and, instead, rely on a much more efficient, affordable, and environmentally superior alternative: Pure Water Monterey.

Pure Water Monterey will

- *Not* damage Marina's dunes and beaches (much of it designated as an Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area)
- *Not* take water from Marina's aquifer (as CalAm's slant wells will)
- *Not* harm endangered species (e.g., Snowy Plover)
- *Not* affect the Cemex Sand Plant closure agreement (that will ensure the property be restored and dedicated as low-impact recreation open space and endangered species habitat areas)
- *Not* contribute to the Environmental Injustice (as CalAm's slant wells will)

Respectfully,

Michael Kennedy  
Marina, CA



24 Cuesta Vista Dr.  
Monterey, CA 93940

November 10, 2022

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

**RE: Support for Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, Application No. 9-20-0603 (Agenda Item Th8a)**

Members of the Coastal Commission,

As a resident in the City of Monterey and a veteran in drinking water supply industry, I am writing in in strong support of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). I have worked in the municipal water supply business for over 30 years and understand the importance of having adequate and safe drinking water to a vibrant community. The MPWSP is critically needed for our region as it provides a reliable water source that solves the water supply shortage for the 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!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jack Wang', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jack Wang, Ph.D.

Via Email: [CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)

Nov. 9, 2022

Commissioners  
California Coastal Commission  
Attn: Tom Luster  
455 Fremont, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105- 2219

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

Honorable Commissioners

I strongly support the Water Supply Project. Ensuring a long-term sustainable water supply has been the single most significant issue on the Monterey Peninsula for decades. I support the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project that will be before you on November 17, 2022.

As one who was born on the Peninsula and has lived most of my life here, I have experienced this first hand, through droughts and water rationing. My family was among the tens of thousands of local residents who experienced mandatory water rationing as far back to the mid-1970's through early 1978 and again from 1989 to 1991. There have been many other limitations on water usage that adversely affect our community.

After a long career in law enforcement, I was first elected to the Monterey City Council in 2014 and this November I was re-elected by my community. As I walked throughout Monterey's neighborhoods during campaigns I spoke with residents and business people alike, and a constant theme about long-term water solutions was the constant conversation. There was/is widespread unhappiness about water restrictions that impact my community. I heard then and still hear about how my community is desperate for a sustainable solution that can be counted on to improve lives. This project is the closest we've come and this is the best opportunity to bring a reasonable solution.

As an eight-year member of the Monterey City Council, I serve on various regional boards; TAMC, AMBAG MCCVB to name a few and hear countless times from residents – those from cities and from unincorporated areas – that their inability to obtain a new water meter or a permit for a change or business improvement has been far more than an inconvenience. It has handicapped people in their day-to-day lives and prevented them from improving their homes or employing more people and improving our community's ability to supply housing.

For many, it has meant being unable for decades to add a bathroom for a growing family, expand a business and make it more viable, or create more much needed housing and jobs.

Commercial buildings, which formerly housed vibrant businesses, stand vacant because through the years adaptation of commercial locations is necessary and expected. Without the desal component of the Monterey Water Project there is no long-term improvement that is guaranteed to be sustainable. Some buildings have been vacant for many years, and

empty lots remain that way because water meter permits cannot be obtained and commercial locations cannot adapt.

There have been countless studies and investigations concerning water supply and usage and how to achieve the best solutions, and no ONE community consensus has ever been reached. There have been many divergent proposals which avoid the necessary and reasonable Desal solution which is before you today. Today you'll hear well-meaning people offering that this project isn't necessary. It is time for leadership and a decision that brings our region a sustainable long-term supply of water working together with other components like ASR and Sewage Treatment. The only agreement is that a remedy is needed, now more than ever.

What you now have before you, I believe, is the best opportunity to resolve the years-long water shortage and I support the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, which offers a three-pronged portfolio:

- Desalination, using subsurface technology as directed by the California Coastal Commission.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR), which is when "excess" Carmel River winter flows, under state and federal oversight, are treated and transmitted to wells in the Seaside Groundwater Basin.
- Sewage Treatment, another part of the solution.

The Monterey Water Project would ensure a strong, viable, and, more importantly, much-needed source of new water. But, without an approved desalination plant the statement of long-term sustainability rings hollow. Desalination coupled with the other design elements is essential to the Monterey region's supply and long-term water needs. The three-pronged portfolio would truly be sustainable!

This project has been carefully scrutinized and studied in a six-year environmental review conducted by state and federal agencies. The California Public Utilities Commission has approved it unanimously. Mitigation measures were imposed to reduce the project's environmental impacts in a reasonable manner. The Monterey Water Project is environmentally responsible and includes leaving additional water in the Carmel River to protect and preserve fish, a longstanding issue. It would abide by the State Water Resources Board's order to halt diversions from the Carmel River and it would replace water supplies in the Monterey District which includes many of our neighboring cities.

If we don't create this long-needed water supply with this project, the greater Monterey Peninsula and the environment will suffer. Those who live within the Monterey District have been diligent in reducing their water usage. However, more is needed than these self-imposed restrictions. History has taught us rain is infrequent and storage is limited. The desal aspect enables the region to create the storage solution through the ASR system to enable a healthier Seaside Aquifer under appropriate scrutiny.

Moreover, the Monterey Water Project would eventually allow for lifting the water moratorium, in effect for the past 13 plus years, on new service connections. Our economy would be bolstered, additional jobs created, and a path would be established for new and



much-needed housing, including low-cost housing and Accessory Dwelling Units, (ADU's). All of these require more water.

As an elected official, I have a duty to seek more affordable housing for the residents of Monterey and the greater Peninsula. Without the Monterey Water Project this is impossible. Give us the ability to start saying YES to smart and reasonable projects for our community. The City of Monterey's General Plan calls for additional housing, and state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation, (RHNA) require it. Without new meters and water supplied by the three-prong portfolio, including a Desal project new housing here is illusive.

I ask that the members of the Coastal Commission approve California American Water's application for a Coastal Development Permit in a timely fashion. The project is right sized and phased appropriately.

In *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck, writing about the neighboring Salinas Valley, which has had its own water concerns, penned these words:

*And it never failed that during the dry years the people forgot about the rich years, and during the wet years they lost all memory of the dry years. It was always that way.*

Through the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project that is before you, it no longer has to be that way. Let's change the trajectory and have reasonable growth and infill projects with right sized projects and achieve vibrant communities with housing, business and employment opportunities. Let's get to yes so, our communities can provide housing!

Please know that this is exceedingly critical for the City of Monterey and the entire Peninsula and I ask that you approve the Monterey Peninsula Water Project. I will attend on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ed Smith

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Smith', with a stylized, cursive script.

Councilmember  
City of Monterey  
(831) 601-5013

City of Monterey  
580 Pacific Street  
Monterey, CA 93940

**From:** [Kenia Acevedo](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:53:10 PM

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My name is Kenia Acevedo. I am a long term resident of Marina. I have lived in Marina for more than 10 years. The main reasons my partner and I decided to live, buy a house and start a family in Marina is because of its diversity and its beach access. Marina is a very rare and special place; it is one of few remaining affordable coastal communities primarily inhabited by persons of color. It is incredibly important to us to raise our interracial daughter in a community that welcomes and embraces people of all racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. If permitted to move forward, CalAm's desalination plant threatens the displacement of low-income residents of color in the region and materially limits our beach access.

The decision to approve the CalAm project subjects Marina residents, including our family, to tremendous harms and burdens. It (1) risks endangering an already vulnerable water supply, (2) it endangers the habitat of vulnerable wildlife, including the snowy plover, a symbol of our community, (3) it deprives us of the right to enjoy and live next to what has been slated to be a pristine coastline, free of industrial facilities, a right that few communities of color have access to, (4) it promises to industrial facilities in a tiny city already disproportionately affected with industrial uses, most of which are concentrated in one place, just a few miles from our homes, (5) it subjects Marina residents to endless construction as our roads and streets will be destroyed to extract and exploit our most valuable resource: water, and (6) it risks the displacement of low-income communities of color in neighboring cities. Worse of all, it imposes those harms and risks on a disadvantaged community, primarily consisting of people of color in one of the few remaining affordable coastal communities that they can call home.

Even within Marina, those harms and risks will be mostly borne by Marina residents living closest to the proposed facility, who already live within a couple of miles of already existing industrial facilities and are already victims of other regional injustices. Most affected will be the hundreds, if not thousands, of residents, residing in the dozens of apartment buildings lining Del Monte Blvd (north of Beach St) and neighboring communities, including my own. It is these neighborhoods that will have to live through the effects of months or years of construction. These are the same neighborhoods that have been forced to disproportionately absorb the Monterey Peninsula's negative externalities with regard to affordable housing. The same area where a four story low-income housing apartment building is scheduled to be built. **It is unconscionable that government agencies, including the Coastal Commission, continue to make Marina and it's the most vulnerable residents responsible for absorbing the externalities of an entire region.** We deserve better.

I am extremely disheartened and infuriated by the staff's recommendation for approval despite blatant, well documented environmental justice issues. The conditions imposed to mitigate the environmental justice issues are inadequate and do little or nothing to actually protect our community from the tremendous risks, harms and indignities the plan imposes. **The conditions are inadequate in that they give too much credit to the promises of a company that has historically exploited and mismanaged the extraction of water, despite state agency oversight, and has already shown itself incapable of reaching out to and supporting low-income residents with existing efforts.** A for profit company, CalAM has no incentive to do right by our communities and no need for our water.

Please do right by my daughter and my community, deny the CalAm project.

Best,

Kenia Acevedo





**From:** [Nancy McLaughlin](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:27:14 PM

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

Please deny the CalAm Slant Well project. Protect our marine life, our snowy plovers, and our beautiful beaches. Don't make us cave into big money like the city of Carlsbad did, no matter how much they offer you. Please pretend that you live here - would you want that ruining your water and your beaches?

Please deny the CalAm Slant Well project.

Thank you.

Best wishes,  
Anne Marie McLaughlin



### Due Careful Commission

My name is Sandra Zappelli and I've lived in Marin for over 7 years and prior to that 18 years in Monterey. I am not able to express all the technical reasons why Cal Am should not be allowed to build their Diesel project in Marin. Others in Marin have said it very well. I had to understand how anyone can think it's ok for a large corporation that does not supply water to Marin to build diesel units that will run household Marin's beaches and leave the possibility of contaminating Marin's water supply. Other towns in Monterey County that do get their water from Cal Am have their own beaches. What Cal Am is trying to do is to have its beaches for Marin or its citizens just running our town. What Cal Am is doing is WRONG!!!!



Read from my iPhone

**From:** [Adelina Standish](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 2:14:14 PM

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

My name is Adelina Standish; I am a resident of Monterey, CA, and have several friends living in Marina. I am a recent Zoology Undergrad from Colorado State University, and I have had the pleasure of working with and learning about some amazing conservation programs, and know enough to ask for the halting of the proposed CalAm desalination project. Although Cal-Am has created some sustainable and useful mitigation programs, this project in particular will destroy habitat for 14 listed species of plants and animals, as well as cost the central coastline millions of dollars for an unsustainable water source, when there is already a cheaper, efficient, and growing system in place. In addition to the environmental concerns, the project serves to further burden the city of Marina, which is known for its culturally diverse and lower income community. Taking advantage of an impoverished community in this way is blatant environmental racism and greed.

Please do not allow environmental harm and racism to continue to spread just in the name of profits and control. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you,  
Adelina Standish and my friend Penelope from the zoo





**From:** [Barbara Maschmeier](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 1:10:46 PM

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T

To: California Coastal Commission  
From: Barbara Maschmeier  
Subject:  
Please Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit

My husband Dan and I purchased a home in one of Marina' wonderful cul-de-sacs in October of 2008. We have been down to the dog friendly beach just north of Marina state beach hundreds of times. We along with our dog StanLee would walk north to were the sand mining operation continually undermined the cliffs along Marina Beach.

Please Deny the CalAm Desalination Project Permit

Thank You,  
Sincerely,  
Barbara A Maschmeier

Sent from my iPad

From: [Cheryl Caputo](#)  
To: [Linda@marinwater.com](#)  
Subject: Long Valley Decision and Project Permit  
Date: Friday, November 11, 2022 1:06:48 PM

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Dave and I retired here from the East Bay in 2016.  
We felt very fortunate to find a coastal community, where you actually have direct access to the beach.  
With the Sand Plant leaving, an entire "flat" easy accessible beach opened up.  
I am not able to access the water from the beaches on a ridge, I can't get back up the hill. Many of the residents are seniors or disabled. This flat beach is a jewel to the community, one we desperately need!!  
Marina is one of the few cities that have maintained beach access to all. No big hotel or commercial businesses blocking views or access.  
PLEASE don't allow "Caltrans Slant Well" to destroy our beach, and community.  
We are a small community. Caltrans can find other areas to build their desal plant, why not in the community it would serve??  
All this does is destroy our beach community to the benefit of a more economic affluent community?  
Protect our coast!! NO DESAL!!

Cheryl Caputo

**From:** [Ljweez](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 11:25:53 AM

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

My name is Linda Wiesner. This is my daughter, Camille, and my granddaughter, Ilana, at our beloved Marina State Beach, just a mile from my home.



We were all born and raised in California. (Well, Ilana is still working on the “being raised“ part. )

We understand the desperate need for more water in California and across the globe. Camille lived in Israel for six years and saw up close the effects of desalinization there. We definitely do not want this in our community!

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion project is capable of replacing CalAm’s desal at a fraction of the cost, with no coastal impact.

The expansion of this already functioning, recycled, water project, parentheses pure water. Monterey parentheses can meet the new housing and growth needs of the peninsula for the next 30 years.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion project represents a regional solution to the Monterey Peninsula’s water supply needs, where the benefits and burdens of this wastewater project are shared among affected communities, and for which there is broad community support.

The Cemex settlement agreement ensures that the property it is located in be restored and FOREVER DEDICATED TO CONSERVATION AND LOW-IMPACT RECREATION.

Approval of this project, with slant wells on the beach at the scenic site, will ruin Marina’s chance to, after more than 100 years, finally get a pristine beach with easy access to be enjoyed by Marina residents, visitors, and plants and animals, including our beloved, western snowy plover.

This harmful project is a classic case of environmental injustice!

PLEASE deny CalAm’s desalination project in Marina!

**From:** [Personal](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 10:22:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [drawing.png](#)

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My name is Sungwon Song.

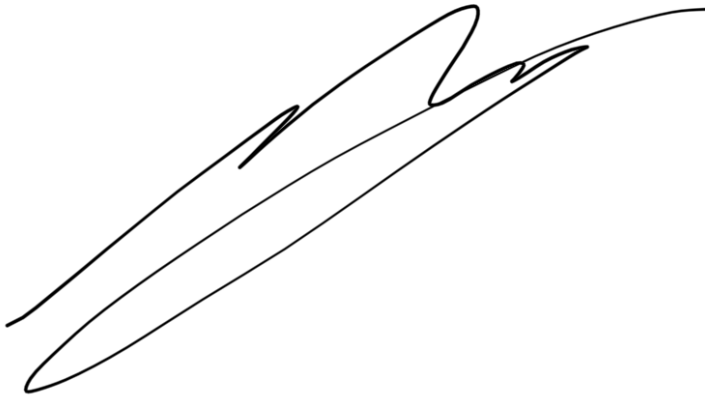
I'm a resident of 2770 Moonshell Ln in the Dunes community in Marina. I moved here in July and have been privileged to live in this beautiful area with my newly wedded wife.

We decided to call this city our home and waiting for the construction of our new home.

I hate to be one of those NIMBY's, but the CalAm Desalination project must be stopped to protect Marina. Marina doesn't need a for-profit organization to take control over the most critical resource for our survival. It will destroy things that made me to live here, and it will do the same for all other current and prospective residents of the City of Marina.

Please deny the CalAm project.

Respectfully,  
Sungwon

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sungwon Song', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.



**From:** [Jay Singh](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 10:00:11 AM

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

My name is Jay Singh; I am a resident of Marina. Marina is our home and we care deeply about the community and environment. We have decided this is the best place to raise our daughter because of the diverse community and the focus on environmental justice.

The proposed Cal-Am project does not protect the environment or the community. The unintended consequences of the project will disproportionately impact Marina residents, specifically people of color who also have similar hopes and dreams of raising their families in this community.

Key local public water agencies agree that the Cal-Am proposed desal project is not needed to meet water supply needs for the region. Yet Marina residents would bear all of the negative impacts such as potentially limiting our water supply in the future and negative impact to the environment.

Please **deny** the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you

--

**Peace,**

**Jay Singh**





**From:** [Rose Lovell](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 9:18:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [Screen Shot 2022-11-11 at 9.15.19 AM.png](#)

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

My husband Mike and I moved to this area 4 years ago from Dallas, Texas and water was a major concern for us in our decision to move here. We are retired, but our daughter and her family with our two grandsons live 3 minutes away and they both work here. We think this project will be a significant problem for the environment and for this area and is not needed with the plans that are already in place.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will hurt Marina.

Thank you,  
Rose and Mike Lovell



**From:** [Monica Altamirano](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal); [justwater93933@gmail.com](mailto:justwater93933@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Plant Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 8:25:57 AM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff— My name is M. Altamirano. I am a registered voter and long-time resident of Marina,CA(22yrs) with a plan to retire here in a few years. I raised my family here with the 'family-first' community spirit found in the local public schools (Olsen, LosArboles, Marina High and CSUMB). I've seen the changes in Marina and the desal plant is not a positive one for this coastal city, it's community, the recreation or conservation of the Marina coast. Cal-Am's desal plant will damage at least 35 acres of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) on Marina's dunes and beach and will adversely impact threatened endangered species. Additionally, the Cemex settlement agreement will be violated.



Please deny the Cal-Am plant project that will harm Marina. Thank you. MAltamirano



**From:** [justxordinary](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:03:06 AM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff









My name is Shin Young Park, I am a resident of Marina at Dunes on Monterey. I am California native, and moved to Marina about 5 years ago for work and fell in love with natural coastline and have stayed since.

When I first heard about the project, I was not aware of all the impact that it may have in our community. I have recently made decision to become more long term permanent resident of this community, settle down and have family here, but the more I learn about this project I am more convinced it is more harmful than helpful, and wrong decision for our community.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. The slant well development will permanently destroy environmentally sensitive dunes habitat that is home to several threatened and endangered species and impact several more acres with roads and service requirement. Not only that, it will actually harm our own water supply and our

community. There are many untapped ways we all can engage in sustainable, environmentally responsible and shared costs of obtaining water for all. The Cal-Am Slant Well Project is not this!

Thank you very much, and I really hope you will make the right decision for Marina.

Thank you,  
Shin Young Park



**From:** [Becky Ozoa](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:14:14 PM

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

My name is Rebecca Ozoa.

My husband and I are residents of Marina.

We originally came because of CSUMB, fell in love with the community, and eventually purchased our forever home here.

I am a full-time community college instructor and own a Human Resources consulting practice.

We are concerned about the proposed Cal-Am project. Marina will incur all of the risks without any benefits. There are better and safer ways to address the peninsula's water challenges.

Please deny the Cal-Am project.

Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Rebecca Ozoa  
Concerned Marina resident

**From:** [John Sanders](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [Linda Sanders](#)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:26:45 PM

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My name is John Sanders and I have been a Marina resident for 38 years.

Staff recommendation for approval of CalAm's proposed desal project is misguided and completely inconsistent with earlier assessments. I urge you to deny CalAm's project and put an end to the corporation's attempts to take Marina's vital water resources.

Decades of sand mining at Marina have driven wildlife from the area and increased coastal erosion throughout the southern arc of Monterey Bay. CalAm's proposed desal plant will cause further damage and prevent rehabilitation of this critical coastal habitat.

Marina residents and local government officials have worked tirelessly to establish a sound process to eliminate sand mining at the Cemex plant and re-establish a healthy coastal environment. The photos below show the current desolate, littered dune system at the Cemex plant. It is time to restore this coastal habitat.





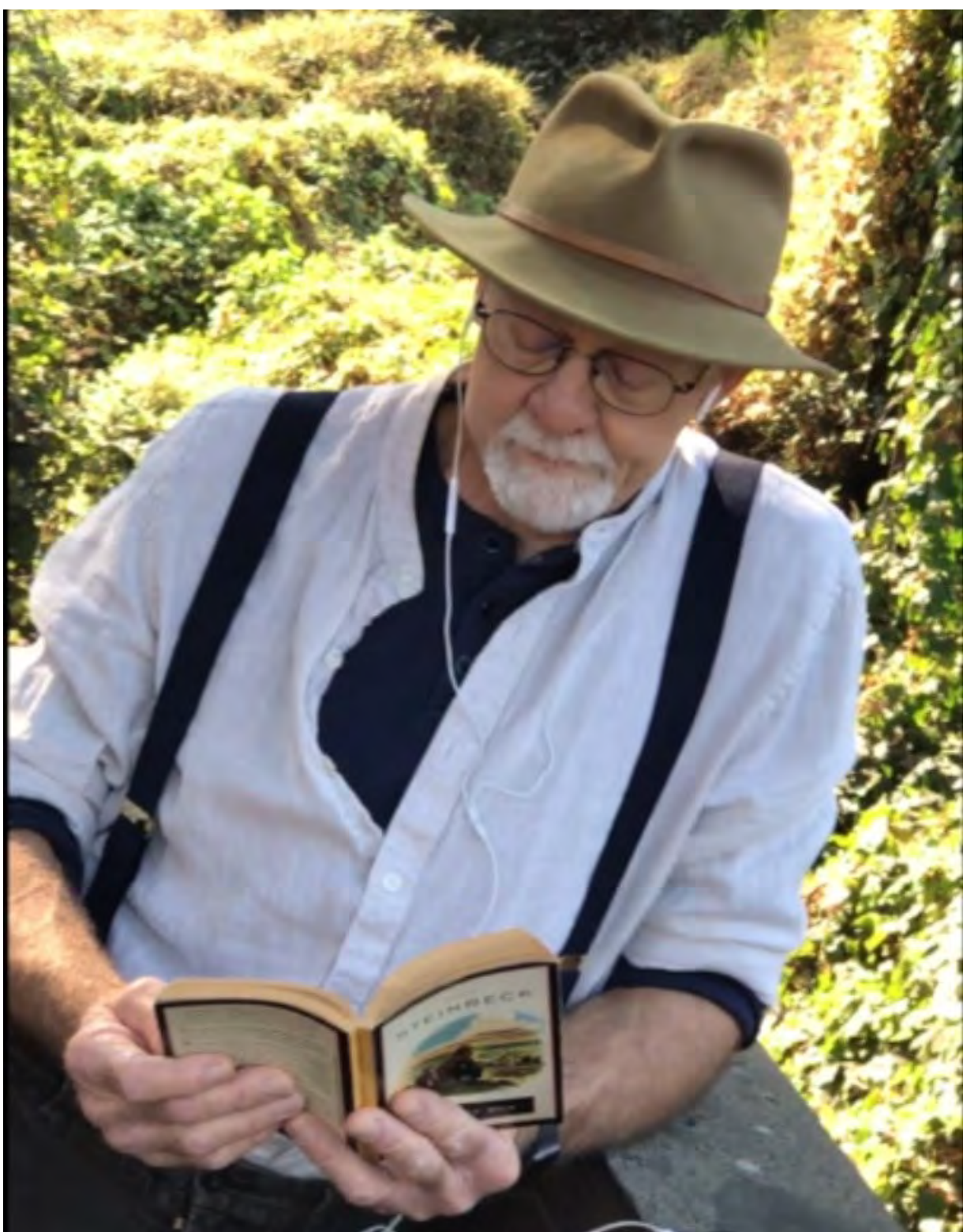


In addition to the negative environmental impact of CalAm's proposed project, approval of their application would undermine the diligent efforts of our local municipal water district and place severe burdens on the citizens of Marina. It would add a new level of unfairness to a community that has long shouldered regional burdens.

CalAm's proposed project would create long-term negative consequences. Their presence in our community is not wanted and not needed. Deny the CalAm desalination project proposal.

John Sanders







**From:** [Just Water Marina](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Lack of outreach to Marina's residents - Deny Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 6:06:59 PM

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

The staff report mentions CalAm's belatedly increased public outreach efforts. CalAm has done a terrible job reaching out to residents, and they are misusing photos of Citizens for Just Water supporters on their website. The Community Meeting on 08/09/2022 at CSUMB (in Seaside, **not** Marina) was their only community meeting that had more than a few attendees. On CalAm's website, our supporters are being presented as interested visitors, but they were there to PROTEST against CalAm's harmful desal project!



Issues for all community meetings:

- Meetings were announced only shortly in advance.
- Meetings were not well announced ("Information included with your invoice" will not reach MCWD customers!)
- Meetings were hard to find, due to complete absence of directional signs.
- It was unclear that CalAm covered parking fees.
- Questions were answered incorrectly.
- For the 10/01/2022 meeting at CSUMB, two different times (morning/afternoon) were posted on the MPWSP website.
- Only the final two community meetings, October 17 and 24, were held in Marina; this was the first time in all those years that CalAm reached out to Marina residents!



These photos of CalAm's final community outreach effort, on 10/24/2022 at the Springhill Suites in Marina, are representative of all those other meetings: an empty room with more CalAm reps than visitors. The visitors in the photo are reps from MCWD, MPWMD, PWN and Just Water, who only attended to monitor the meeting. It seemed that CalAm didn't really want any visitors. They clearly only organized these meetings to be able to scratch that requirement off their to-do list. You would expect a better job from a company that has staff, and plenty of financial means.

**Citizens for Just Water** has NO MONEY but, over the years, we have reached out to Marina residents through social media, by hosting ten very well attended public forums, beach walks, many group presentations, by knocking on doors, and countless one-on-one interactions. For months, our volunteers have been present at the Farmers' Market every Sunday, 10AM-2PM, rain or shine, to inform Marina residents about CalAm's desal project. (On three Sundays, CalAm had a table at the market. Even though rubber duckies were handed out, only a few people visited.)

We wish that you could hear the replies from Marina residents when we explain that our city will bear all the harms and risks of this project, without receiving any of the benefits. Most of Marina's residents will not be able to take a day out of their lives to attend the Coastal Commission hearing, or even a few hours to attend via Zoom. Many residents don't feel comfortable giving public comments, often due to their limited English skills or because they are too intimidated. All we can do is use some of the hundreds of photos that we have taken, to try to show you how diverse Marina's population is, and that ALL residents that we have spoken with do not want this project in our city. They think that Marina's water source should not be diminished or contaminated, and that -instead of yet another industrial facility- our city deserves a pristine beach, with easy access, to be enjoyed by residents, visitors, and threatened



and endangered species, including our beloved Western Snowy Plover.

***Please deny the permit for this harmful, unnecessary project, which is a classic case of Environmental Injustice!***

Thank you,

Liesbeth Visscher,

Chair, Citizens for Just Water.



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**Liesbeth Visscher**  
**Citizens for Just Water, Chair**

**Citizens for Just Water - Justice for our Water**

**From:** [Linda Sanders](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 5:18:01 PM

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

My name is Linda Sanders. My husband John and I have lived in Marina for forty years. We have raised our sons here and have happily added grandchildren who live here too. John worked at the Naval Post Graduate School for many years and I taught elementary school (MPUSD) for many years. The area we live in has provided an enriching environment for our sons, their wives and our grandchildren to live in and experience. I would add to this the many field trips I have taken school children on, in and around our beautiful coast. We have proudly supported local schools, beach clean ups, the growing and planting of native plants, our State Parks, Elkhorn Slough just to name a few of the things we love and enjoy as well as believe in. We want to continue to do these things.

Marina has fought hard to close down the Cemex Plant which has been damaging our coast for years with the profits going elsewhere. We were excited to learn that this area would once again have the opportunity to become a pristine beach to be enjoyed by not just Marina residents, but visitors too as well as the natural animals that live here.

This project does not benefit our area at all. It will cause irreversible harm and is an example of Environmental injustice. Profits will go to a private company, Cal Am, who will continue to charge its customers with high rates. It will not benefit Marina at all. It will irrevocably damage Marina. Please vote against the CalAm bill desalination project.

Linda Sanders





**From:** [Melosa Granda](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:52:13 PM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:  
My name is Melosa Granda, I am a resident of Monterey County. I frequent our coastal environment, it is my place of exercise, play, cultivating health, and connecting with spirituality. I am in the working class, I work to defend the labor rights of farmworkers. I am of mixed race, including Mexican-American.

I ask that you please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you,  
Melosa Granda





**From:** [Chloe Cook](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:26:52 PM

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

My name is Chloe Cook; I am a resident of Marina and absolutely love our coastal community! Never have I lived in an area where the community not only takes care of each other but also the best interests of our lovely Marina.





I am disheartened to hear that this project is even a consideration as it will greatly hurt our community, which includes our ecosystem and wildlife. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Chloe Cook and Family



**From:** [sharon.langmead@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharon.langmead@sbcglobal.net)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [langmeadlarry@gmail.com](mailto:langmeadlarry@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Please Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:13:02 PM

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

My name is Sharon Langmead; I am a resident of The Dunes on Monterey Bay. My husband Larry and I bought our forever retirement home in December of 2019. After working for several decades in the Silicon Valley/South San Francisco Bay Area, we moved to our beloved Central Coast in May of 2020 during the state mandated Covid Shelter in Place. Larry had already retired from Lockheed Martin and I was semi-retired Ambulatory Surgery Center PACU Registered Nurse. We were joined by our two adult daughters who were forced to continue their educational endeavors online during the pandemic.

Our daughters thrived in the coastal environment and developed a strong affinity for the local flora and fauna. With the reopening of Cal State Campuses, our younger daughter graduated from Cabrillo College in May 2022 and joined her older sister at CSU East Bay in Hayward. They now consider Marina their home and continue to be greatly concerned for the fragility of the endangered species and threatened coastline in this community. We have all watched as the Cemex plant was successfully closed with promises of preserving local coastal access and protecting the threatened dunes habitats of endangered species such as the Snowy Plover.

**CalAm has no groundwater rights and the experimental Slant Well extraction of groundwater will cause further harm to an aquifer in overdraft and our vernal ponds.** Cal Am's desal project relies on using Marina's groundwater to feed their experimental desalination project for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. Cal Am does not have water rights to this water. A Stanford groundwater study shows that this project will cause harm to the aquifer which is already identified as "critically overdrafted". The project will impact our beaches and federally recognized threatened wildlife but serve no water for Marina. Our community was not asked if we wanted this project. It is being forced on our less wealthy community to serve the peninsula hospitality and real estate interests.

**We join JUST WATER in opposing the illegal extraction of Marina's water and advocating for the fair and equitable use and development of sustainable groundwater resources without adverse consequences to the needs and rights of any party.**

In an environment where the local water district has shown that existing and future water needs can be covered by existing water recovery expansion plans we ask that you please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina while denying our community benefit.

Thank you,

Sharon and Larry Langmead  
City of Marina Residents



Virus-free [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)



**From:** [Elaine](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:03:32 PM

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



Some personal background:

My name is Elaine Turner and I was born at Fort Ord in 1958. I am a true “native” of Marina. My father served our country for 20 years in the Army and retired in Marina as a Lt. Colonel. When my parents both passed away my husband and I made the decision to continue to live in Marina and acquire the home I grew up in. My adult daughter also lives in Marina. We love our community with its unfettered access to beautiful dunes and beaches.

A few years ago several busloads of our residents from Marina attended the CCC hearings held in Half Moon Bay. The resulting staff report from CCC agreed with the residents of Marina to deny CalAm their request. Why must we revisit this and why has the opposite decision been reached?

Our community is home to beautifully diverse cultures. Our residents are economically diverse, as well. This is a very different characteristic from most other cities on California’s Central Coast. We can not afford to bear the burden for the whole Monterey Peninsula that the CalAm slant wells will bring to our small city. I mention this as our city has been responsible for many services that benefit the whole central coast; sewage plant, garbage landfill, sand mining, and mitigating contamination from (our beloved) Fort Ord military site to name a few. Marina will bear all of the negative consequences of the CalAm wells and will receive none of the benefits or water. **This CalAm slant well project raises so many environmental justice concerns!**

For the following reasons my husband, daughter, and I object to CalAm slant wells being located in Marina:

- They would harm, contaminate, and diminish Marina’s water supply.
- They are not needed as other less costly alternative sources of water are available.
- They would damage the dunes and beaches in Marina that have already been scarred from several decades by the removal of sand by the Cemex Sand Mining Plant.
- They would harm endangered species and other wildlife.
- They would fly in the face of environmental justice for Marina.

**Please listen to the voices of the Marina residents and deny the CalAm Slant Well Project!**

Thank you kindly,  
Elaine Turner  
234 Peninsula Drive  
Marina, CA 93933

~~~~~

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



**From:** [Montgomery Cook](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Destination Project!!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:57:15 PM

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

My name is Monty Cook. I am a proud resident of Marina along with my family.

We live here for the beauty of the coast and clean air quality for our health. We love going to the beach any chance we get.

We can't believe you are even considering this project as Marina voted in 2017 to keep the beach and water supply as is - a Blue Zone.

We believe the proposal will do great harm to our water supply and create an ugly and damaging site on our beach.

We whole heartedly believe this is absolutely the wrong thing to do and hope you DENY this project!

Thank you for your consideration of our thoughts.



Sincerely,

Monty Cook and family

**From:** [Yuri Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Energy@Coastal](mailto:Energy@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on November 2022 Agenda Item Thursday 7a & 8a  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:32:33 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident of Marina and I am writing today to urge you to DENY your staff's recommendation to approve the Cal-Am application to construct slant wells along our city's coastline.

I am a mother to two school aged children, volunteer for the PTA at our local public school, serve as Leader for the local Brownie Troop, and am an elected member of the local community college board. I say all this to help you understand how much I love my city and the community in which I live.

Cal-Am's project will harm Marina, while providing no benefits to a city that already shoulders the burden for an undue number of regional industrial facilities.

Cal-Am's project is inconsistent with the Coastal Act you are sworn to uphold and Marina's Local Coastal Program. Allowing Cal-Am to construct wells in Marina would be a violation of your own environmental justice policy.

Please help protect my community by denying this project.

Sincerely,  
Yuri Anderson





**From:** [Marie Tolteca](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 1:49:55 PM

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

Hello. My name is Marie Emily Tolteca. I am a resident of Marina and an undergraduate student studying Environmental Science Technology & Policy with a concentration in watersheds and a minor in Data Science at California State University, Monterey Bay. My first impression of Marina was its beautiful and accessible nature. I am so grateful to now live in a place that takes pride in its accessibility to beaches and nature, and its commitment to sustainability. I grew up in Southern & Northern Central California's cities. I absolutely love this area! The beautiful surroundings of Marina and Marina's surrounding nature are something my family and I love to explore and enjoy when they visit me. Having the opportunity to share this area and memories with them is so special to me. I would love to continue doing so. Marina's future is in your hands, and I hope you make the right choice. Thank you!

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.



**Marie Tolteca**

Environmental Science Technology and Policy  
Concentration- Watershed  
Minor- Data Science  
She/Her/Hers



**From:** [Mariana Jimenez](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 1:28:42 PM

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

Hello. My name is Mariana Elizabeth Jimenez. I am a resident of Marina and an undergraduate student studying Marine Science & Data Science at California State University, Monterey Bay. When I moved to Marina for school, I was enthralled by the accessible beautiful nature that is here. As a Mexican American who has lived and grown up in the cities of Southern & Northern Central California, I'm so grateful to now live in an area that takes a lot of pride in its accessibility to beaches/nature and its sustainability efforts. I absolutely love this area! When my family comes to visit me, we love to explore and enjoy Marina and its beautiful surrounding nature. I'm so blessed to be able to share this area and memories with them- I'd love to continue to do so. I hope that you will make the right decision for Marina. Thank you!

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.



--

**Mariana E. Jimenez (MJ)**

She | Her | Ella  
Marine Science Major, Data Science Minor  
LSAMP Participant  
TRIO SSS-STEM-HS Scholar  
Marine Science Club President  
Residential Advisor | Pinnacles - Global Perspectives  
California State University, Monterey Bay  
Email: [marijimenez@csumb.edu](mailto:marijimenez@csumb.edu)



**From:** [Stephen Corbett](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny Cal-Am Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 1:11:02 PM

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

My name is Stephen Corbett. My wife and I have been residents of Marina for over four years. I am a Navy veteran with ties to the area going back 20 years, first as a student of Russian at the Defense Language Institute then later coming back to teach Russian there. After leaving the Navy, I worked for eight years with a local non-profit helping homeless Veterans and while I have returned to federal service as a civilian, I continue to help local Veterans in my spare time. My wife has been working for the federal government locally for over 15 years.

We are very happy to have moved to Marina as many of our friends have been living here for many years and we understand why it's a great place to live and raise a family. While there is a great abundance of natural beauty in our city area, there is also a wealth of cultural diversity within the population here which has ties to Fort Ord and its legacy in regards to Marina's history. My wife being a Russian immigrant and myself a second generation Korean American, we feel we are adding to Marina's cultural heritage.

Since the Pure Water Monterey recycled water project makes the Cal-Am desalination project completely unnecessary, Cal-Am's continued fight for building it makes no sense for the peninsula's water needs. Their primary goal, as a NYSE publicly traded company, is to make money for their shareholders. By building an unnecessary desalination plant that seriously threatens to diminish and further contaminate Marina's water supply is solely for their corporate profit at the expense of damaging the environment and thousands of families.

Please deny Cal-Am's desalination project. It only adds another threat to the diverse population and environment of Marina but one that is wholly avoidable.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Very respectfully,

Stephen Corbett





**From:** [Kathy Youngquist](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:39:12 AM

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



My name is Kathy Youngquist and I have owned a home in East Garrison for the past 6 years. This is my second home that I enjoy coming to from the East Coast since I have been retired. It's a little piece of heaven. But I have been coming to the peninsula for the past 15 years, enjoying what the area has to offer, which is why I decided to purchase a home at East Garrison. I have been following what was supposed to happen with beaches being returned to Marina, and so many other improvements that have been on the books for Marina residents to FINALLY have the opportunity enjoy, so I am saddened at



the idea of what is being considered in place of what currently exists at the Cemex property.

I am not able to speak in person on behalf of all concerned citizens, but am hopeful that you will make the right decision for citizens of the Marina area. There are other locations that can be considered for their project.

Please, please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

Kathy Youngquist  
17410 Logan St  
East Garrison, CA 93933

From: [George Powell](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:31:37 AM  
Attachments: [image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)

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

Much effort from the Marina community went into the canceled Sept. 17, 2020 hearing, and we want to ensure that some of our efforts will be applied to this hearing since so much time and effort went into so many initiatives.

This one representing our small business communities is one of these. Please recognize our work by reading this email.

Thank you,  
George Powell,  
Resident and businessperson



November 8, 2019

California Coastal Commission

Dear Commissioners and Chair,

The undersigned small business owners of Marina urge you to deny the Coastal Development Permit for California American Water's proposed desalination project. Your staff report cited that CalAm's project would create substantial hardships for several communities of concern "**by its potential indirect impacts to other area water supplies, or due to the presence of CalAm's well field on a site that otherwise would provide priority coastal resource benefits such as habitat restoration, public access to the shoreline, and recreational opportunities.**"

Further, Marina has one census tract designated as an SB 535 Disadvantaged Community, has a higher level of poverty, linguistic isolation, unemployment and housing burden compared to the rest of CA. The top 3 non-English languages spoken incl. Spanish, Vietnamese, and Korean. Marina also has a pollution burden higher than 71% of other census tracts in the state.

Our local businesses are a direct reflection of these demographics. Marina has a few large employers but we have primarily small ethnic "mom and pop" restaurants and businesses, often owned by and operating with extended families. Our businesses generate small profit margins but it keeps food on our tables for our families and guarantees a livelihood to our immigrants, many of whom do not speak English as their primary language. This project will create significant road work on our main Marina streets and will likely create issues for our customers to access our businesses and deter tourists from exploring our city and patronizing our businesses.


Further, the business owners of Marina and the Ord communities currently pay one of the lowest rates of water under the publicly elected Marina Coast Water District, its water supply now being threatened by the CalAm Desalination project's illegal take of groundwater from other than its own jurisdiction. The seawater intrusion and over draft from the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin will place the future of potable water and MCWD water rates in major jeopardy and untenable for small businesses in a disadvantaged community that currently receive water from MCWD.

This project is not in the public interest. It benefits Cal Am shareholders, while creating environmental damage and unnecessary financial burden for our community. We ask you to deny this permit.

BUSINESS NAME

OWNER/MANAGER

① Asian market  
3058 Del Monte Blvd 105  
Marina, CA. 93933

mpng-ho. Kim  



Signatures of the Marina Small Business owners in Opposition to CalAm Desalination Project:

BUSINESS NAME

OWNER/MANAGER


②

KIM'S ALTERATIONS  
289 Carmel Ave.  
Marina CA 93933

Yousa Sid  


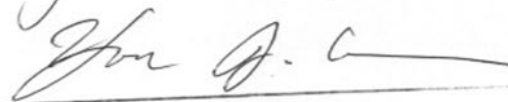
③

Hong's Market  
302 Carmel Ave  
Marina CA 93933

Myong Im Hong  



④

New Korea Restaurant  
300-D Carmel Ave.  
Marina, CA 93933

John J. Kam  


⑤

Sue's Florist  
3106 Delmonte  
Marina CA 93933

Tug S Powell  


⑥

El Rancho Market  
346 Reservation Rd  
Marina Ca 93933

Israel Castro  
Israel Castro

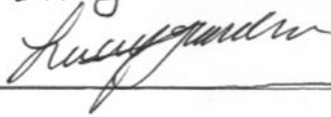


Signatures of the Marina Small Business owners in Opposition to CalAm Desalination Project:


BUSINESS NAME

OWNER/MANAGER

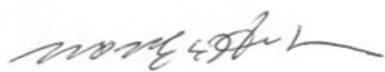
⑦ MARINA DONUTS & BAGELS  
266 RESERVATION RD., STE. H  
MARINA, CA (831) 883-4527

Luoy Chau  


⑧ PHE LUCKY NOODLE HOUSE  
266 RESERVATION RD. STE R  
MARINA CA 93933  
(831) 883 8003

OWNERS  
SON NGUYEN  
OANH NGUYEN  



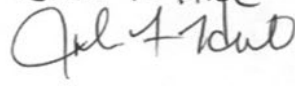
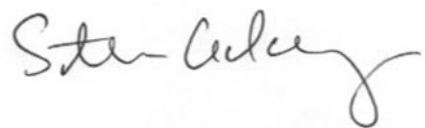
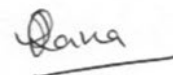
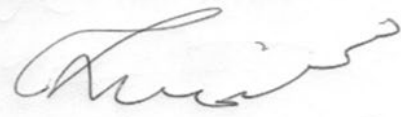
⑨ Marina Square Shopping  
Center  
265 Reservation Rd  
# C  
Marina, CA 93933

Woong B. Huh  


⑩ Siam Marina Thai Cuisine  
210 Reimollar Ave  
Marina, CA 93933

Kedsim Tenthup  
K. Tenthup

Signatures of the Marina Small Business owners in Opposition to CalAm Desalination Project:

- | BUSINESS NAME                                                              | OWNER/MANAGER                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (11) El Gallo<br>Mexican Restaurant<br>3102 Del Monte Blvd Marina 93933    | Elsa Espinoza                                                                                                          |
| (12) Michi Japanese Restaurant<br>3114 Del Monte Blvd<br>Marina CA 93933   | Kyoko Michioka<br>Kyoji Michioka<br> |
| (13) AMERICAN FLOORS<br>216 RESERVATION RD.<br>MARINA, CA 93933            | JOHN F. HILL<br>                     |
| (14) Marina Cycle + Skate<br>214 Reservation Rd.<br>Marina, CA 93933       | Steve Adley<br>                    |
| India Fashion Trends.<br>(15) 266-O - Reservation Rd.<br>Marina - CA 93933 | Kamlesh Rana.<br>                 |
| (16) PARK AVE style<br>266 Reservation Rd<br>MARINA CA 93933               | <br>FARID M RAGAB                  |



Signatures of the Marina Small Business owners in Opposition to CalAm Desalination Project:

BUSINESS NAME

OWNER/MANAGER

(17) Steve's Filipino Indian Market  
3056 Del Monte Blvd.  
Marina 93933

Sanjai Lush  


(18) Tyler Tran - Poke House  
266 Reservation Rd Ste-S  
Marina, CA 93933  
831-384-7898

Tyler Tran

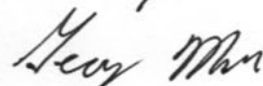


(19) New Tokyo Japanese Restaurant  
3170 N Vista Del Camino #N  
Marina, CA 93933  
831-384-4763

Mu Xia Mei



(20) Keoki's Hawaiian Barbeque  
3170 Vista Del Camino Suite H  
Marina, Ca 93933

George Manabe  


Signatures of the Marina Small Business owners in Opposition to CalAm Desalination Project:

(21) BUSINESS NAME

OWNER/MANAGER

Tim Thai Cuisine  
3170 Vista del Camino  
Marina 93933 CA

Kalyaleem Ratanapongsai  
(Kalyaleem Ratanapongsai)  
11/6/19.

(22)

Contours Beauty Salon  
218 Reindollar Ave Ste-B  
MARINA CA 93933

Chong S Kim  
Chy + Kim 11/7/19

(23)

Julian Beauty Salon  
221 RESERVATION RD #1  
MARINA CA 93933

EDDIE Dams  
11/7/19

(24)

INTEGRITY PRINT & DESIGN  
215 C RESERVATION RD  
MARINA, CA 93933

BRANDON PETERSON  
Brandon Peterson

(25)

MIKE MAST INSURANCE  
326-C RESERVATION RD  
MARINA CA 93933

MICHAEL L MAST  
MLM  
11-7-19



Signatures of the Marina Small Business owners in Opposition to CalAm Desalination Project:

| BUSINESS NAME               | Address                                     | OWNER/MANAGER                                             |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| (26) Tico's Breakfast       | 330 Reservation Rd #C<br>Marina CA 93933    | Silvia Hernandez<br>Juan Alberto Vasquez<br>Jim Mark Love |
| (27) MARINA BARBER SHOP     | 344 Reservation Rd STE A<br>MARINA CA 93933 | CHONG M OH                                                |
| (28) Robert Jackson CPA     | 350 Reservation Rd<br>Marina, CA 93933      | Robert Jackson<br>Robert Jackson                          |
| (29) Cavalier Mortgage, Inc | 350 Reservation Rd<br>Marina, CA 93933      | Robert Jackson<br>Robert Jackson                          |
| (30) What'd You Eat?        | 218 Reservation Rd.<br>Marina, CA 93933     | Salena & Joshua<br>Galytira<br>Salena Galytira            |

November 8, 2019

California Coastal Commission

Dear Commissioners and Chair,

The undersigned small business owners of Marina urge you to deny the Coastal Development Permit for California American Water's proposed desalination project. Your staff report cited that CalAm's project would create substantial hardships for several communities of concern "by its potential indirect impacts to other area water supplies, or due to the presence of CalAm's well field on a site that otherwise would provide priority coastal resource benefits such as habitat restoration, public access to the shoreline, and recreational opportunities."

Further, Marina has one census tract designated as an SB 535 Disadvantaged Community, has a higher level of poverty, linguistic isolation, unemployment and housing burden compared to the rest of CA. The top 3 non-English languages spoken incl. Spanish, Vietnamese, and Korean. Marina also has a pollution burden higher than 71% of other census tracts in the state.

Our local businesses are a direct reflection of these demographics. Marina has a few large employers but we have primarily small ethnic "mom and pop" restaurants and businesses, often owned by and operating with extended families. Our businesses generate small profit margins but it keeps food on our tables for our families and guarantees a livelihood to our immigrants, many of whom do not speak English as their primary language. This project will create significant road work on our main Marina streets and will likely create issues for our customers to access our businesses and deter tourists from exploring our city and patronizing our businesses.

Further, the business owners of Marina and the Ord communities currently pay one of the lowest rates of water under the publicly elected Marina Coast Water District, its water supply now being threatened by the CalAm Desalination project's illegal take of groundwater from other than its own jurisdiction. The seawater intrusion and over draft from the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin will place the future of potable water and MCWD water rates in major jeopardy and untenable for small businesses in a disadvantaged community that currently receive water from MCWD.

This project is not in the public interest. It benefits Cal Am shareholders, while creating environmental damage and unnecessary financial burden for our community. We ask you to deny this permit.

BUSINESS NAME

OWNER/MANAGER

③1 Ho Wah Rest.  
Marina  
3116 Del Monte Blvd.  
Marina, CA 93933





November 8, 2019

California Coastal Commission

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This project is not in the public interest. It benefits Cal Am shareholders, while creating environmental damage and unnecessary financial burden for our community. We ask you to deny this permit.

BUSINESS NAME

32 Asian Filipino market  
330 Reservation Rd #B  
MARINA CA 93933

OWNER/MANAGER

Amor Ram OWNER



November 8, 2019

California Coastal Commission

Dear Commissioners and Chair,

The undersigned small business owners of Marina urge you to deny the Coastal Development Permit for California American Water's proposed desalination project. Your staff report cited that CalAm's project would create substantial hardships for several communities of concern "by its potential indirect impacts to other area water supplies, or due to the presence of CalAm's well field on a site that otherwise would provide priority coastal resource benefits such as habitat restoration, public access to the shoreline, and recreational opportunities."

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This project is not in the public interest. It benefits Cal Am shareholders, while creating environmental damage and unnecessary financial burden for our community. We ask you to deny this permit.

BUSINESS NAME

(33) Q/Q Noodle

OWNER/MANAGER

Thu Quyen Nguyen  
*Quyen Nguyen*

November 8, 2019



Chair Bochco, California Coastal Commissioners  
45 Fremont Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: November 2019 Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 CalAM Company, et. al. and Application No. 9-19-0918

Dear Chair Bochco, California Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director, John Ainsworth, Noaki Schwartz, EJ lead:

Citizens for Just Water would like to submit a list of 33 small business owners from Marina who oppose the CalAm desalination project. Our local businesses aptly reflect the census demographics by our highly diverse owners of restaurants, stores, and services. Please see the names of the businesses that line our downtown and transition streets to downtown and see the names of the business owners who are Korean, Vietnamese, Hispanic/Latino, Filipino, Chinese, Japanese, Thai, mixed race, Pacific Islander, East Indian and Anglo. We truly exemplify the highly diverse, disadvantaged community that was so correctly identified in the Staff Report recommending denial of CalAm's Coastal Development Permit.

Cordially,

Kathy Biala  
Co-founder, Citizens for Just Water

--

Regards, George T. Powell

**From:** [Robert Chase](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Robert Chase Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:46:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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

My name is Robert Chase; I am a resident of Marina. My wife and I moved to the community in 2017, and we've worked within the county for the last 10 years. We've welcomed two girls since moving to our home and regularly walk, fish and fly on the Marina beaches. It is honestly very hard to understand how this proposal has made it as far as it has, given the State of California's commitment to environmental stewardship and social equity. The negative impact to the Marina community is significant with no offsetting benefits.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.



King Regards,

Robert Chase



**From:** [barbpatchin@gmail.com](mailto:barbpatchin@gmail.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:26:18 AM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners  
Executive Director Ainsworth

My name is Barbara Patchin and I've lived in Marina with my family for 22 years. We moved here from Fresno and served this community before our retirement-my husband with Monterey Health department as a Nurse Practitioner and myself as a Community Service Officer with Marina Police department. My husband continues to serve Marina school children teaching the Guitars not Guns program on Saturdays. Our own children attended the public schools and my grown daughter lives across town.

I love this town and this community for it's natural beauty, open space, clean air and water and especially the people. This is my community. My home. My family. Too often Marina has been treated like an inconsequential afterthought while leaders focus on Monterey and the peninsula cities. I lend my voice to keep my community safe and clean and protest this project. I emphatically urge you to deny this CalAm project that will harm our community.

Sincerely

Barb Patchin

Sent from my iPhone





**From:** [gaely.jablonski](mailto:gaely.jablonski@coastal.ca.gov)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desal Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:05:07 AM

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

Our names are David and Gaely Jablonski. We are 34 year residents of Marina and raised our children here. We own a welding fabrication shop in Moss Landing and don't see retirement in our near future (even though David is 72 years old).

We are very concerned about this desalination project particularly because of the impact on our ground water that we rely on for sustenance not to mention the impact on our beautiful shoreline here in Marina.

We are older now and have loved living in this community not only because of the ethnic and economic diversity of our city's inhabitants but also because of our beaches. We are a city of working class people and we feel the CalAm project is taking advantage of that. There is an Environmental Justice policy that must be considered.



The impact of the CalAm project negatively impacts so many aspects of our lives and doesn't leave one drop of water to our community (the fastest growing community on the Peninsula). If CalAm needs a desal project have they looked at the communities who benefit?

Desalination along Carmel, Pebble Beach? How about over in Castroville? Why Marina where they don't even have water rights?

Please please do not allow CalAm take advantage of the residents of Marina. I'm sorry we cannot be at the Hearing next week. We hope you'll consider our concerns along with the other residents of our fine City of Marina.



Thank you very much.

Very Sincerely,

David and Gaely Jablonski  
289 Park Circle  
Marina, CA 93933  
(831) 384-0431

From: [MARIA DUNGO DUNGO](#)  
To: [calam@montereycalam.com](#)  
Cc: [Maria Dungo - \[mailto:maria.dungo@montereycalam.com\]](#)  
Subject: Please Derry Cal Am Desalination in Marina  
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2023 1:20:29 PM

Dear Sir/Madame:  
The city of Marina do not like Cal Am. We need a strong voice on or before Nov 17 to say NO to Cal-Am. The City of Marina will not have benefit from CalAm taking our water. There is enough water fo Monterey cities until 2050. The the desal is to benefit Cal Am and the rich cities in our neighborhood like Pebble Beach, Monterey and Carmel. They already put the dump here for us to smell because they know we are low income and also 64 percent of our people are people of color. They will also dig up our roads and limit our access to our beach and they will harm our 14 plants and animal species and their sensitive beach dune habitat. Thanks to our Mayor for keeping our city beautiful. I hope you keep us the way we are. Marina is my home. I want to enjoy our beach without limitation and watch our sensitive species and habits grow. I love the City of Marina. Please do not destroy Marina with Cal Am Desalination Project.

Thank you,

Maria Dungo



3128 Crescent Ave Svc 20  
Marina, CA 93953

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Debi Nobriga](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 9:05:58 PM

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

My name is Debi Nobriga. I am a resident of Marina. I moved here six years ago when I retired and have come to love the community of Marina and care about its future.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that would harm Marina.

I have 3 areas of GREAT CONCERN:

1. Cal-Am's desal threatens to diminish and contaminate Marina's water supply.
2. Cal-Am's desal would unjustly add another major industrial facility to Marina when we already carry more than our share for the region: sewage plant, garbage landfill, the last sand mining operation on the west coast, and contaminated former military sites.
3. Cal-Am's desal will damage at least 35 acres of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) on Marina's dunes and beach and will adversely impact threatened and endangered species.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that would harm Marina.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debi Nobriga

**From:** [Robin R](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 8:36:47 PM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff



My name is Robin Rosinski, I am a resident of Marina. My partner and I moved to Marina 4 years ago. We are both Nature lovers and novice bird watchers. We enjoy walking the Marina beaches watching the birds, ocean and the whales in the bay. The Marina beaches are very beautiful and peaceful. It would be a real shame if the sand mining site was not restored to its natural beauty. We were horrified to hear of the possibility of the proposed project to be built on our beach here in Marina, so we immediately jumped in to learn facts about the project. After gathering facts, we knew we had to speak up for the environment and our fellow Marina residents.

This project would cause so much harm and permanently destroy the habitat for 14 endangered species of plants and animals. Also it would be such a Major Eyesore / Ugliness on our coast. When driving south on highway 1 approaching Marina one would be smacked in the face with a major industrial site right on the Beach. This is so wrong on many levels.  
This is your OWN Mission statement:

### **Protecting & Enhancing California's Coast**

**The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.**

**I am urging you all to Honor your Mission statement and Deny Cal Am Desal Project on November 17th 2022.**

--  
Robin Rosinski



From: [Ed Sanchez](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Subject: Ed Sanchez: Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2022 6:56:47 PM

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

My name is Eddie Sanchez. I am a resident of East Garrison which is just over 6 miles from the current CEMEX facility and proposed location of the CalAm Desalination plant. We bought our home in the area with the understanding the CEMEX plant would be shutting down in the coming years. We were excited the CEMEX Plant would close as it is an eyesore and the first impression as you approach our community. I was shocked this industrial plant was ever allowed to locate directly on the beach and near a fragile dune habitat.

I find it shocking that the Coastal Commission at large would approve of ongoing industrial development without the prospect of any sunset date. I served in the military for 39 years and choose this area for its diversity, military support, and its amazing beauty. The DeSal plant will be an eyesore to the community, may reduce our collective property values, and threaten our current source of well water.

I would like to share with you that I am a Latino who grew up in East Los Angeles and witnessed the toxic industries that were readily established in my neighborhood which would never be considered in areas where wealth, privilege, and power were prevalent. I am not speaking of a NIMBY attitude where neighbors resist essential services near their homes. My concern is this industrial facility will be placed in a community that is not powerful, is not affluent, and is not connected. It is difficult for those of us in this small community to battle with consultants, lobbyists, and well connected communities in Pacific Grove, Monterey, and Carmel in spite of our strong objections.

If this project is allowed to continue this will be a gross injustice to our small town. We will suffer the property losses, we will continue to suffer from industrial blight, and the project puts our community at risk. Please take a moment to consider how your town, your family, would perceive their treatment if this project moves forward? How would you feel if you lived in Marina and you were faced with the overwhelming odds against large corporations with an army of attorneys?

Please do the right thing, think about my neighbors, consider the social injustice we would face and **DO NOT APPROVE** CalAm's request to build and operate for a DeSal plant for the residents of Carmel, Monterey, and Pacific Grove at our expense.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you.

Eddie Sanchez  
USAF, Col (Retired)



From: [Samantha Macleod](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2022 3:06:16 PM

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

My name is Samantha Macleod; I am a homeowner & resident of Marina, CA. My husband and I have lived here in Marina for almost 30 years.



For many years we have been concerned about saltwater intrusion of our aquifer and are very glad that our community is actively fighting CalAm's attempt to take water from it! My mother was a customer of CalAm for many years so I have kept apprised of their use of the Carmel River. I have been pleased to hear how well MCWD has been planning for the future of our area along with MontereyOneWater and Pure water Monterey.

Please deny the Cal-Am slant well project that will harm my home of Marina.

Thank you.

-Samantha Macleod



From: [California Highway Patrol](#)  
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 10:04 AM  
Subject: [REDACTED]  
Dear CA State's Commissioner, Assembly Director Mike Geronzi and staff,  
My name is Lou Geronzi and I am a proud resident of Sonoma, California.  
I have always felt my family has always been a part of Sonoma, CA.  
We have the people, the food, the culture and the lifestyle that is Sonoma.  
I hope you are working it in to Sonoma that Culture is something that is all together, respect my beautiful home!!  
Please help me  
Thank you for taking your time and supporting Sonoma, California!!  
Thank you



Best Home my Office

From: [Luis](#)  
To: [California Coastal Conservancy](#)  
Subject: Environmental Justice for Marina  
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2022 11:49:13 AM

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Hi Commissioners,

It's a pleasure to bring more points about Marina before you.

I chose Marina as my retirement home because I would own my water utility company, and I'd receive a rebate for swapping out the existing lawn and sprinklers for California native plants, and a drip system. I was assisted by the water conservationist in the MCWD office to receive the local incentive as well as the CA Department of Water Resources rebate!



All this habitat in just 3 years!

I learned that the percolation ponds around central Marina number about 6 dozen: instead of houses, it was deemed more important to replenish our aquifer.

I want the current Cal Am ratepayers, whose water utility is a for-profit corporation, to also buy their water utility. The majority of them voted for the buy out, and it is known to be feasible. Support the will of the voters.



I have enjoyed visiting the coast!





I learned that the dunes which run along the bay are protected habitat, home to endangered plants and birds.



I want this destructive sand mining operation cleared away as much as possible and the area restored for coastal accessibility for all people.



I became involved with Communities for Sustainable Monterey County and Citizens for Sustainable Marina, where I'm involved in habitat restoration and helping others live more sustainably.

I want everyone here to be freed from the harmful threat of having a facility nearby which will add more environmental burdens.

I benefit from having the Monterey One Water plant (an amazing facility), the composting facility, and the landfill (even if they are smelly at times) in Marina. A desalination plant, which will send even more expensive water to Cal Am ratepayers, will do me more harm without a shred of benefit. It won't benefit those already overburdened ratepayers, either.



I've seen the numbers, and know the extensive harm to local nesting Western Snowy Plovers due to the construction of the test slant well.

Please vote to preserve our precious dune habitats and give all of us access to additional shoreline!

Please vote against the Cal Am applications!

Karen Andersen

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [JoLynn Johnsson](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** I believe it would be CRAZY to build the Desal  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 11:46:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Please do NOT let Cal Am build this Desal. Work with Pure Water Monterey as an alternate water source.

M. JoLynn Johnsson, CFO  
Nordic Technology, Inc.  
9829 Blue Larkspur Lane  
Monterey, CA 93940

831-655-5200 Ext 02

ISO9001:2015 Compliant



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**From:** [sunphishes@msn.com](mailto:sunphishes@msn.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desal Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2022 11:10:17 AM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff

My name is Liza Jastrow. I am a resident of Marina. I am a Physician Assistant in the Emergency Department and in an Urgent Care Clinic. On my days off I enjoy scuba diving and walking with my husband and dog from Marina Dunes Preserve to Salinas River State Beach. It has been such a pleasure watching our magnificent Pacific Ocean fill in the gaping hole Cemex created. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you.

Liza Jastrow, PA-C



From: [Haleh Keeth](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2022 10:15:15 AM

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



My name is Haleh Keeth. I am a resident of Marina, California. I am a certified public accountant, my husband serves in the United States Army, and we have an eight month old daughter. We will be living here for another year and also speak on behalf of the many military families to come to this area in the future with their children.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you,

--

**Haleh M. Keeth, CPA**  
Tel: (770) 778-8819  
[hmkeeth@gmail.com](mailto:hmkeeth@gmail.com)

To: [\[redacted\]](#)  
From: [\[redacted\]](#)  
Subject: [redacted]  
Date: [redacted]

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

My name is Lu Patterson. I am an resident of Marina, CA. My husband, children and I have lived in Marina for many years. I grew up in Monterey County. I am a staff nurse at a local hospital. My husband and I are military veterans. We have been lucky to visit different places in the world. Our beautiful Monterey county environment especially our coast, has been a sanctuary from the problems we have experienced and will be facing in the months and years to come. Looking at the coast, with its and the grateful summer have been inspired by her allow us to offer the experience of nature. Please help us keep our coast and with its safe and happy. Please share the Cal Her project that will turn Marina. Thank you.

Best regards,  
Lu and Ben Patterson



Just from my iPhone



**From:** [David Gorman](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 11:10:08 PM

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

My name is David Gorman. I am a resident of Marina. I am an English Instructor at Hartnell College and Monterey Peninsula College. I am a native Californian, having lived in Southern and Northern California and now on the Central Coast. I am married to my wife, Junko, who is Japanese though she got her American citizenship a few years before we walked the aisle. She teaches Japanese at a college in the region. Since we both have to teach, we will not be able to speak at the Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

If you look at the photo of my wife and me below, it shares a story of why we love Marina. I proposed to her on those dunes. I pointed toward her homeland then turned her around and pointed toward our Marina home. When she turned back around, I presented her with an engagement ring- where she accepted! These expansive dunes share our history. It's not just sand—it's a California wonder.



Along with the dunes, Junko and I were drawn to Marina for its stunning ocean views and amazing ethnic diversity (ranked as the 10<sup>th</sup> most diverse city in California). I love to jog along the sidewalks of the city and eventually end up at the beach access points to saunter along the shoreline. Everywhere I look on my runs, I see hard-working middle and lower

income residents. We are industrious, trying to carve out a decent life- making Marina a very special place-- an actual authentic, racially mixed middle class city in America.

So it's extremely troubling that Cal Am with their multiple billions must once again pick on our little city for a project outside their service area. It is the classic definition of environmental injustice. You vowed to defend places like Marina. In simpler terms, think of your own home. What if someone were to put solar panels on it and wire the energy to light and heat your neighbor's homes while you received none yourself. In addition, your home would harbor their garbage and process the sewage of the homes surrounding yours. You'd be outraged! That's how Marina residents feel now-- enough!

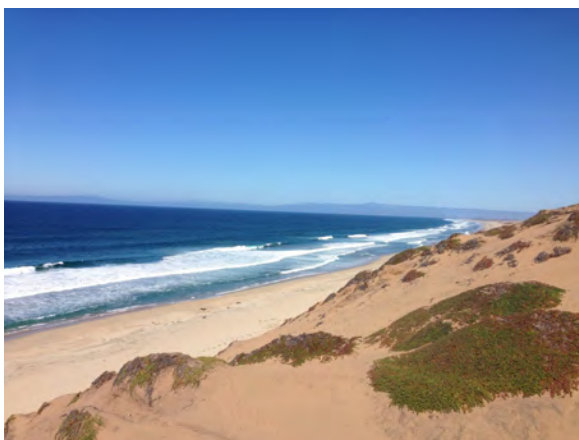
Voting to allow Cal Am to build their desal plant once again has us taking on the burdens of the whole peninsula. Where's the shared responsibility! Even worse, they may be permanently damaging our water purity with shoddy science about their proposed slant wells. Cal Am only wants it their way. They dragged their feet for decades to find alternatives to the Carmel River draw. They have untold cash to influence you and other political bodies while we in Marina can only fight with our courage, determination and limited community coffers that should be going to our schools, our fire and police departments and senior centers while we fight this huge company.

Tragically, we collectively allow the Cal Am snail crawl to continue with missed deadlines and incomplete paperwork. And in truth, we all know the Pure Water Monterey Expansion Project can more than serve the peninsula's water needs for decades, and it allows time for more innovation and shared responsibility for bringing the peninsula water. Yet Cal Am only wants it their way because only their way makes them an exorbitant profit. Enough! Please support our beautiful coast and support the less advantaged coastal communities.

Please do the right thing; act as though Marina were part of your neighborhood and deny Cal Am's encroachment on our water.

Think of your children's grandchildren's grandchildren when viewing the following two photos and the decision you have about their future.

The Marina Dunes in their natural state--





The Marina Dunes scarred for no other reason than greed--



Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Gorman

**From:** [Tammy Jennings](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 8:49:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

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California Coastal Commission:

I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desalination projects, whether they are needed or not. Please don't be pressured by Governor Newsom's political agenda and DENY Cal Am's coastal development permit for the desalination project.

As a resident of Monterey and a customer of Cal Am, I oppose Cal Am's desalination project. There is an environmentally superior and financially feasible 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 a drought, without putting the financial burden of a \$426 million facility on the Monterey Peninsula customers of Cal Am.

Besides the exorbitant facility cost, Cal Am's investor-owned desalination plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. No one should be able to make a profit on something we all need to LIVE! I am a disabled woman living with multiple sclerosis on a fixed income and I can't afford today's water prices (which are the most expensive in the country), much less the prices that will be imposed if Cal Am's desalination plant is approved. Ten years ago, my water bill averaged \$21/month. My water bill currently averages over \$40/month with no increase in water use. This desalination plant would raise my water bill by 50% to 70%. It is not in the interest of our community and only serves to enrich American Water shareholders.

Cal Am has been our water provider for almost 70 years, but the only new water source they have come up with is this extremely overpriced and environmentally damaging desalination plant. Pure Water Monterey has provided the Monterey Peninsula residents with 3,500 acre-feet of new water for the past two years. It is the only reason that Cal Am has been able to stop *illegally* 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 per year, enough for the next 30 years. We don't need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet of water.

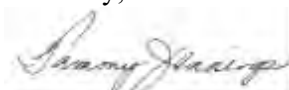
I also oppose the siting of these desalination slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume.

Please oppose Cal Am's coastal development permit for the desalination project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,





**From:** [Juul Vanderspek](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [Liesbeth Visscher](#); [Kathy Biala](#)  
**Subject:** What community outreach?  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 4:25:49 PM

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

My name is Julius Vanderspek; I am a resident of Marina, moved here some years ago with my wife Elisabeth to spend our retirement in peace.

We have been reading a lot lately about the alleged 'months of community engagement' by CalAm. After accidentally hearing about the meetings, a small group of concerned residents visited all of them. We can only conclude that these 'community outreach meetings' were explicitly designed \*not\* to be found, attended, or to provide any actual information. Badly announced, the meetings were unmarked outside the buildings they were held in, presented some general and sometimes outdated information, and almost always the only visitors were concerned residents who OPPOSE the project. The only exception was the 08/09/2022 meeting at CSUMB, where a large number of protestors against the CalAm desal project had gathered who chanted and held protest signs outside the building. Questions were dutifully noted but never answered, and afterwards the people who were objecting to the invasion of their existing water supply and sensitive habitat lands were misrepresented on the CalAm website as interested visitors. It is obvious that CalAm had to scratch 'outreach meetings' off its TO DO list, nothing more. And it did so with little honesty.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina and put us all at the mercy of a for profit concern with a manipulative track record. Thank you.



**From:** [Caren M](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 3:49:10 PM

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



My name is Caren and Marina has been my home since 1996 when my parents moved our family here from Seaside. My husband Steven has lived here since 2003. I am a registered nurse at Natividad and although we could have moved closer to work, we chose to stay in Marina because this is our home.

Please do not allow CalAm to build the desal plant and cause harm to the people, animals, and sensitive natural habitats in this area for an unnecessary cause when there are other viable alternatives to the desal plant. Our older children have grown up here, gone to school here, and when they come home to visit, we want them to be able to recognize their home. We want to preserve the beauty of Marina's beach for our youngest son to enjoy. We want the drinking water in Marina to remain safe for our family and the rest of our neighbors.

Do not allow Marina to be the collateral damage in the quest of an out of state company to funnel water into richer cities on the coast. The company has deep pockets, they can find another more appropriate location for their plant which would have less impact on the surrounding area.

The photo above was our engagement photo taken a few years ago at the far end of Marina State Beach, most likely near the proposed desal site. Please don't allow CalAm to ruin this beautiful area when there are other options.

Please DENY the Cal-Am project that will HARM Marina.

Respectfully,

Steven and Caren Catuiza



**From:** [Margo Hohulin](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [John](#)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 12:28:15 PM

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



My name is Margo Hohulin and I have lived in Marina for almost 4 years. We moved to Marina in January 2019 from the San Francisco Bay area, because we were drawn to the natural beauty that Marina has to offer. We chose this area to retire in the coming years, after we stop working. My husband, John has already stopped working involuntarily due to his layoff during COVID-19 and Margo is currently on medical leave due to a medical diagnosis in 2020 which is impacting our entire family and taking our time to manage.

As a result of our current challenges, we won't be able to speak at the upcoming November meeting, but ask that you make the right decision which protects Marina residents from the impacts of this proposed Cal Am Desalination project.

Please deny this harmful project. Thank you!

Margo and John Hohulin  
3008 Bluffs Drive  
Marina, CA

**From:** [Alison Kim](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Oppose Marina Desal Plant  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 08, 2022 9:42:10 AM

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

My name is Alison Kim and I am a resident of Marina. My family has been residents in the Marina/Ord neighborhood since 1959!

I adamantly oppose the CalAm desal plant as it burdens the city of Marina and it's residents and can negatively impact our water supply. Parts of Marina, including my neighborhood, already have high water rates. These would be increased further if Marina's water supply is affected by the current plans from CalAm.

It is unfortunate that a private company be allowed to profit off a resource which is crucial to everyday life. Water is life. CalAm should not be given a green light to destroy our current well systems by contamination, to diminish our water supply, to profit off our community and to impact our quality of life.

Please listen to the voices of the residents of Marina and of the MPWMD. Just because CalAm bussed in business owners to a previous meeting, does not mean the residents don't care. We do care what happens to our small city and our rights to clean water at fair prices. I will be traveling so cannot attend the next Coastal Commission meeting but by this letter I hope that my voice is heard and respectfully ask you to deny CalAm's permit.

Thank you,  
Alison Kim





**From:** [Bob Wilmot](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 9:57:34 PM

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

My name is Robert Wilmot, and my family has lived in Marina since 1977. My father was nearing retirement from a distinguished Army career when he and my mother bought their house. Dad immediately became involved in the community as a bank manager and president of the Chamber of Commerce. Mom, having fallen in love with the Peninsula when we were first stationed at Fort Ord in 1970, became a volunteer for the Monterey Bay Aquarium when it first opened, and served in that role for some thirty years. Dad passed late last year and Mom has, for the time being, moved to a memory-care facility. Our family is at a crossroads, but Marina has been our home for 45 years.

We have seen Marina evolve from a just-incorporated city into a thriving community that continues to grow. One Marina's strengths is in the natural beauty of our beaches and dunes.

Careful, planned growth benefits Marina, but that means development that is driven by Marina's decisions - not by decisions made by those outside the community. The Commission's potential approval of CalAm's desalination project would unjustly exploit the natural resources of our community for the benefit of CalAm's balance sheet; would disrupt Marina's infrastructure to deliver water to other communities; and would permanently damage a fragile and threatened coastal environment. Furthermore, CalAm - by digging wells - will go far beyond desalination, but would instead steal precious groundwater right from under our feet.

Please do not approve this project. The less-affluent areas of the Peninsula have historically been the targets of projects that more affluent communities don't want in their backyard. I'm sure CalAm isn't considering Monastery Beach as an alternative site for their project. Nor is Carmel Valley the site of the regional landfill. We are not simply empty space, open for exploitation. We are a vibrant, diverse community of long-time residents and recent immigrants. While many visitors to the Monterey Peninsula may pass us by, we ask that our opinions not be passed by.

Do the right thing.

Respectfully,  
Bob Wilmot





**From:** [Hans Ongchua](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please DENY the CalAm desalination project  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 7:02:13 PM

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To the CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth, and staff,

My name is Hans Ongchua and I have lived in Marina for 8 years. My name and residency are verifiable through the voter registrations of Monterey County.

**Please deny the CalAm Slant Well Project.**

I applaud the staff's efforts to place conditions on CalAm's approval but these do not go far enough.

More environmental injustice will be the likely result if this project is approved.

Marina has already spent upwards of \$8.5 million dollars in several past and ongoing fights against CalAm regarding this project. It has been an albatross upon the neck of a city that today is struggling to fund two critically needed fire stations.

It is my belief that CalAm, based on the patterns of its past actions, will strive to circumvent and negotiate around the conditions of the permit. Marina will, in turn, remain locked in a war of attrition against a deep-pocketed opponent that will pass the costs to its ratepayers.

Injustice takes many forms. Do not let this happen.

Again, please deny the CalAm Slant Well Project.

Sincerely,  
Hans Ongchua  
Marina, CA





**From:** [John Dodge Hayes](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [justwater93933@gmail.com](mailto:justwater93933@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Please DENY CalAm Desal Project Permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 5:26:10 PM

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My name is John Dodge Hayes and my wife, Jimanne and I have been residents of Marina since 2020. I am a Finance Manager with HP Enterprise, Jimanne is a writer.

Previously we lived in Felton and I served for several years as a community volunteer and board member of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District.

We are writing to implore you to deny a permit for the CalAm desalination project in Marina.

If we were not traveling on Nov 17<sup>th</sup> we would be there ask you directly.

Although we do not oppose desal as a technology, the prospect of CalAm placing a project in an area that will receive no benefit from it, and potentially jeopardizing Marina's aquifer is egregiously arrogant and unjustly taking advantage of an area that has been historically disadvantaged.

Please deny the CalAm Slant Well Project permit.

Respectfully yours,

-John Dodge and Jimanne Hayes

2709 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave

Marina, CA 93933

408-315-8432

**From:** [CentralCoast@Coastal](mailto:CentralCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Energy@Coastal](mailto:Energy@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Fw: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 1:25:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-amyt3wmf.png](#)

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**Central Coast District Office**

725 Front St., Ste 300  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
(831) 427-4863



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**From:** jeffrey becom <jeffreybecom@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 6, 2022 3:42 PM  
**To:** CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** CentralCoast@Coastal <CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose

**To the CCC Commissioners and Staff,**

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District has shown through independent analysis what the voters of Monterey County had already decided.

**We do not need or want an expensive, elitist, deal plant** that we, the citizens of Monterey and Monterey Bay will needlessly be paying for well beyond our lifetimes. This is proposed deal plant is of benefit to special interests, not the general public.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion has been approved and will supply all needed water for the next three decades. This is an environmentally superior option to a gold-plated desal plant that will:

- (1) not harm the Monterey Bay coastal environment;
- (2) not burden the local ratepayers with excessive fees for guaranteed Cal Am Corporate profits, operation, and maintenance, and;
- (3) will meet the will of the voting public and **the mission of the Coastal Commission.**

The Coastal Commission has always been about benefitting the great majority of the citizens of California, not a few well-heeled developers and a water monopoly.

**Please deny Cal Am's application for a Coastal Development Permit.**

Thank you,

**Jeffrey Becom**

217 Hacienda Carmel  
Carmel, CA 93923

[jeffreybecom@comcast.net](mailto:jeffreybecom@comcast.net)



**From:** [Cindy Chida](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [llesbethmarina@gmail.com](mailto:llesbethmarina@gmail.com); [Bruce Delgado](mailto:Bruce.Delgado@long@cityofmarina.org); [llong@cityofmarina.org](mailto:llong@cityofmarina.org)  
**Subject:** Please Deny Cal-Am Project  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 1:07:31 PM

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ATTN: Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff CA Coastal Commissioners

Hello my name is Cynthia Chida, my husband James and I are a resident of Marina, CA. We retired to Marina just four years ago, after a lot of searching for the perfect place to call home and enjoy retired life.

Years before our final discussion to choose Marina, we would come to Monterey area to play and enjoy the rich area of natural beauty. The history, small town feel, diversity, and the Monterey County as a National Sanctuary and their commitment to our ecological environment is what makes this a unique and special place. That is why we wanted Marina to be our home, to enjoy nature and share with our 6 grandchildren.

We want to be a part of Marina and share's it legacy with our family and many friends who visit us.

Also, many families here are of lower incomes as well as those of us who are retired, that the sheer magnitude of the cost of Cal-AM's desalination project is unfair along with threatening our water.

Please Please Deny Cal-AM's Project.

All Marina residents are counting on you to protect our water and our Beautiful Marina Coast.

Thank you for listening to the people.

Sincerely,

Cynthia & James Chida



Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Ronald Shikashio](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [Nancy Shikashio](#); [Hazel Segovia](#); [Christian Segovia](#)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 11:25:27 AM

---

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



My name is Ronald Shikashio. My family and I have been residents of Marina for over 30 years. My mom is a retired nurse. I am retired too, but work part time as a retail sales clerk. My wife is a phlebotomist and my son is a junior and attends Marina High School. We love our home town of Marina and don't want CalAm to build a desalination plant on the old Cemex property.



I fish our local beaches and one of my favorite spots to go is from the state beach to the sand plant. Don't deny access to our beaches! Don't allow Cal Am to ruin our fishery and environment! Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina! Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ronald Shikashio



**From:** [Therese Sugiura](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 11:22:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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

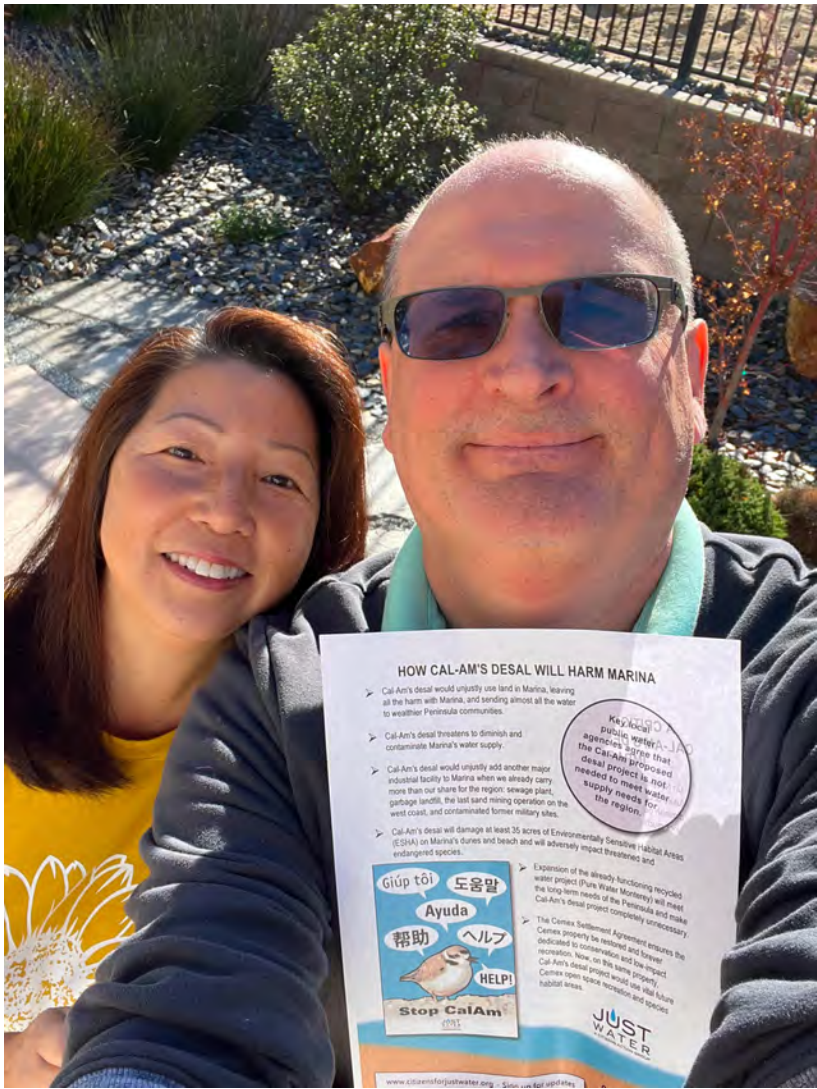
My name is Therese Sugiura. My husband (Edward Wustenhoff) and I recently became residents of Marina in 2019. We moved to this beautiful city of Marina to get away from the craziness of the Bay Area - Wonderful choice! The dunes, weather and people make it

It is disheartening to hear of the potential damage this proposal will bring upon Marina when it already has a sewage plant, garbage landfill and contaminated military sites. Cal-Am's proposal will also negatively impact our environment and endangered species.

We cannot speak at the November meeting, but I hope you will make the right decision for Marina.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina!

Thank you,  
Therese Sugiura & Edward Wustenhoff



### HOW CAL-AM'S DESAL WILL HARM MARINA

- Cal-Am's desal would unjustly use land in Marina, leaving all the harm with Marina, and sending almost all the water to wealthier Peninsula communities.
- Cal-Am's desal threatens to diminish and contaminate Marina's water supply.
- Cal-Am's desal would unjustly add another major industrial facility to Marina when we already carry more than our share for the region: sewage plant, garbage landfill, the last sand mining operation on the west coast, and contaminated former military sites.
- Cal-Am's desal will damage at least 35 acres of Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESA) on Marina's dunes and beach and will adversely impact threatened and endangered species.

Keep local public agencies aware that the Cal-Am desal project is not needed to meet water supply needs for the region.



- Expansion of the already functioning recycled water project (Pure Water Monterey) will meet the long-term needs of the Peninsula and make Cal-Am's desal project completely unnecessary.
- The Conex Settlement Agreement ensures the Conex property be restored and forever dedicated to conservation and low impact recreation. Now, on this same property, Cal-Am's desal project would use vital future habitat areas.

JUST WATER



**From:** [Tammy Jennings](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 11:05:21 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

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Dear California Coastal Commission:

I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not. Please don't be pressured by Governor Newsom's political agenda and DENY Cal Am's coastal development permit for the desalination project.

As a resident of Monterey and a customer of Cal Am, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. There is an environmentally superior and financially feasible 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 a drought, without putting the financial burden of a \$426 million facility on the Monterey Peninsula customers of Cal Am.

Besides the exorbitant facility cost, Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. I am a disabled woman living with multiple sclerosis on a fixed income and I can't afford today's water prices (which are the most expensive in the country), much less the prices that will be imposed if Cal Am's desal plant is approved. Ten years ago, my water bill averaged \$18/month. My water bill currently averages over \$40/month with no increase in water use. This desal plant would raise my water bill by 50% to 70%. It is not in the interest of our community and only serves to enrich American Water shareholders.

Cal Am has been our water provider for almost 70 years, but the only new water source they have come up with is this extremely

overpriced and environmentally damaging desalination plant. Pure Water Monterey has provided the Monterey Peninsula residents with 3,500 acre-feet of new water for the past two years. It is the only reason that Cal Am has been able to stop *illegally* 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 per year, enough for the next 30 years. We don't need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet of water.

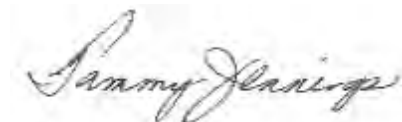
I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district. Marina would get none of this water, but it would bear the environmental damage to its beaches and the risk to its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

As a coastal Californian, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce and the power it would consume.

Please oppose Cal Am's coastal development permit for the desalination project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sammy Jennings". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.



Tammy Jennings  
423 Dela Vina Avenue  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831.373.2151

**From:** [Douglas Holtzman](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [Jennifer Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Monday, November 07, 2022 10:08:19 AM

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

Our names are Jennifer Smith and Doug Holtzman. We are public librarians and 18-year residents of Marina.

We oppose Cal Am Water's proposed slant wells and desalination plant on the Marina coastline.

There is ample evidence that the Pure Water Monterey Expansion will meet Monterey Peninsula water needs at a lower cost to consumers, communities, and the environment.

The 2017 agreement signed by Cemex, the Coastal Commission, the State Lands Commission, and our City required that Cemex offer its Marina property for sale with a deed restriction that would prohibit future development and allow public access. Instead, Cal Am proposes a major industrial facility.

Cal Am does not have water rights for the proposed project. The desal plant would pull all of its source water from the critically overdrafted Salinas Valley groundwater basin, creating seawater intrusion and endangering our water supply.

State Water Resources Control Board policy favors advanced-treated recycled water as a source of supply. PWM is an excellent opportunity to put that policy into practice. It is the cost-effective and environmentally sustainable solution to the Peninsula's water needs.

We hope you will make the right decision for Marina and the region. Please deny the CalAm slant well project!

Thank you,

Douglas Holtzman  
Jennifer Smith





\*\*\*\*\*

Douglas Holtzman  
dholtzman2@icloud.com

From: [Anna Brigantino](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
Date: Monday, November 07, 2022 9:49:40 AM

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11/7/2022

To: California Coastal Commission

From: Anna Brigantino, Marina resident

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

My name is Anna Brigantino. I am a resident of Marina. I am a lover of nature, history and books. Steinbeck, of course, is a favorite author. In his words:

*“The Salinas Valley is. . . a long narrow swale between two ranges of mountains, and the Salinas River winds and twists up the center until it falls at last into Monterey Bay.”*

As powerful as words are, a picture is said to be worth a thousand of them. So here is a picture near the area that Steinbeck is referring to, the Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge.



<!--[endif]-->

Location. Location. Location. The Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge is only about 2 miles from the Cemex Industrial Sand Mining Plant (the proposed site for CalAm's desal plant). The Cemex site, located between the Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge and beautiful Sanctuary Beach, is the first glimpse of the Monterey Bay that many tourists see as they make their way along Highway 1 to the Monterey



Peninsula.

This industrial site is being shut down and the area designated as open space by agreement of the CCC, the City of Marina and the State Lands Commission in the Cemex Settlement Agreement of 2017. This area is home to 14 species of threatened plants and animals.

For so many reasons, it is obvious that this is the wrong location for any type of industrial infrastructure. What sense does it make to have an industrial complex sandwiched in between the National Wildlife Refuge and Marina State Beach which, along with nearby Fort Ord Dunes State Park and the Fort Ord Dunes National Monument (more than 14,000 acres where woodland open space connects to the bay) attracts many ecotourists and locals to the area?

Protect Marina's beach, dunes, habitat and water source. Please deny this most inappropriate use of our priceless natural wonders. **Please make sure this area is preserved for future generations to enjoy—and not just read about in a Steinbeck novel.**

**From:** [Sue Scruggs](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please Deny Cal Am Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Sunday, November 06, 2022 5:22:45 PM

---

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



We are Suzanne and Randy Scruggs and we bought our forever home in Marina in 2019. My husband and I have always dreamed of living on the coast and we finally made it happen. We plan to live the rest of our lives here and we love our community in Marina. I am a retired educator and have spent my life trying to make a positive impact on the community I live in.

We have done our reading on the desalination project and we do not agree with Cal Am's plan. We know it will negatively impact our community.

**Please deny the Cal Am desalination project!**

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Suzanne & Randy Scruggs



**From:** [Leslie Sheppard](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Sunday, November 06, 2022 1:48:01 PM

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



My name is Leslie Sheppard, and I am a resident of the wonderful city of Marina. I grew up in Monterey, and Carmel Valley, then moved from the Peninsula to attend University of CA/Santa Barbara, got married, had two wonderful children who were raised in Carmel, we returned to the Peninsula when we had kids, then after divorce, I found my marvelous house in Marina. I live in the older homes that were meant as housing for the staff of Ft. Ord. In fact, when I was a kid, with my twin sister, our babysitter would tell us to come inside, when the Ft. Ord guns would fire, for their target practice, but to me, as a young kid, it was scary. The babysitter would tell us it was

the footsteps of the giants that were waking up and stomping around in Ft. Ord.

My frame of reference for Marina was that it was always foggy, ( not true today) and it was so far away, we only came to Marina when we needed to take things to the dump. (ReGen) When I decided to buy my house in Marina, my family thought I was moving to the other side of the world,, "It's so far away!", yet I knew that Marina of today, not the 1970's ,is an up and coming, thriving community. We have CSUMB, new housing, new shopping centers, and a city expansion on the books, that will really enhance life in Marina.

During COVID, I was thrilled to see all of the families, parking on the old Ft.Ord property and riding their bikes, over the Highway 1 overpass, to access the trails of the Ft. Ord Dunes State Park, all of the bikes, trikes, and scooters that were gathering dust in the garage, got pulled out and put to use with families finding ways to stay safe from COVID, by going outside to play, yet stay a safe distance from others, and use the wonderful access to the beach and all of the lovely paved paths that are perfect for bikes & walkers.

Please DO NOT approve the Desal plant in Marina. We are a wonderful community that needs to keep our water, not send it to the other communities. Marina today is a community of people

who value Marina's special characteristics and want to maintain its value.

Thank you,

Leslie Sheppard

267 Harris Ct

Marina, CA 93933

(831) 595-3435

**From:** [Stefanie Alvarez](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [Angel Alvarez](#)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit and Save Marina's Beautiful Beach  
**Date:** Sunday, November 06, 2022 12:45:14 PM

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



Our names are Stefanie, Angel, Valentino and Francesca Alvarez and we just moved to Marina last year. We were in search of a beautiful area on the coast, with easy access to beaches and nature, and Marina fit the bill. We plan to make Marina our forever home. Stefanie works as a teacher and Angel works from home for Frito Lay. We cannot speak at the November meeting but I hope that you will make the right decision for Marina. Please don't destroy the beautiful beaches of Marina.

Please deny the CalAm Slant Well project!

Thank you,

The Alvarez Family



**From:** [Carolyn Bluemle](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal AM Desal NO NO NO NO NO  
**Date:** Saturday, November 05, 2022 9:10:45 PM

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Dear Coastal Commission

I am vehemently opposed to granting a permit for a desal plant in our area. Not only am I deeply concerned for the health of our ocean and the life in those waters offshore—I am concerned about the very high environmental costs and economic costs. It is particularly foolish to build such a plant where it will need to be moved as the ocean waters rise. And it is socially unjust to burden Marina with this project to supply others with water.

This proposal makes me particularly angry as the voters in my area voted in favor of public ownership of water distribution and the feasibility plan showed that a water recycle program would not only be adequate... it would be less costly and more environmentally friendly. I am strongly in favor of public ownership of our water distribution and in favor of the proposals for Pure Water Expansion. Should more measures prove necessary in the future, more advanced technologies may do less harm than current desal plans .

Please respect the environmental and social justice concerns which are violated in the current desalinization plant plans.

Angry and Concerned  
Pacific Grove Voter

Carolyn Bluemle  
651 Sinex Ave  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

« Many things have been cancelled because of the Coronavirus. Love is not one of them. »



**From:** [EDMgamer 1795](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 04, 2022 11:06:58 PM

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

My name is Natalia Barley. My husband and I have lived in Marina for the past 15 years. We have two wonderful children with special needs who attend Marina Public Schools. We both work full-time. I cannot speak at the November meeting but I hope you will make the right decision for Marina.  
Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm our city.

Thank you!

Respectfully,  
Natalia Barley





**From:** [jeff@jeffmarkham.com](mailto:jeff@jeffmarkham.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 04, 2022 7:37:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [logan\\_griffin\\_jessica.png](#)

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,  
My name is Jeff Markham and I am a resident of Marina. Here is a picture of my daughter and our two grandchildren, Logan and Griffin.

The long-term impact of the proposed CalAm DeSal plant will likely be born by my children and grandchildren and our water rights in Marina will be threatened by the CalAm DeSal project.

THIS IS ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE AT ITS WORST. Our underserved community will bear all of the risk with NO benefit for Marina.

If you vote YES, you are doubling down on an environmental injustice that has been going on since 1965 from a FOR PROFIT company from CAMDEN NEW JERSEY .. let me repeat that CAMDEN NEW JERSEY. How does this happen?

All of our local water experts say we don't need this DeSal plant and that local water recycling projects (like Monterey One's recycle plant) is the way forward.

You are believing numbers from a company, not our local water experts.

DO NOT LET THIS FOR PROFIT COMPANY BULLY MY COMMUNITY.. It was wrong in 2019, and It's wrong in 2022.

VOTE NO!!!



Sincerely,  
Jeff Marham  
3005 Concorc Ct  
Marina, CA  
93933



**From:** [Jim Perrine](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desal Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 04, 2022 3:42:05 PM

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Dear Calif. Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:



I have been living and involved in the Marina community for 43 years. My wife and I raised our children in Marina and now we have grandchildren within the community. Formerly, I have been the City Mayor, President of MCWD, and also AMBAG and FORA Chair. In 16 years as an elected official, I worked collaboratively attempting to ensure just and fair solutions to many regional challenges.

I cannot speak at your November meeting but I do hope you make the right decision for Marina. Please deny the proposed Cal Am Slant Well Project!

Thank you,  
Jim Perrine

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S22+ 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](mailto:Brownsey.Donne@Coastal)  
**To:** [Zarco, Cassandra](mailto:Zarco.Cassandra); [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal); [Hart, Caryl@Coastal](mailto:Hart.Caryl@Coastal); [Turnbull-Sanders, Effie@Coastal](mailto:Turnbull-Sanders.Effie@Coastal); [Aminzadeh, Sara@Coastal](mailto:Aminzadeh.Sara@Coastal); [Escalante, Linda@Coastal](mailto:Escalante.Linda@Coastal); [Wilson, Mike@Coastal](mailto:Wilson.Mike@Coastal); [Rice, Katie@Coastal](mailto:Rice.Katie@Coastal); [Padilla, Stephen@Coastal](mailto:Padilla.Stephen@Coastal); [Harmon, Meagan@Coastal](mailto:Harmon.Meagan@Coastal); [Uranga, Roberto@Coastal](mailto:Uranga.Roberto@Coastal); [Groom, Carole@Coastal](mailto:Groom.Carole@Coastal); [Mann, Zahirah@Coastal](mailto:Mann.Zahirah@Coastal); [Faustinos, Belinda@Coastal](mailto:Faustinos.Belinda@Coastal); [Rivas, Rick@Coastal](mailto:Rivas.Rick@Coastal)  
**Cc:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](mailto:ExecutiveStaff@Coastal); [Buche, Brent](mailto:Buche.Brent)  
**Subject:** Re: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, Application No. 9-20-0603 & Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034  
**Date:** Friday, November 04, 2022 10:28:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Thank you Ms Zarco.

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**From:** Zarco, Cassandra <ZarcoC@co.monterey.ca.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 3, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>; Brownsey, Donne@Coastal <donne.brownsey@coastal.ca.gov>; Hart, Caryl@Coastal <caryl.hart@coastal.ca.gov>; Turnbull-Sanders, Effie@Coastal <effie.turnbull-sanders@coastal.ca.gov>; Aminzadeh, Sara@Coastal <sara.aminzadeh@coastal.ca.gov>; Escalante, Linda@Coastal <linda.escalante@coastal.ca.gov>; Wilson, Mike@Coastal <mike.wilson@coastal.ca.gov>; Rice, Katie@Coastal <katie.rice@coastal.ca.gov>; Padilla, Stephen@Coastal <Stephen.Padilla@coastal.ca.gov>; Harmon, Meagan@Coastal <meagan.harmon@coastal.ca.gov>; Uranga, Roberto@Coastal <roberto.uranga@coastal.ca.gov>; Groom, Carole@Coastal <carole.groom@coastal.ca.gov>; Mann, Zahirah@Coastal <zahirah.mann@coastal.ca.gov>; Faustinos, Belinda@Coastal <belinda.faustinos@coastal.ca.gov>; Rivas, Rick@Coastal <rick.rivas@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** ExecutiveStaff@Coastal <ExecutiveStaff@coastal.ca.gov>; Buche, Brent <bucheb@co.monterey.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, Application No. 9-20-0603 & Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034

Dear Chair Bownsey and Honorable Commissioners,

Attached please find correspondence on behalf of Brent Buche, General Manager for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, concerning the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, Application No. 9-20-0603 & Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034.

A hard copy will follow via First-Class Mail.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



*Cassandra Zarco*

Management Analyst

County of Monterey | County Counsel

168 W. Alisal Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Salinas, CA 93901

Office: 831.755.5045 | Direct: 831.755.5356



Email: [zarcoc@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:zarcoc@co.monterey.ca.us)

**Note:** *In an effort to comply with the Covid-19 Shelter-in-Place Order, the Office of the County Counsel is operating with limited staff. Several staff members are working remotely, feel free to email staff members directly. Should you need further assistance, please call 831-755-5045.*

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This communication and any accompanying document(s) may be confidential and privileged. They are intended for the sole use of the addressee(s). If you receive this transmission in error, you are advised that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or the taking of any action in reliance upon the communication is strictly prohibited. Moreover, any such inadvertent disclosure shall not compromise or waive the attorney-client privilege as to this communication or otherwise. If you have received this communication in error, please contact our office by telephone at (831) 755-5045.

**From:** [Mary Pommerich](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 03, 2022 6:00:43 PM

---

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



<!--[endif]-->

My name is Mary Pommerich and I have been a resident of Marina for 20 years. My partner and I love living in our community and spending time outdoors biking, hiking, and taking long walks. One of our favorite walks is a 10-mile loop that takes us from our house in Marina to the Salinas River State Beach and along the coastline to the Marina State Beach. It takes us right past the proposed location of the CalAm slant wells.

I am opposed to the Cal-Am project because it would take away our access to a beautiful stretch of beach, cause harm to endangered species, and damage and deplete our precious groundwater supply – all without providing a drop of water to Marina.

Please deny the CalAm slant well project!

Sincerely,

Mary Pommerich, PhD



**From:** [Dr. Scott Dick](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Marina's Environmental Justice claims  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:57:23 PM

---

Honorable Commissioners,

Marina's City Council members claims that Marina is a veritable "dumping ground" for industrial projects is not true.

Those claims are patently false and belies the historical record. The City of Marina was incorporated in 1975 and from the looks of the map of the city limits the inclusion of the Sand Mining operation was deliberately included in the incorporation - probably to add the Sand Mine's sales taxes and property taxes to its roles.

The Sanitary Landfill existed many years before the community was even considering incorporating. That includes the water treatment plant - it also existed many years before Marina became a city.

Moreover when the City had the opportunity to include both the Landfill and the Water treatment facility to their sphere of influence, they did not act. The records in Monterey County LAFCO regarding Marina's sphere of influence are clear.

There is also the issue of Marina being a disadvantaged community. California's maps of disadvantaged communities excludes Marina in almost its entirety, only little-populated areas that once belonged to Fort Ord are included.

The only threat to Marina's water supply is the City is approving any and all construction projects such as at least two hotels, an entire new shopping area and hundreds of new dwellings. We do need housing, but claiming the Desalination project will rob them of their water is patently false.

Please approve the Cal/Am project.

Thanks,

Dr. Scott Dick

**From:** [Kathryn Greenwald](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Comments regarding Delsal Permit Hearing  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:44:27 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I strongly request that the members of the Coastal Commission deny a permit for the desal project proposed by CalAmMonterey due to the known and unknown harms to our unique coastal/agricultural environment that would result. Additionally, I request denial based on its extraordinary high price tag that will saddle ratepayers for years to come.

Although desalination has proved viable in many parts of the world, our coastal region has both a National Marine Sanctuary that is brimming with life at every zone from the tidal to the deep canyon, it also is adjacent to agricultural land that is the economic engine for our county. Both are at risk of irreparable harm if the desalination project is approved.

There are known problems of saltwater intrusion into the freshwater supplies used for crops; unknown problems are yet to be revealed as scientists unravel the complexity of these underground systems.

New scientific evidence is outpacing California American Water's ability to come up with solutions to a need for adequate water supplies into the future. Monterey Pure Water, came up with a workable solution that is helping our area meet its water needs. Expansion of its program, along with conservation will meet demands into the future.

At the rate of new technological developments to address all areas of resource scarcity and usage across the globe, a variety of better alternatives are being imagined and coming into being every month, every year.

The proposed desal is both fraught with harm and is technologically obsolete. It should no longer be considered or permitted.

Respectfully,  
Kathryn Greenwald  
Second generation born and raised on the Monterey Peninsula



**From:** [Steve Moore](#)  
**To:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster\\_Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore\\_Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:36:21 PM

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Dear California Coastal Commission:

I am a California American water customer on the Monterey Peninsula, and I OPPOSE Cal Am's desal project.

There is a less expensive and environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Pure Water Monterey expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for at least the next 20 to 30 years, even in drought, and without any need for a desal plant.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and that 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, yet Cal Am is claiming we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet -- apparently inflating estimates in an effort to justify a desal plant that is needed more for corporate profits than for water.

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. This would raise water bills by at least 50%. Monterey Peninsula customers voted (Measure J, Nov 2018) to have water delivered by a public agency (MPWMD) rather than a private corporation (Cal Am). More than enough public water will be produced through the Pure Water Monterey expansion and can be delivered to customers by MPWMD within the next two years at significantly less cost to customers and the environment than with the Cal Am desal plant.

I am not interested in lining the pockets of Cal Am investors, when I can get my water from the more affordable, locally-controlled, not-for-profit Pure Water Monterey and MPWMD.

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

Further, as a coastal Californian and environmental scientist, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce. Desal is extremely energy intensive, and building a desal plant is committing us to decades of increased, rather than decreased, power consumption. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are

needed or not.

This desal proposal makes no sense, unless you are a Cal Am investor who stands to profit from it at the expense of Monterey area residents' water bills and the region's environment. Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project!

Steven W. Moore, Ph.D.

Monterey, CA.

**From:** [Suzy](#)  
**To:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster\\_Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore\\_Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)  
**Subject:** Deny or Delay Cal Am Application for CDP No. 9-20-0603  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:30:53 PM

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Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

My opposition to the Cal Am slant well Application for CDP No. 9-20-0603 is based on my extensive experience in dune habitats and vernal pools as a field biologist at California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) as well as a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula (and current, at work, and former, as a resident, MCWD customer). All of the mitigations proposed (some of which I have concerns about which I will describe below) are not justified because we have an environmentally superior alternative. We do not need the additional water proposed by Cal Am. The economic and population growth modeling by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) forecasts we will need only 786 acre-feet per year more than we use today in 2045, and the Pure Water Monterey expansion (which is already partially funded by HR 5376 the Inflation Reduction Act) would provide substantially more than what we will need.

In addition, the proposed Cal Am plan is extremely unjust to the rate payers in Seaside and elsewhere on the Monterey Peninsula and the people in Marina. Environmental and social justice is a key factor that the Coastal Commission is supposed to consider in its decisions. And approving this plan would be counter to the mandate of the Coastal Commission.

As a biologist I have several specific concerns about the environment impact of the Cal Am proposal:

- 1) The proposed Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HHMP) must be fully created and available for review as part of issuing the CDP. As written there are many loop holes which may not be addressed by approving the permit without a full review of the a fully created HMMP with all of the details include (such as mitigation acreage for each sensitive species). For example, in the proposal (Application No. 9-20-0603) the HMMP could be created by surveying sensitive species in October when it would be impossible to estimate the actual acreage requiring mitigation because there will be no evidence of annual species such sand gilia (*Gilia tenuiflora* ssp. *arenaria*). For other species they are likely to be undercounted in the fall during this dormant state such as *Erysimum menziesii* ssp. *yadonii* (Yadon's wallflower). Both species have severely restricted distributions and any impacts that are not mitigated would be significant. The document is also very general without any specifics such as if there is any available land that has been identified where mitigation will occur (including willing land owners).
- 2) The drawdown of water may negatively impact vernal pools and sensitive species which use those vernal pools as described in the proposal. And yet assessments of this potential impact have not been made. These assessments need to be included so they can be vetted by the public prior to approving a CDP.

In short, the Coastal Commission should delay approval of a CDP because this Cal Am proposal is missing critical pieces including: (1) a revised assessment of regional water needs and alternative water sources given recent modeling by AMBAG and the Pure Water



Monterey expansion capabilities (which incorporate drought conditions), (2) a fully created HMMP which has gone through CEQA review (or at a minimum included in a revised development proposal) with explicit mitigation acreage based on surveys completed during appropriate seasons for each listed and sensitive species with full details of how and where mitigation would occur for impacted species, and (3) a full assessment of the impacts of groundwater withdrawals on vernal pools and potential impacts on sensitive vernal pool species. The environmental impacts of this proposal are substantial and viable alternatives with much less impact need to be fully evaluated.

I also do not support the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would require as compared to the alternative. California needs to halve its emissions by 2030 and reduce them to net-zero by 2045. This project would continue the status quo leading to further climate destabilization impacting Californians and the world.

Finally, as a rate payer and a Californian who is very concerned about environmental injustice in the state, approving a project that will double the costs of water for low income and marginalized communities as well as for rate payers like myself is completely inconsistent with the California Coastal Act Section 30012. Much more affordable options are likely available in the near term (next two years) that would benefit the people in Marina and the Monterey Peninsula. The Coastal Commission represents the people of California not the shareholders of Cal Am.

Please delay or deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project as the project proposal is not complete.

Suzanne Worcester, Ph.D.

Monterey, CA

**From:** [Ruth Muzzin](#)  
**To:** [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)  
**Cc:** [Ted Harris](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Marina Coast - CalAm CDP application/appeal - CPUC Phase 1 proposed decision issued  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:25:56 PM

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Will do!

**Ruth Stoner Muzzin**

Friedman & Springwater LLP\*

350 Sansome Street, Suite 800 | San Francisco, CA 94104

**C** 505.440.2656

**O** 415.834.3805

**F** 415.834.1044

[rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com](mailto:rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com) | [www.friedmanspring.com](http://www.friedmanspring.com)

*\* Jane Springwater, Retired*

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**From:** Luster, Tom@Coastal <Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:45 PM  
**To:** Ruth Muzzin <rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com>  
**Cc:** Ted Harris <tharris@calstrat.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Marina Coast - CalAm CDP application/appeal - CPUC Phase 1 proposed decision issued

Thank you, Ruth. What timing - will somebody rush in our hearing room mid-day with the decision from the CPUC??

If you or someone would be able to let one of us know during a break in our hearing, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks again,

Tom L.

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**From:** Ruth Muzzin <[rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com](mailto:rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:36 PM  
**To:** Luster, Tom@Coastal <[Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov)>  
**Cc:** Ted Harris <[tharris@calstrat.com](mailto:tharris@calstrat.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Marina Coast - CalAm CDP application/appeal - CPUC Phase 1 proposed decision issued

Dear Tom – Quick update on the CPUC proceedings. There were requests from a number of parties for revisions to the Sept. 30 proposed decision that I provided to you earlier. Assigned ALJ Kline incorporated a great many of the requested changes, as explained in her revised proposed decision of October 31, 2022. (Redline version attached for your reference.) Assigned Commissioner Houck held the revised decision for further review, and after an all-party meeting earlier this week it seems that many of the remaining concerns (chiefly rate-related issues raised by the CPUC's Public Advocates and by CalAm) can be resolved before the next CPUC voting meeting on Nov. 17. As of today, the decision is on the CPUC's consent agenda for Nov. 17 as #9. No party representatives who attended the all-party meeting with Commissioner Houck this week (including CalAm) asked for a further hold, so Marina Coast and the other public agency parties are optimistic that the decision will be finalized and issued next week while we are all in Salinas. Look forward to seeing you then. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Ted Harris with any questions for Marina Coast or about the CPUC proceedings.

Best,  
Ruth

**Ruth Stoner Muzzin**

Friedman & Springwater LLP\*

350 Sansome Street, Suite 800 | San Francisco, CA 94104

**C** 505.440.2656

**O** 415.834.3805

**F** 415.834.1044

[rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com](mailto:rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com) | [www.friedmanspring.com](http://www.friedmanspring.com)

*\* Jane Springwater, Retired*

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**From:** Ruth Muzzin

**Sent:** Friday, September 30, 2022 5:14 PM

**To:** Luster, Tom@Coastal <[Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:Tom.Luster@coastal.ca.gov)>

**Cc:** 'tharris@calstrat.com' <[tharris@calstrat.com](mailto:tharris@calstrat.com)>

**Subject:** Marina Coast - CalAm CDP application/appeal - CPUC Phase 1 proposed decision issued

Dear Tom –

I hope you are doing well. On behalf of Marina Coast Water District, attached please find the CPUC's proposed decision approving CalAm's entry into the Amended and Restated Water Purchase Agreement for expansion of the Pure Water Monterey advanced-treated recycled water project.



There is a comment period before the decision can be voted on by the full five-member CPUC. It appears the CPUC may be taking up a vote on the matter at its November 3, 2022 public voting meeting, which will be held in Chico.

I'll continue to keep you posted regarding both a final decision and the progress of Phase 2, regarding supply and demand. Meanwhile, please don't hesitate to let me if you need any additional information.

Best,  
Ruth

**Ruth Stoner Muzzin**

Friedman & Springwater LLP\*

350 Sansome Street, Suite 800 | San Francisco, CA 94104

**C** 505.440.2656

**O** 415.834.3805

**F** 415.834.1044

[rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com](mailto:rmuzzin@friedmanspring.com) | [www.friedmanspring.com](http://www.friedmanspring.com)

*\* Jane Springwater, Retired*

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**From:** [Mike Clement](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** In support of the Cal Am desalination project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:20:55 PM

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To whom it may concern,

As a resident of the Cities of Monterey and Seaside for the majority of the past 20 years, I have been dependent on the Seaside aquifer and the Carmel river for water. Hence I am deeply invested in current concerns about the long-term viability of those sources of water as well as projects that are aimed at improving our water supply. The upcoming decision that the Coastal Commission will make regarding the impact of a desalination plant on the coastal zone is an important one environmentally, economically, and socially.

It is my understanding that the Coastal Commission's primary responsibility in making this decision is rooted in assessing whether Cal Am Water is making responsible plans to mitigate potential impacts to the coastal zone. I have read Cal Am's recent press release and FAQ and understand that they are undertaking substantial measures in an effort to do so. However, I also understand that in making such a decision, one might weigh the impacts of a desalination plant against the benefits of having one. If it is perceived that the benefits are not significant or are unnecessary, one could conceivably be swayed against approving even a minor to moderate impact. Hence, I write today to shed light on considerations as to why a desalination plant is indeed significantly beneficial and necessary for the long-term viability of the Monterey community.

The MPWMD has recently taken it upon themselves to publish a series of emails in an effort to persuade the public that the Pure Water Monterey project and upcoming expansion will provide sufficient water. The partisan nature of these missives and the potential conflicts of interest within MPWMD's public relations staff are beyond the scope of my writing today and bear looking at in their own right. What I specifically want to call to your attention are some specific discrepancies in the numbers they provided.

On November 3rd, the MPWMD sent an email titled "Facts on Water Supply," in which they enumerated sources of water and provided numerical data for production as well as an estimate of future water consumption. Based on my own research using publicly available data, these numbers appear to be inaccurate to such an extent that they falsely show the affected Monterey region as having sufficient water without a desalination plant. I wish to highlight here specific inaccuracies and show how it is indeed necessary to incorporate desalination in order to close the gap between production and consumption.

MPWMD's numbers do correctly report the Carmel river and Seaside aquifer contributions to our supply. They also agree with reported numbers for the existing Pure Water Monterey project. The minor contribution from the Malpasos water rights do not factor into a system-

wide budget given the manner in which the local water system is partitioned, so we can safely ignore that number. This is where the numbers begin to disagree. Cal Am has rights to only a portion of the water produced by the Sand City desalination plant, which also according to reports is not producing at full capacity; an estimate of 100 AFY usable by Cal Am is more accurate here. The ASR injections are also overestimated; actual reclamation is also under 100 AFY. I would speculate this is due to a lack of rain water, but may also be partly due to issues with the Pure Water Monterey injection designs. Finally, Cal Am has provided testimony with analysis on the Pure Water Monterey expansion, showing how it will provide at best a little over 2000 AFY, less than the claim in the email. Summing these numbers up, we arrive at a production of approximately 9,900 AFY, which is significantly less than MPWMD's claim.

This corrected estimate is further optimistic in two important ways. First, these numbers appear to reflect non-drought year production. As is immediately evident, the Monterey area has faced a significant number of drought years in recent history, and is projected to continue to do so. Every drought year will result in a decrease in available river water, and very likely a decrease in ASR supply from the river as well as from Pure Water Monterey and their expansion. Second, MPWMD's numbers appear to assume 100% operational availability. In practice, all systems break and under-perform for a wide variety of reasons. In my own engineering experience and information I've found, 90% availability is a more reasonable assumption. At 90% availability, MPWMD's original claim of 11,468 AFY reduces to 10,321 AFY even before accounting for the discrepancies in their numbers.

The discrepancies in production, the operational overestimation, and the lack of accounting for drought years all bring MPWMD's production estimates below their own projection for water consumption, which is 10,668 AFY by 2050. However, other analyses have estimated future water usage climbing above 14,500 AFY. In any of the above cases, even the initial phase 4.8 million gallon per day (5376 AFY) would barely close the gap between production and usage when accounting for less than 100% availability, meaning that both phases of the desalination project are very necessary for the long-term security of a Monterey area water supply.

In closing, I hope that my own amateur analysis at least highlights some potential discrepancies in the messaging provided by MPWMD and elicits a closer look at their claims. I know that the chartered purpose of MPWMD is to secure an additional source of water, and I believe this should motivate them to work together with Cal Am on a multi-source solution combining both reclaimed and desalinated water. Regardless of the claims made by MPWMD, though, I trust the Coastal Commission to make decisions based on actual data and reasonable analyses. Thank you for your time and consideration in reading the thoughts from a concerned resident.

Sincerely,



**From:** [Tristen Jones-Fuerbringer](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Do not approve Cal Am's proposal  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:16:57 PM

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To the California Coastal Commission,

I came to live in Marina in 2006 while attending CSUMB. I fell in love and have lived here ever since. I am now raising my children here and plan to stay for the rest of my life.

What Cal Am is proposing is harmful to Marina on many levels.

1) You, the Coastal Commission, have already ruled on closing the Cemex plant and returning the land back to the public for conservation purposes. You should not allow a private business to profit off of public land. You closed this plant to protect the coastal eco system and now you are considering a reversal of that decision. The reversal benefits only Cal Am and not the Monterey Bay environment.

2) This decision will allow Cal Am to take brackish water from the coast and this may lead to more salt water intrusion into Marina's ground water. We already have salt water intrusion in coastal groundwater without an additional strain on the watershed.

3) If Marina has more salt water intrusion into our watershed, this will have a trickle effect on nearby watersheds. The proposed desal plant would have far reaching consequences that could put the Salinas Valley watershed in danger of more salt water intrusion of Marina has to look for water else where.

Thank you for your time and I hope you put the focus of any decision you make on the future of our precious California coast.

Tristen Jones-Fuerbringer  
216 Cosky Drive,  
Marina, CA 93933

**From:** [makapaca 3000](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Me Opongo a la Planta Desalinizadora de Cal Am  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:13:33 PM

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Commission Costera de California:

Yo me llamo Pascual Morales, vivo aquí en Carmel Valley. Tengo facturas de Cal Am Water que son muy caras. He leído que Cal Am quiere cobrar más dinero por una planta desalinizadora que no necesitamos. Estoy muy preocupado por el precio de agua que Cal Am nos está cobrando y lo que quieren cobrar en el futuro. En estos tiempos es difícil pagar el agua. La inflación cada día sube más. ¿Cómo va ser después de que construyen la carísima desalinizadora? Nosotros, la gente Latina que vive en Marina, Seaside y Carmel Valley, no podemos pagar un aumento en nuestras facturas de este tamaño.

Por Favor, no dejen que Cal Am aumente más el precio del agua. Ayúdanos a parar el gran avaricio de Cal Am. Agua es vida.

¡NO A LA PLANTA DESALINIZADORA DE CAL AM!

Atentamente: Pascual Morales, Carmel Valley, California

**From:** [Christine LeQuang](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** PLEASE DENY CAL AM  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:12:45 PM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Directors and Staff,

My name is Christine LeQuang. My husband, I and our two boys reside in Marina- a little town like no other that we have ever lived in! We just love Marina!

Yesterday, my family took a walk along Marina beach. It was incredibly pristine and serene. I felt incredibly sad thinking about the possibility of it destroyed, if CalAm was allowed to put in those hideous massive slanted well structures. It would be unconscionable to allow a corporation to come in and destroy our beautiful beach, our way of life.

We need to preserve the natural beauty, natural habitats for our generation, our children's generation and all future generations!

PLEASE DENY CalAm's application and send them out of Marina!

Respectfully,  
cl

Christine T. LeQuang and family



**From:** [Regina Doyle](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** CCC meeting Nov 17: DENY Cal Am Desal application  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 4:09:11 PM

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To the Commissioners, California Coastal Commission,

This is to request that you DENY California American Water's application to build a desalination plant at your upcoming meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Since the Cease & Desist order issued in 2009 by the State Water Resources Control Board directing Cal Am to stop illegal over pumping of the Carmel River and Seaside Aquifer, CalAm has done little to manage the water supply that they control. They have made excuses at every deadline, permitted additional water to be used, and disregarded the excellent work being undertaken by the MPWMD and Pure Water Monterey, instead of cooperating with and putting their resources behind their conservation and recycling efforts.

CalAm's exorbitantly expensive desalination plan at their unproven estimate of \$300 million (surely higher) should not be accepted without detailed cost estimates verified by reputable external experts to determine its true affordability. In the interest of social justice, CalAm should also state clearly and publicly what impact their costs will have on ratepayers at all levels, as well as what their shareholders will expect to make in profits. Most importantly, a thorough environmental impact report needs to be seriously undertaken, reviewed by reputable third parties as well as your agency: we live in a fragile coastal area. The effects of construction and operation of a desalination plant on the Monterey Bay needs to be better understood.

Please say "NO" to CalAm's desalination application.

Regina Doyle  
1069 Egan Avenue, Pacific Grove CA

**From:** [gbrehmer@aol.com](mailto:gbrehmer@aol.com)  
**To:** [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](mailto:Brownsey.Donne@Coastal); [Hart, Caryl@Coastal](mailto:Hart.Caryl@Coastal); [Turnbull-Sanders, Effie@Coastal](mailto:Turnbull-Sanders.Effie@Coastal); [Aminzadeh, Sara@Coastal](mailto:Aminzadeh.Sara@Coastal); [Escalante, Linda@Coastal](mailto:Escalante.Linda@Coastal); [Wilson, Mike@Coastal](mailto:Wilson.Mike@Coastal); [Rice, Katie@Coastal](mailto:Rice.Katie@Coastal); [Padilla, Stephen@Coastal](mailto:Padilla.Stephen@Coastal); [Harmon, Meagan@Coastal](mailto:Harmon.Meagan@Coastal); [Uranga, Roberto@Coastal](mailto:Uranga.Roberto@Coastal); [Groom, Carole@Coastal](mailto:Groom.Carole@Coastal); [Mann, Zahirah@Coastal](mailto:Mann.Zahirah@Coastal); [Faustinos, Belinda@Coastal](mailto:Faustinos.Belinda@Coastal); [Rivas, Rick@Coastal](mailto:Rivas.Rick@Coastal); [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9 - 20 - 0603 - OPPOSE  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:56:56 PM

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Dear Chr. Brownsey, Vice Chr. Hart and Commissioners Turnbull-sanders, Aminzadeh, Escalante, Wilson, Rice, Padilla, Harmon, Uranga, Groom, Mann, Faustinos and Rivas,

Please beware. California American Water Companies behavior reminds of J. Edgar Hoover's book, Masters of Deceit. Cal Am emailed to all its version of the the "*History of the Monterey Peninsula Water Crisis*" several days ago once again hammering on the word "Crisis" with the intent to manipulate. In light of Cal Am's past behavior, it is not surprising what it left out.

In 2011 a Mayor's Group was formed to facilitate assuring future water. It established a Technical Advisory Committee to evaluate and advise on technical matters. The Committee was asked to evaluate three separate desal projects on the basis of risk. It found that Cal Am's project had the most risks. Cal Am's version of the history makes no mention of the Mayor's Group's extensive involvement.

In 2014 Measure O for public acquisition of Cal Am came on for a vote. Cal Am had fought it deceitfully with many slick four to six page mailers to voters as part of a 2.4 million dollar campaign against the rate payers interests. In spite of Cal Am's huge effort, Measure O nearly won. Cal Am's version of history is silent on Measure O.

In 2018 the voters approved Measure J to buy Cal Am and bring it under public ownership. The 2014 deceitful behavior of Cal Am will have cost the public millions. Cal Am's version of history doesn't even mention Measure J and its extensive implementation toward public purchase via the *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District*.

Cal Am has at its disposal a highly clever public relations crew capable of bending information to achieve its objective. However, its objective is not only keeping one of its main cash cows, it is also to drag out the acquisition process as long as it can. Why would it want to do that? Because the law favors it getting back in the public purchase all the money it invests in the desal project. So, it can not loose by going ahead with financial investment since it expects it to come back to it in the purchase price.

Now who should the Commission believe? *Public Water Now*, Ron Weitzman and others working to achieve the benefits of publicly owned water are not working for financial gain. They work on the basis of principle for the tens of thousands of ratepayers. They are doing it for the people. On the other hand, Cal Am is entirely money driven --- driven to the point of deceit.

If others speak in support of Cal Am, it is important to ask if they have any beneficial arrangements with Cal Am, financial or otherwise.

To the extent the Staff Report is based on information supplied by Cal Am, please take a careful look at it. Compare it to counter information offered by those opposed to the Project. Which is the more reliable? Who is more likely to speak the truth?

It is clear. Deny Cal Am's application.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Brehmer  
Attorney at Law  
9801 Club Place Lane  
Carmel, CA 93923  
(831) 624-8961  
gbrehmer@aol.com



**From:** [Bruce Wilbur](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Consideration of Cal Am Desalination Plant in Marina  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:49:43 PM

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Dear Coastal Commission,

My name is Bruce Wilbur and I'm a resident of Marina. I recommend denying the California American Water application for a desalination plant in Marina for the reasons below. I'm not opposed to all desalination plants but this is the wrong timing and the wrong location. There is too much contention and uncertainty about the proposed plant to accept Cal Am's proposal even with the conditions outlined by Coastal Commission staff. Even if there is interest by Gov. Newsome to improve our states's water supply by increasing desalination plants, not all proposals are just and worthy.

-My understanding is that the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District does not support the Marina desalination project at this time. Assuming this is correct, their opposition is reason enough alone to deny the current application. The Marina Coast Water District apparently also opposes the project. That these two water districts do not support Cal Am's proposal is noteworthy.

-The expansion of the Pure Water Monterey project removes the need to rush and approve the Cal Am desalination plant in Marina. In a few years water need projections and relative costs may be more clear.

-The proposed Cal Am desalination plant raises social justice issues that are not adequately addressed in the conditional Coastal Commission staff approval recommendation. This is especially true for the City of Marina.

-There is continued controversy over the impact to the coastal environment from the proposed desalination plant including effects on adjacent wetlands.

-It is unclear how climate change and sea level rise will affect the proposed plant's operational lifetime and the need to relocate the proposed slant wells.

-Closure of the Cemex sand plant is an opportunity for coastal restoration. Approval of the Cal Am desalination plant would perpetuate an industrial presence and extend environmental impacts on the coast for a currently unneeded plant.

-There is continued controversy over the proposed plant's potential impact on the aquifer that supplies Marina's water supply. Cal Am's own FAQ on the project describes that the project could result in a 1-5 foot drop in the aquifer used by Marina Coast Water district. Having Cal Am monitor for aquifer impacts and environmental impacts are inadequate conditions listed in the Coastal Commission staff recommendation. There are no apparent remedial mechanisms described for the potential aquifer, environmental, other coastal, or social justice impacts as a result of the plant being constructed and operated.

-The energy burden and likely carbon impact of the proposed plant are not justified if the additional water is not likely to be needed for 20-30 years.

-Uncertainties about the cost of the project (apparently the last cost estimate is from 2017) could bring additional financial burden on ratepayers for water that is already expected to be twice the cost per acre foot compared to the Monterey Pure Water project.

-The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is considering a local buyout of Cal Am. Denying the current Cal Am application for their desalination plant would be sensible while the MPWMD works through a potential Cal Am buy out.

Our water supply in Monterey County remains a challenging topic. Cal Am's proposed desalination plant is divisive and the water it might provide would be expensive and not needed in the next 20 years due to progress with the Pure Water Monterey project.

Thank you for consideration. Please vote to deny Cal Am's application.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wilbur

**From:** [doylebrendan@aol.com](mailto:doylebrendan@aol.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [doylebrendan@aol.com](mailto:doylebrendan@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Objection to CalAm's Desalination Project: Brendan Doyle Pacific Grove  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:40:44 PM

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I strongly object to CalAm's Desalination Project being approved for the following reasons.

Over many decades CalAm has proven their incompetence as a water utility provider. They have dragged their feet every step of the way in addressing the need for an affordable, environmentally friendly and sustainable future-based water supply for the population of the Monterey Peninsula. Moreover, CalAm continues their scaremongering through false information and creating a sense of impending emergency – possibly to force key decision makers into approving their “white elephant” unproven slant well desalination plant. A plant to be constructed in a fragile marine and coastal aquifer environment located outside the MPWMD jurisdiction. This would, undoubtedly, result in prolonged future legal battles over the water supply. It would also result in serious negative impact by the desalination plant on the fragile surrounding environment, and on Marina's and possibly Castroville's drinking and agricultural water supplies. Here are my key points of objection:

- [if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->**Environmental Damage:** CalAm has, and continues to, damaged both the Carmel River aquatic and fish life environment by over-pumping that resource despite the decades long Cease and Desist Order.
- [if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->**Poor Operation & Maintenance:** CalAm has an appalling record of poor maintenance of its water supply infrastructure resulting in dam siltation and major water loss through decrepit and leaking water reticulation system.
- [if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->**Cost and Costing Incompetence:** Despite having several years to calculate the cost of the proposed desalination water project, CalAm has failed to do so. There remain so many unknowns in terms of dollar costs, environmental costs, justice costs, future operation and maintenance costs, future legal costs, and the list goes on. Whilst CalAm currently estimate that the infrastructure cost at approximately \$298 million, a more realistic, yet conservative cost is approximately \$426 million, aside from an estimated \$50 million per year for ongoing operation and maintenance.
- [if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->**Major Financial Disincentives:** The exorbitant cost of the proposed CalAm's desalinated water would be a major disincentive to tourism, new industry and the retaining of key services providers in the area.

In summary, CalAm as a utility is not-fit-for-purpose, they have an appalling track record and their proposed desalination plant is unaffordable, dangerous to the marine and costal aquifer environments, is legally unjust to the populations of Marina and Castroville, is far, far too costly to maintain and operate, and is no longer needed now that the Pure Water Monterey expansion can meet the district's water needs until 2050 at half the costs of CalAm's proposed desalination project.

Brendan Doyle,  
Pacific Grove  
November 2022



**From:** [Scott Douglas Laxier](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:40:05 PM

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Good Afternoon,

Please do your part to DENY Cal-Am the permits to build their desal plant. Clearly, it is Cal-Am's business model to depend on greed & deceit to perpetuate the fleecing of Monterey Bay area residents and beyond.

Even after the voted-on referendum, why do they wield such power in the face of overwhelming public opposition? Are there back-room deals taking place with coastal commission reps?

Send Cal-Am flowing towards oblivion, please. Public Water Now!

Scott Douglas Laxier  
540 Quail Run Ct,  
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940  
(831)521-4062

**From:** [bjv.kf](mailto:bjv.kf)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Cc:** [Karen Pauli](#)  
**Subject:** Public Hearing November 17, 2022  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:34:34 PM

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To The California Coastal Commission

Please vote No on the Cal Am Desal project.

As a resident of the Monterey Peninsula for seven years and a former property owner in Upper Carmel Valley for 39 years, I am one of the 24,000 voters who voted to pass Measure J November 2018.

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is a legislatively created and publicly elected government agency who has spent a considerable amount of effort following protocol, proving its financial capabilities which international investment bankers and financial consultants have verified. Study after study verifies **we do not need** or want a desalination plant. But Cal Am seems to never want to give up their plan to expand their holdings for their investors in the stock market..

I also believe Cal Am has shown itself to be unethical.

It was not until shortly before the vote on Measure J that I discovered the downside of Cal Am. I live in a senior community. There is a sign on the front entrance that says, "No Solicitors." On a Sunday afternoon, **right before the day of voting**, a man from Cal Am made his way through back doors of resident buildings and placed campaign notices in at least one building. I came upon him when I ascended the back stairs of my building. I briefly saw an identification card on his shirt before he covered it up. I asked him a question. He held his cell phone up to his chest and said he was just trying to get a signal, then he left. Up and down the hallway were fliers in front of apartment doors encouraging voters to support Cal Am.

This is but one of the many reasons I voted for MPWMD to buy out Cal Am. I join others who oppose granting a permit for Cal Am's desalinization plant.

Barbara Viljoen Fonseca  
651 Sinex Avenue  
Pacific Grove CA 93950

**From:** [Douglas Deitch](#)  
**To:** [Padilla, Stephen@Coastal](#); [Aminzadeh, Sara@Coastal](#); [Zach Friend](#); 100-District 1 (831) 647-7991; 100-District 2 (831) 755-5022; 100-District 3 (831) 385-8333; 100-District 4 (831) 883-7570; 100-District 5 (831) 647-7755; [Mark Primack](#); [City Council](#); [Crowfoot, Wade@CNRA](#); [Bruce McPherson](#); [Huffaker, Matt@City of Watsonville](#); [citymanager@cityofsantacruz.com](#); [Nemeth, Karla@DWR](#); [Groom, Carole@Coastal](#); [Turnbull-Sanders, Effie@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Luce, Shelley@Coastal](#); [paul@carmelpinecone.com](#); [Bradley Zeve](#); [Steve Paolopoli](#); [Ainsworth, John@Coastal](#); [Sierra Ryan](#); [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](#); [Greg Capul](#); [Ryan Coonerty](#); [Douglas Deitch](#); [editorial@montereyherald.com](#); [editorial@santacruzsentinel.com](#); [Energy@Coastal](#); [glennchurchforsupervisor@gmail.com](#); [Howell, Erik@Coastal](#); [info@santacruzlafo.org](#); [jyork@santacruzsentinel.com](#); [Townsend, Jeanine@Waterboards](#); [Rice, Katie@Coastal](#); [lkrieger@bayareanewsgroup.com](#); [opinion@lookoutlocal.com](#); [Sarah Easley Perez](#); [Michael Turpin](#); [Uranga, Roberto@Coastal](#); [Vogel, Nancy@CNRA](#); [Yun, Joseph@DWR](#); [zancan@aol.com](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:29:18 PM

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

**From:** **Douglas Deitch** <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Nov 11, 2022 at 2:37 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**To:** Douglas Deitch <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>, <[EORFC@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:EORFC@coastal.ca.gov)>, Douglas Deitch <[ddeitch@got.net](mailto:ddeitch@got.net)>

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

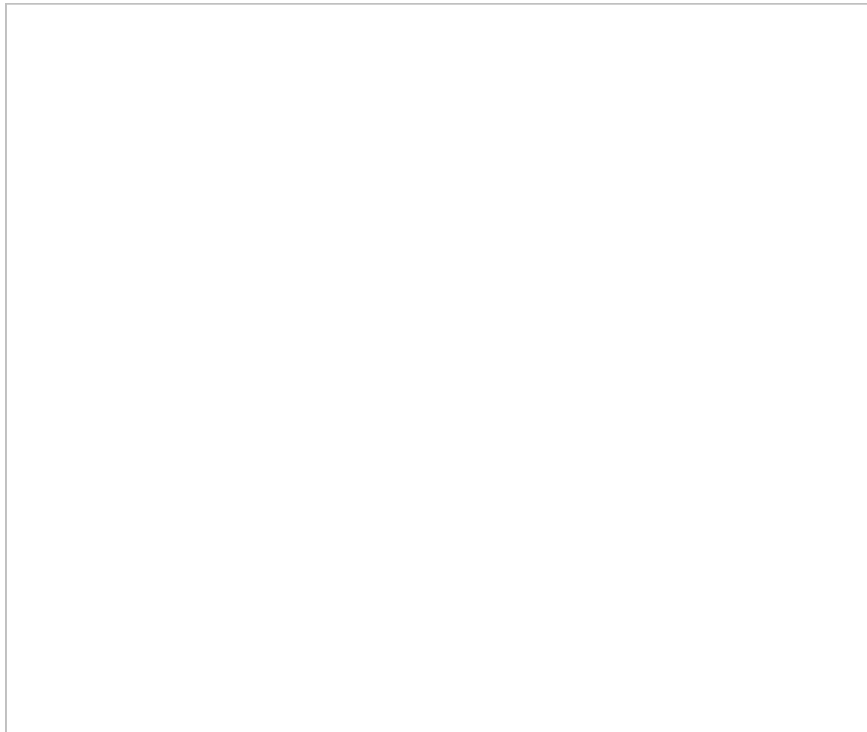
**From:** **Douglas Deitch** <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Nov 11, 2022 at 2:14 PM  
**Subject:** Public Comment on November 2022 Agenda Item Thursday 7a - Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 (California American Water Co., Marina)  
**To:** Douglas Deitch <[ddeitch@got.net](mailto:ddeitch@got.net)>  
**Cc:** <[siddhartha1212@yahoo.com](mailto:siddhartha1212@yahoo.com)>, Douglas Deitch <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>

**Sustainability, Rapid “SLR”, “ASR” or “DPR” H2O,  
#NatureBasedSolutions, Our \$5 billion+yr food production (10% of Cali’s  
\$50 billion of total US \$138)?**

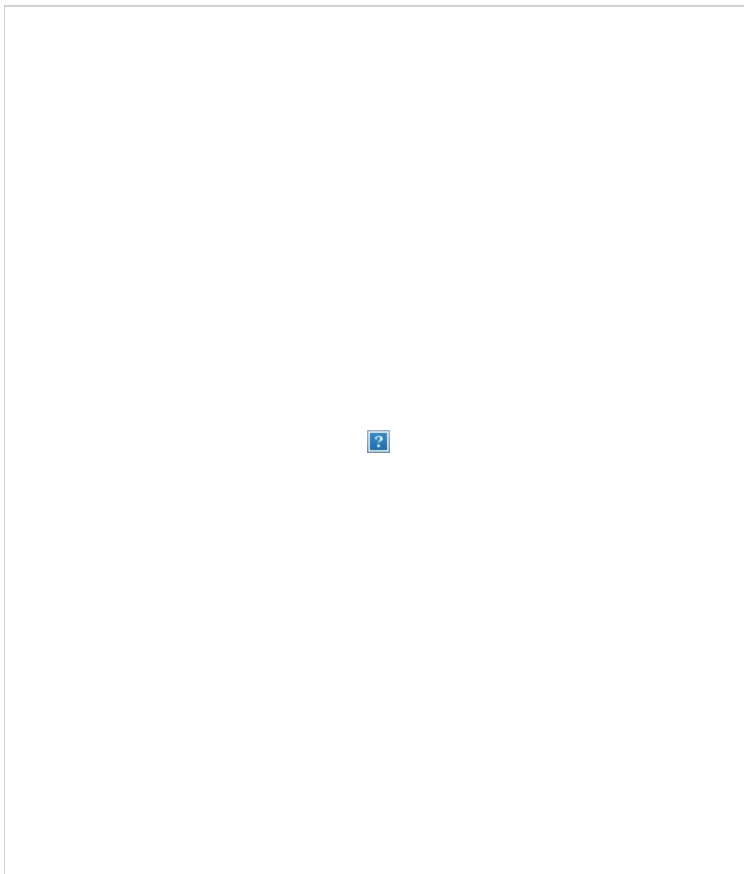
**Did we need either Cal Am or it’s coast front illegal slant welled desal  
plant in 2011 @ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) [douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY> [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com)  
then?**

**... or now, any other/better alternatives, #nbs/nature based like mine run down  
in my comment right below and @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) is or not?**

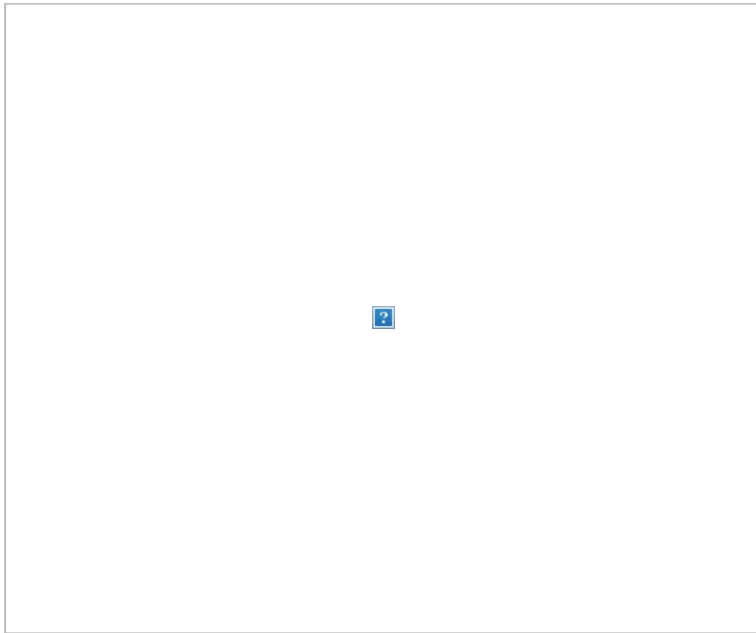




<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1534167031377018881>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136>

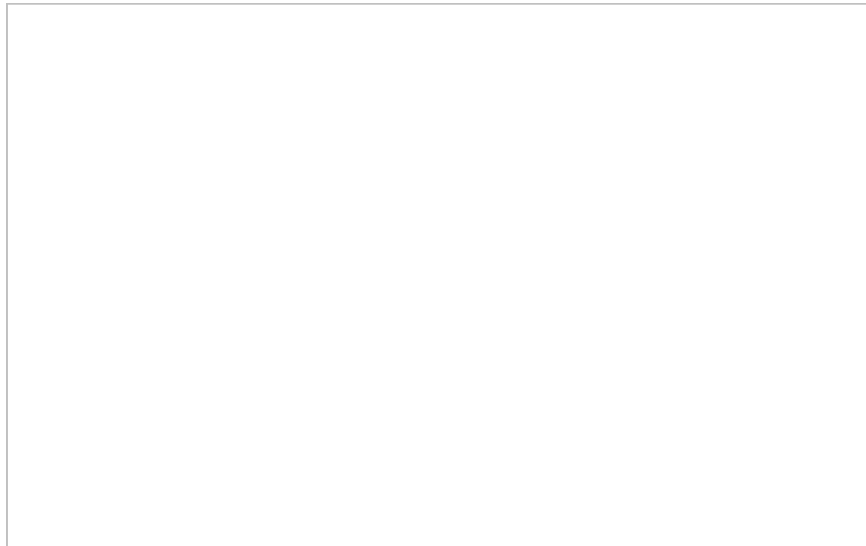


([April 29, 2016 LinkedIn article](#) & [Distributed documents in my hand...](#))

**Dear Coastal Commission, Governor Newsom, SWRCB, DWR, Monterey and Santa Cruz County Supervisors and City of Santa Cruz, et al...**

**The Monterey Bay Conservancy demands, for now the eighth time since the first on [April 19, 2016](#) (@ 10:21) immediate SWRCB Emergency “Intervention” and takeover of all Monterey Bay Regional water management, sustainability planning and projects, and all other related control under direction of Governor Newsom’s Office.**

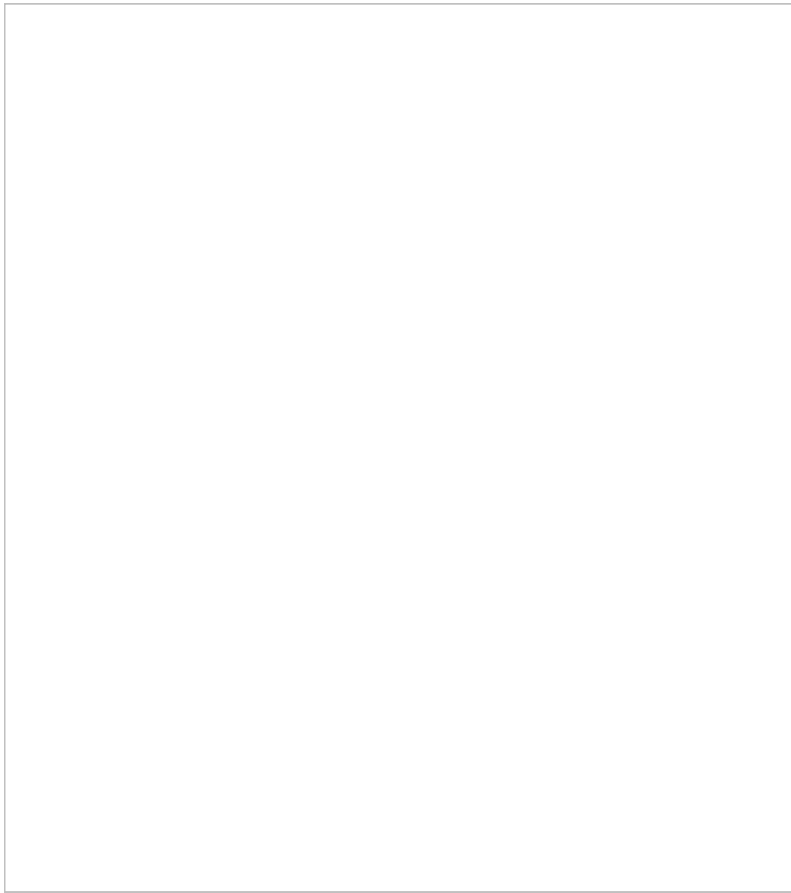
**[Additionally, due to the recent shockingly high Monterey \(and San Francisco \) Bay SLR Projections](#) and the quickly approaching completed DPR (Direct Potable Reuse regs and, [as I well over 2 and one half years ago advised the CCC @ 12:12](#)),**



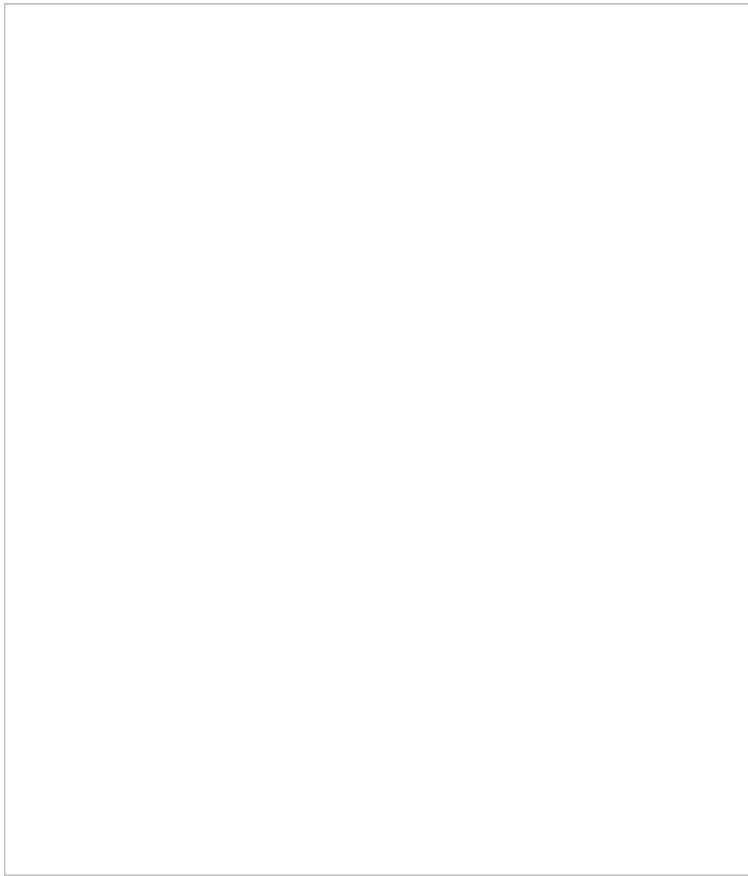
**all “Pure Water” recycling “ASR/IPR” projects should be stopped and held in suspension until, due to DPR H<sub>2</sub>O which does not have to be injected and mixed in our coastal aquifers and can be used directly, all “ASR/IPR” injection will be abandoned and millions of dollars not imprudently spent on useless pipelines and other unneeded new infrastructure...**

**... particularly when 33000 acre feet of DPR H<sub>2</sub>O will be yearly available w/o any more “ASR/IPR” injection from the repurposed from Ag to Monterey Bay regional urban water needs of all our other humans and their activities and businesses here and best sustain and protect our \$5 billion yearly food production here and so much more run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com)?**

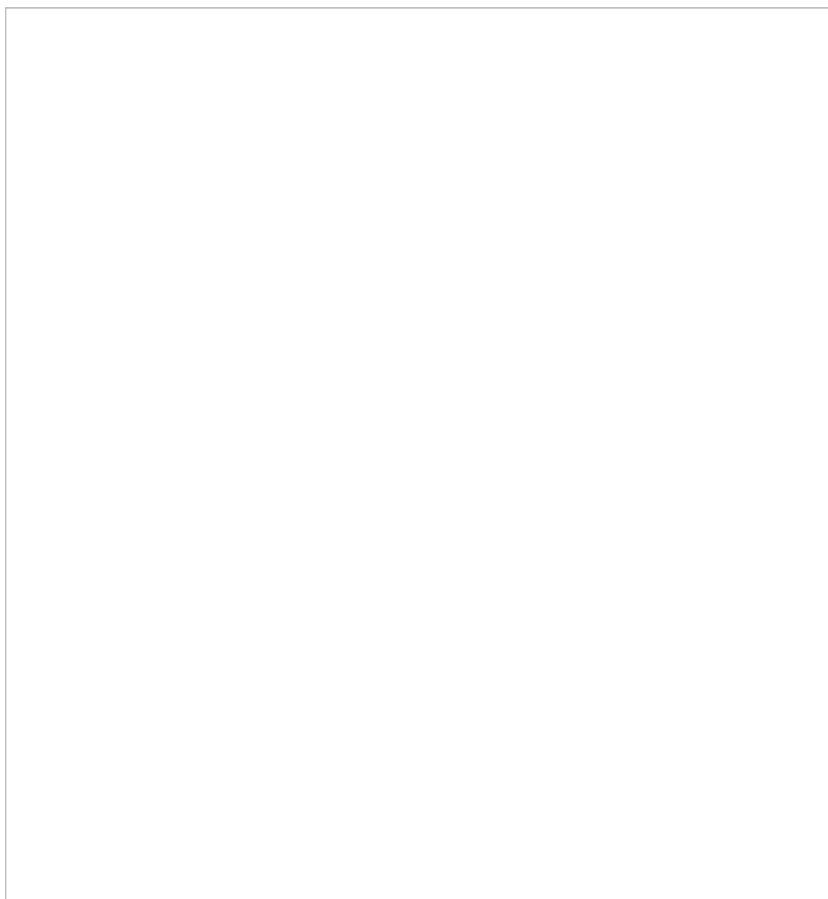




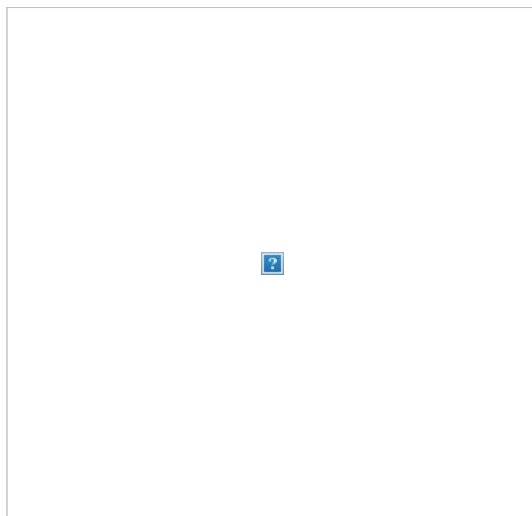
<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1577652083079008257>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1587048714270429189>



[Ourinconvenienttruth.org](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.org) [Ourinconvenienttruth.net](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.net) [Ourinconvenienttruth.com](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.com)

**2011 Desal @ CCC ?:**

[DouglasDeitch.com](http://DouglasDeitch.com) ([douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net) & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY>)

2010 [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com)



**Here's Monterey Bay Conservancy's 30 year old plus #NatureBasedSolution (and 100% unconsidered and DirectPotableReuse/"DPR" Recycled H2O) and best 33,000 acre feet/year new no shovel/build back better-Farmlands to wetlands infrastructure Monterey Bay Regional Urban Water Supply Alternative to best address Sea Level Rise, preserve and sustain us and our \$5 billion year farm/food production, 90% water user ...**

**And much, much more ... ASAP**

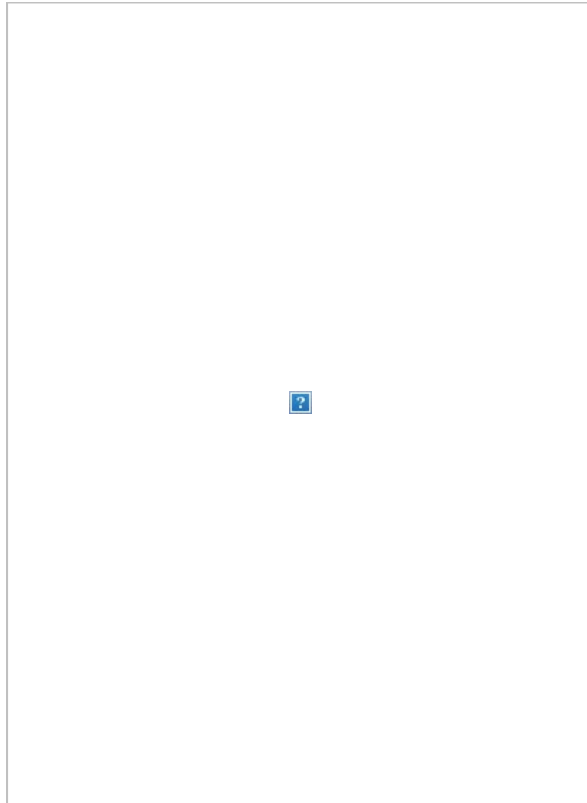
**w/i 2 years by Governor Newsom's Emergency Executive Order...**

**after SWRCB "Intervention" in Monterey Bay Region ...**

**requested by Monterey Bay Conservancy continuously ...**

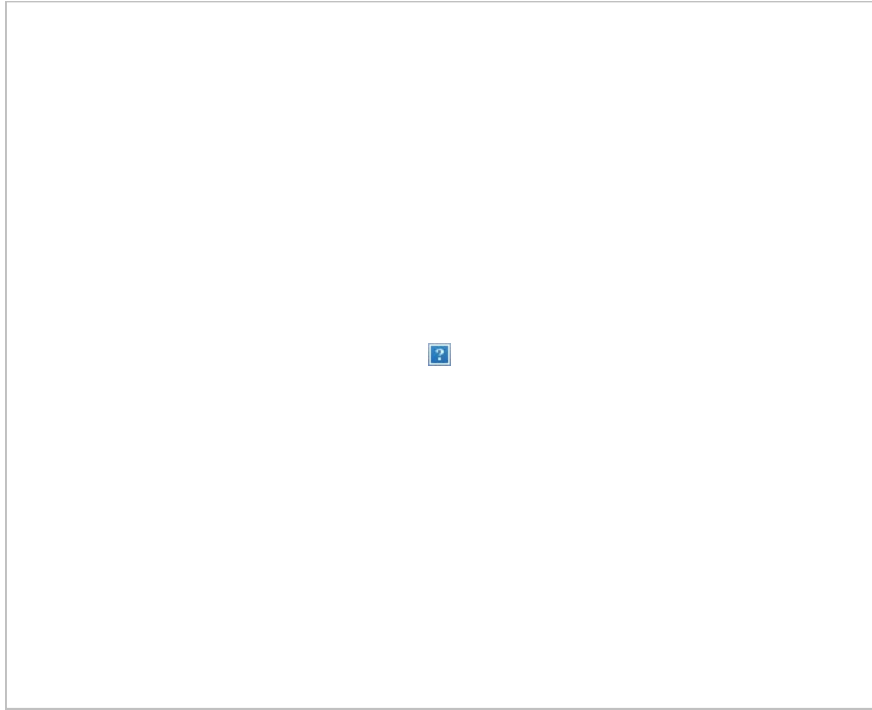
**Starting April 19, 2016 @**

**For a one time, "Show Me The Money" \$2.5 billion (1/2 Federal/1/2 State) investment...**



**(i.e "OPM" @ <https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1417170870133399585>)**

**Run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) & in the comment right below:**

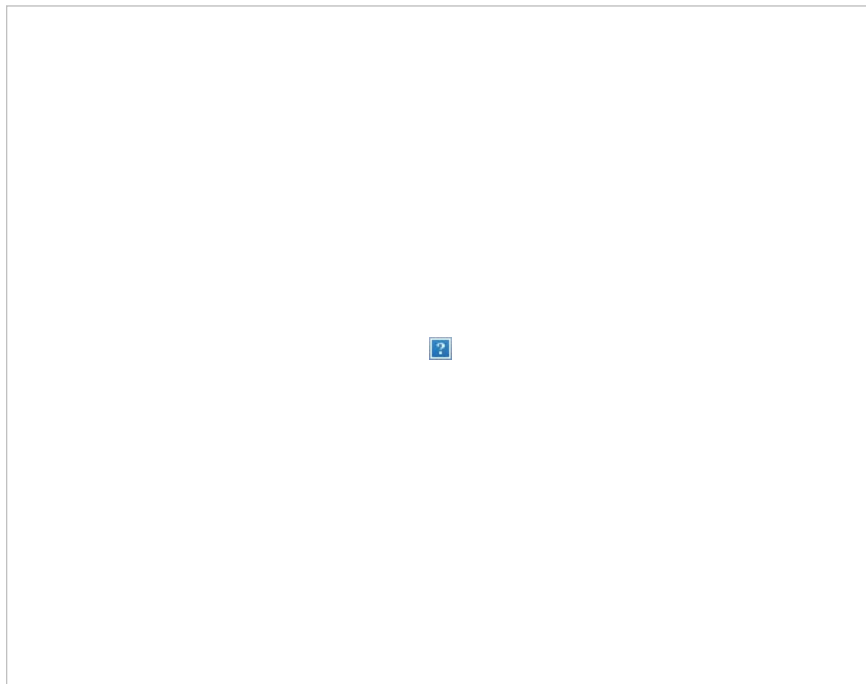


[Monterey County elected officials to debate a change in desal law](#)



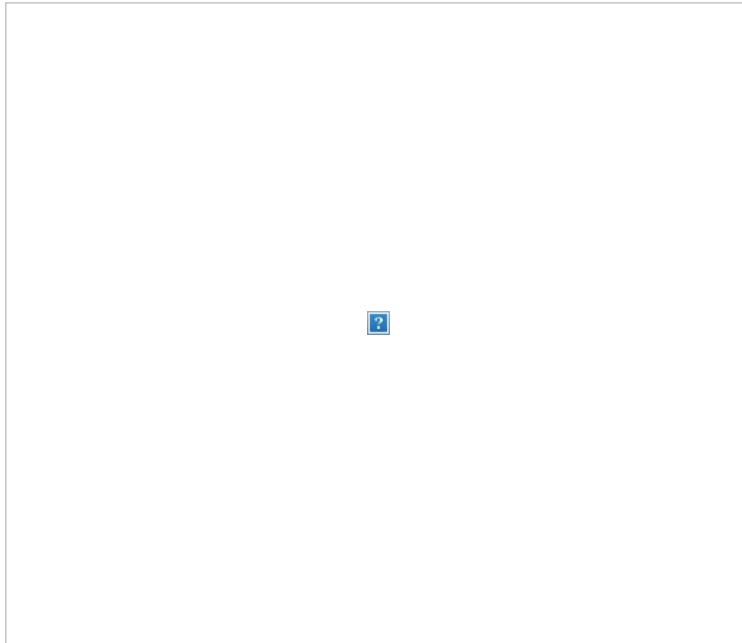
<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1534167031377018881>

[MakeCaliforniaGreatAgain.democrat](#)

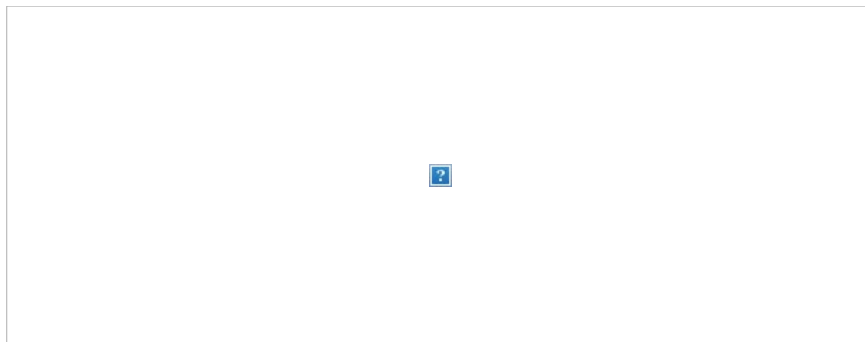




<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1374672809163550720>

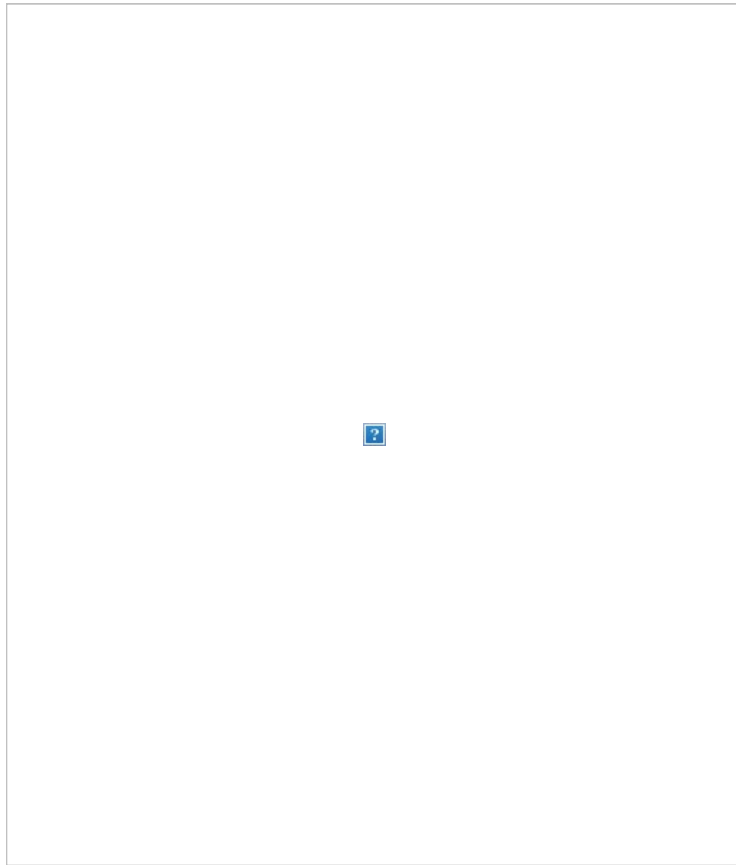


[Dear Chairman Esquivel & Ms. Bochco, et al @ SWRCB & California Coastal Commission,](#)



**(Please, for the now 8th time since 2016)...**

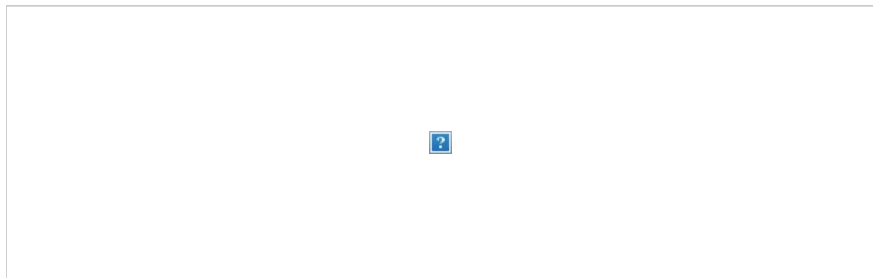
**[INTERVENE NOW IN MONTEREY BAY @ thebestthatmoneycantbuy.org @ 11: 21](#)**  
**[, 4/19/2016 !!!](#)**

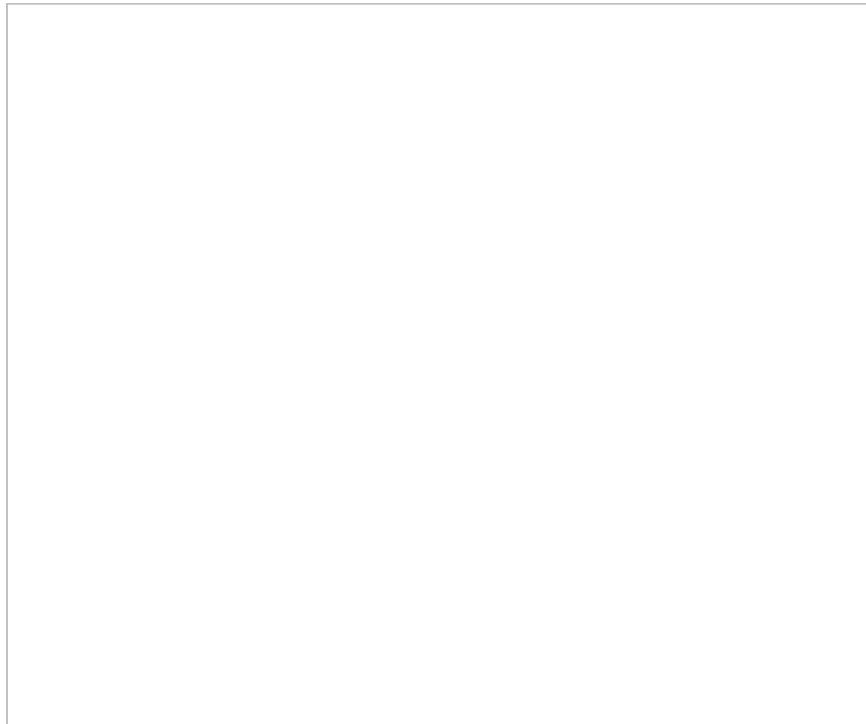


**@It's past time for the State Water Resources Control Board to take control of our now predominantly below sea level Monterey Bay ground water commons**

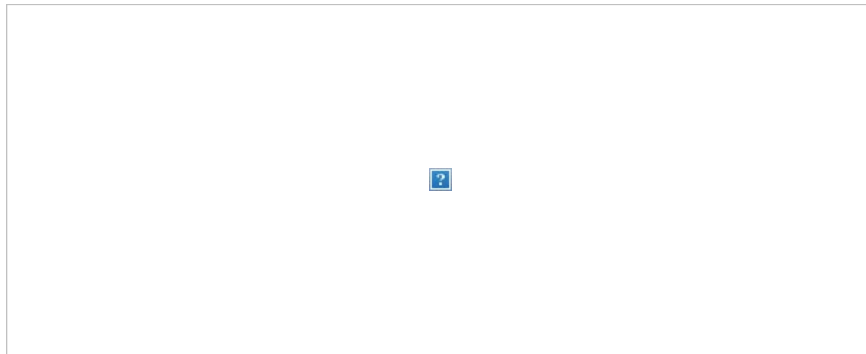
**& @ dougforassembly.com**

**Does SqCWD have any water rights to do anything?**





[lomejorqueeldineronopuedecomprar.com](http://lomejorqueeldineronopuedecomprar.com)



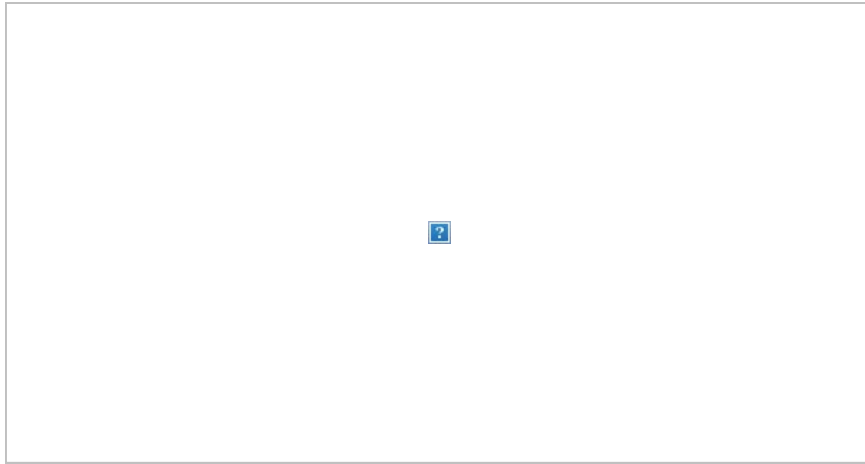
[begentlewiththeearth.com](http://begentlewiththeearth.com) (2005)

Query I: Our future water supply: Our most important “Community” decision?

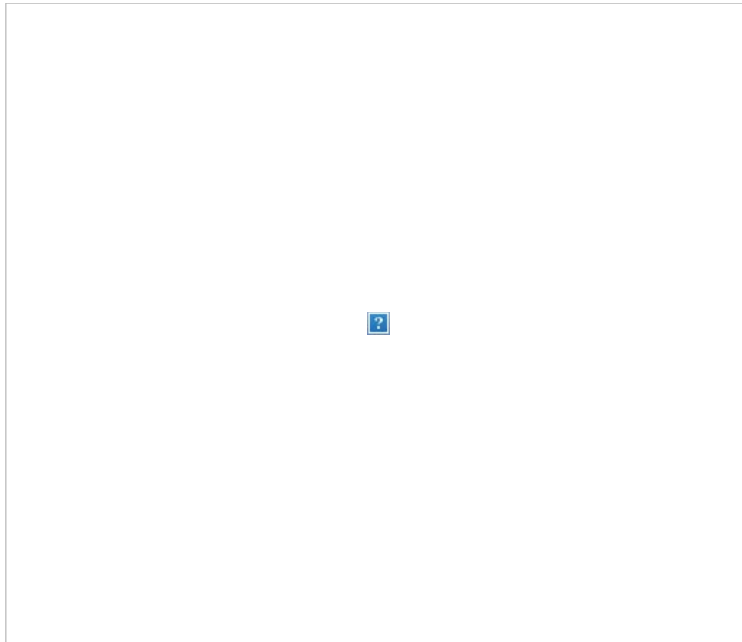
Query II: Will it be Desal, “ASR” (aquifer storage recovery **with injection and later extraction**)...

or 33000 a/ft/yr new Monterey Bay regional “DPR” (direct potable reuse) urban recycled H<sub>2</sub>O w/o any injection **with 63000 a/ft/yr PERMANENT w/o EXTRACTION IN PERPETUITY passive strategic recharge through/and conservation (@ 3 afyr per acre)** of [#NatureBasedSolution ESHA 21000 acres of “farmlands back to wetlands”](#), the [Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument](#) , like at Zmudowski Beach at [1992 43 acre Pilot Project Willoughby Ranch?](#)

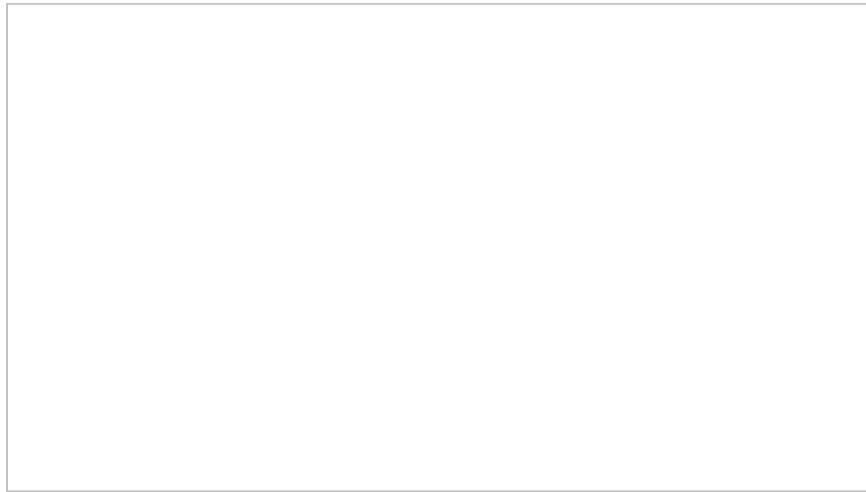




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<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1577652083079008257>

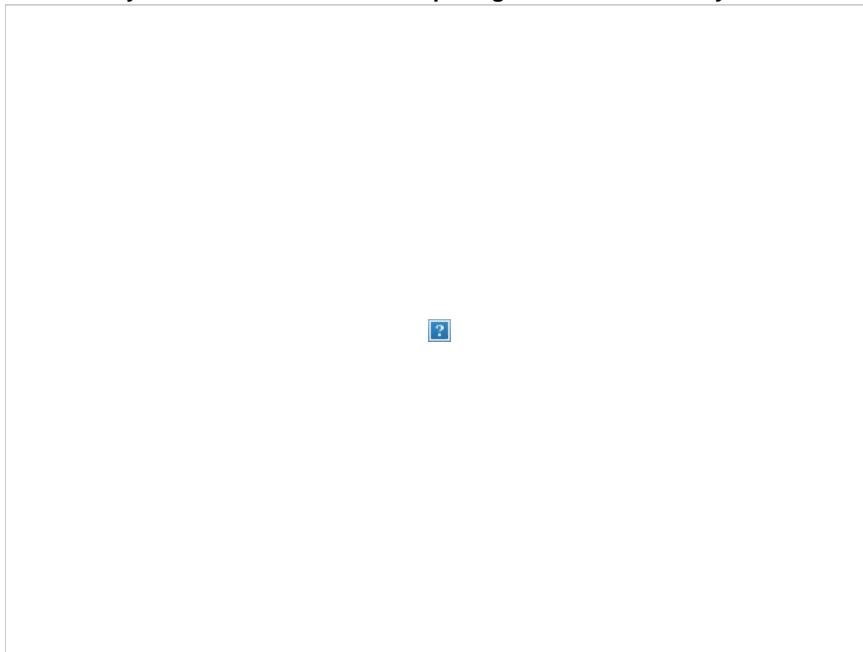


@ [dougdeitch.com](https://www.dougdeitch.com) (a fb page)

2020

**“DPR vs “ASR”: All recycled water is not the same ?**

Please use your common sense and simple logic to understand why?



Why?: The one foot of SLR will push into our and all coastsides aquifers that are at or below sea level and force sea water and other pollutants into our still pristine for the most part local aquifers and pollute them too.

My 30+ year old ignored plan, the NATURE BASED SOLUTION/#nbs 21000 acre “Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument”, including the repurposed to urban from ag 33000 acre feet/year of "DPR-Direct Potable Reuse" recycled water from the already but upgraded extant and online built in 1998 for \$75 million Castroville Reclamation Plant, which also includes 63000 acre feet per year and then **EVERY FOLLOWING YEAR IN PERPETUITY** of permanent and not later extracted both strategically located and #nbs and passive Monterey Bay regional groundwater CONSERVATION and PERMANENT AQUIFER RECHARGE and 21000 NEW ACRES of new

"FARMLANDS BACK TO WETLANDS" (43 acre since 1995 Pilot Project @ Zmudowski Beach run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) , a fb page, will solve all and best both sustain and preserve or increase our current \$5 billion year (10% of Cali's total \$50 billion year farm production of USA's total \$136 billion!) and many other benefits for us here IN THE BIGGEST DROUGHT/FOOD/AIR/SAFETY/[ALLLABSMATTER.INFO](http://ALLLABSMATTER.INFO) etc AND ALREADY SO MANY OTHER EMERGENCIES IN HUMAN HISTORY?, ...

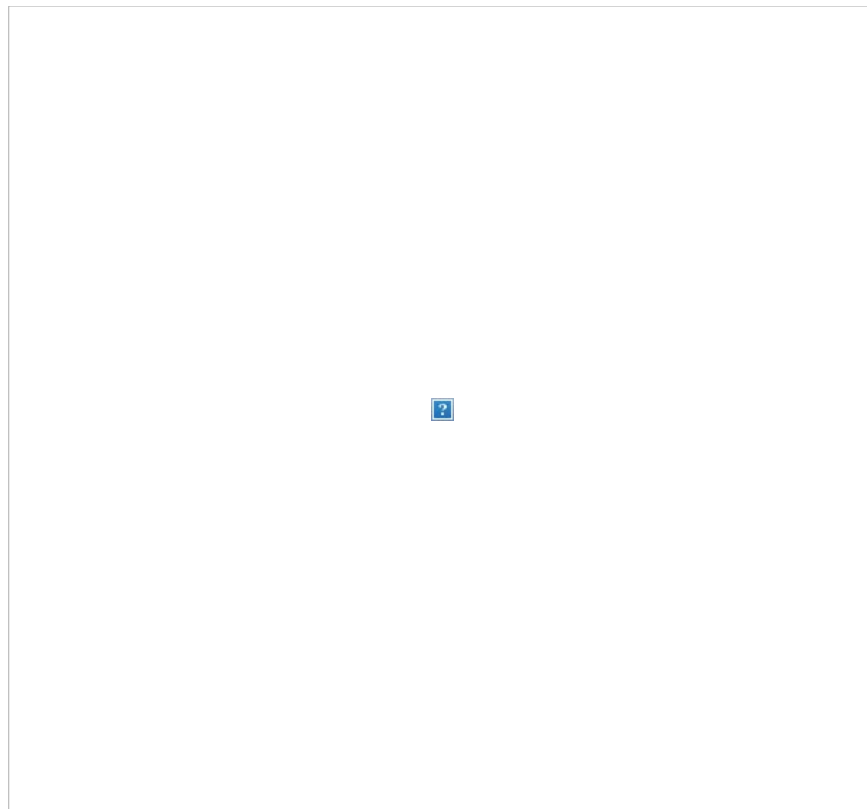
...for only a one time \$2.1 billion build back better (one billion each State and Federal) infrastructure investment which will make us here in "our" (... fyi, one of my two "pronouns") Monterey Bay Region where "we" all live (... fyi II, the second of my two "pronouns")

... "the global exemplar social economic and natural system for the rest of our planet to admire and emulate", by Douglas Deitch (2007) [www.begentlewiththeearth.com](http://www.begentlewiththeearth.com) [lomejorqueeldineroNOpuedecomprar.com](http://lomejorqueeldineroNOpuedecomprar.com) ( a fb page)

**"You can lead a horse or Governor Newsom, California Coastal Commission, SWRCB, DWR, "PUREWATER EVERYWHERE", et al to "DPR" not "ASR" Recycled water and so much more (@ [www.dougdeitch.com](http://www.dougdeitch.com) etc...) but you can't make them drink ..."**

**(That's why I am/was running for Congress to get us the \$2.1 billion to fund this project WITH an immediate following emergency executive order from our Governor immediately authorizing, funding \$ 1 billion for, and implementing my project, the 21000 acre "Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument run down @ <https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136> & [www.dougdeitch.com](http://www.dougdeitch.com) for us/US ASAP !)**

**Problems solved!"**

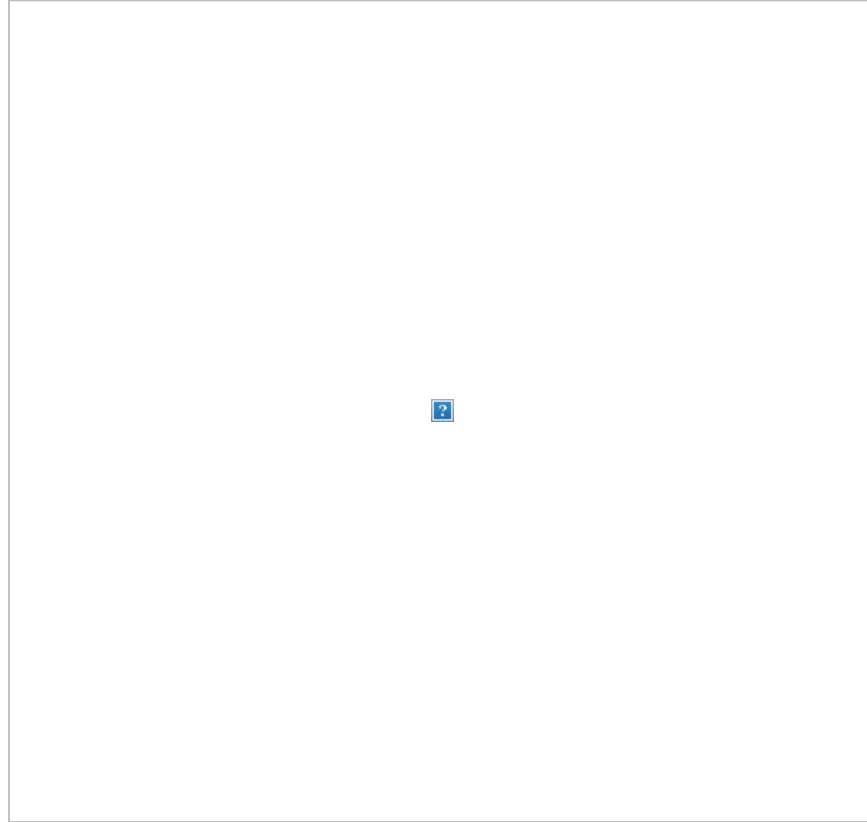


@ 12:12 @ [cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20200312/](http://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20200312/) (2020)



**& Repeating my CCC comment from 10 years ago, to the day, ...**

**“...made the Coastal Commission (et al) complicit ... in the biggest environmental catastrophe, irremediable, in the history of the Monterey Bay Region. Please ...”**



**@ 3:25 @ [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com) , March 11, 2010**

**(PLEASE NOTE: THIS March 11, 2010 CCC Meeting VIDEO, APPARENTLY ... @ [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20100311/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20100311/) ...**

**HAS BEEN REMOVED, “LOST”, & REPLACED FROM OFFICIAL CCC CAL\_SPAN SITE along with video and other CCC records with an “Arana Gulch Field Trip” video !?**

**... just like the documents filed by me earlier w/ CCC @ [begentlewiththeearth.org](http://begentlewiththeearth.org) in 2009 and @ [lawandorderliberal.net](http://lawandorderliberal.net) in 2016 for the matters therein referenced also mysteriously “DISAPPEARED”!?)**

**2011**

**2011 “CalAm I Desal” CCC Hearing Comments of [Douglas Deitch](#) and [George Riley](#) (@ 2:27:50)**

**“Water/Berry” (and now PureWaterMonterey & PureWaterSoquel) Ponzi Scheme?**

**Query/SqCWD: Does Soquel Creek Water District have any water rights?**  
(Search @ [https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/ewrims/EWServlet?Redirect\\_Page=EWWaterRightPublicSearch.jsp&Purpose=getEWAppSearchPage](https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/ewrims/EWServlet?Redirect_Page=EWWaterRightPublicSearch.jsp&Purpose=getEWAppSearchPage)  
)

1.

**Query/SqCWD: How much is “Pure Water Soquel” project now estimated to now cost , in total, and when is completion estimated?**

2.

**Query/SqCWD: Does SqCWD need perfected and legal water rights? Why don't they have them , if they don't?**

3.

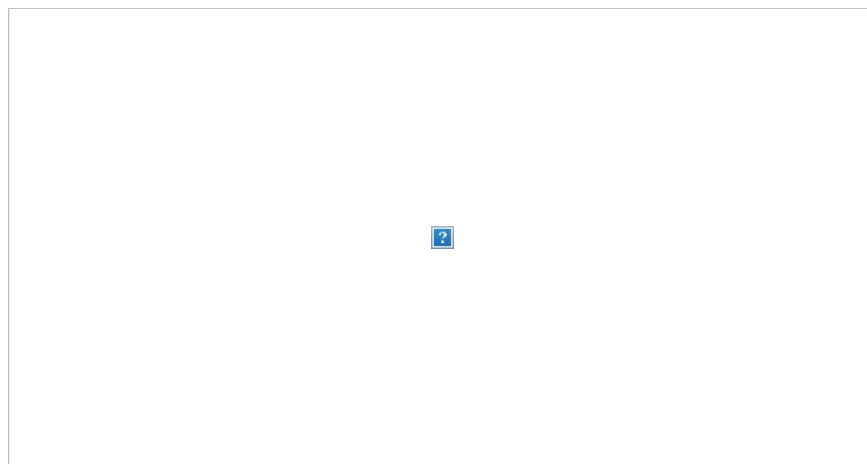
**Is this a responsible and prudent business practice and a “safe harbor” manner of conducting business?**

4.

**Query/”Pure Water” “ASR” Projects: After “DPR” is approved, will injection of water cease and “DPR” recycled water be used directly instead?**

5.

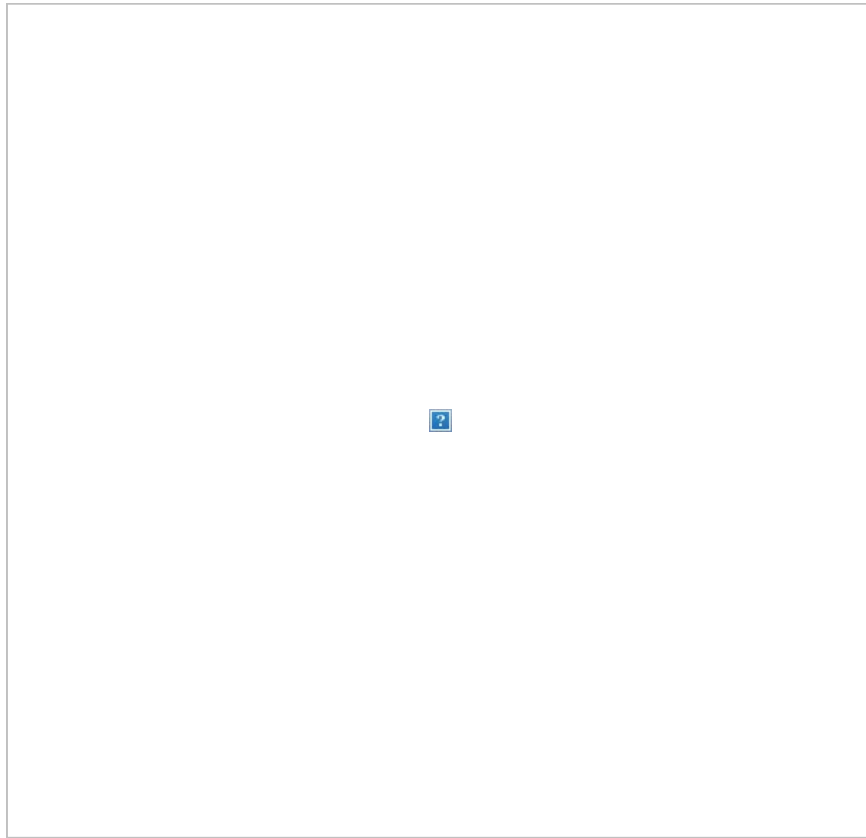
**Query: How did/does/will Pure Water Monterey project w/ expansion to 5+k/a/f/yr deal w/ account for new/increased since 2018 ag well pumping on 1800 acre Armstrong Ranch (@ 3 a/f/yr per acre +/- ) run down in [MCWeekly's Mr. Schmaltz' excellent 2018 article](#)**



**[“We can't print up any more H2O!”](#)**







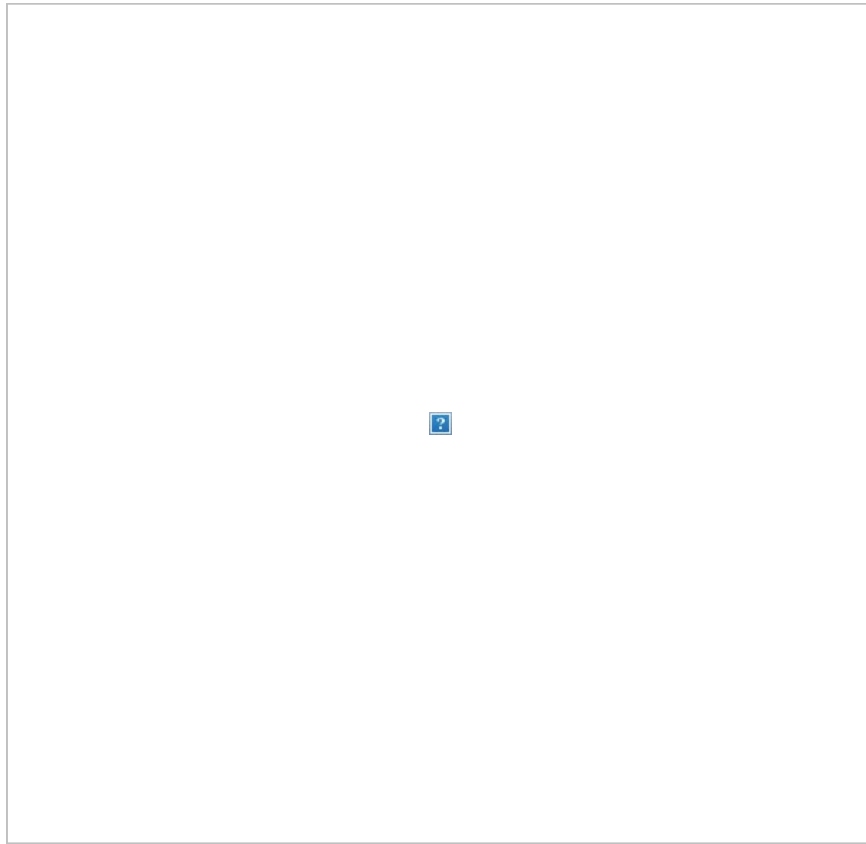
[https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20200311/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20200311/) @ 13:44

... (from CCC Meeting video of March 11, 2010 ten years ago, no longer to be found @ Cal-Span CCC site) !?

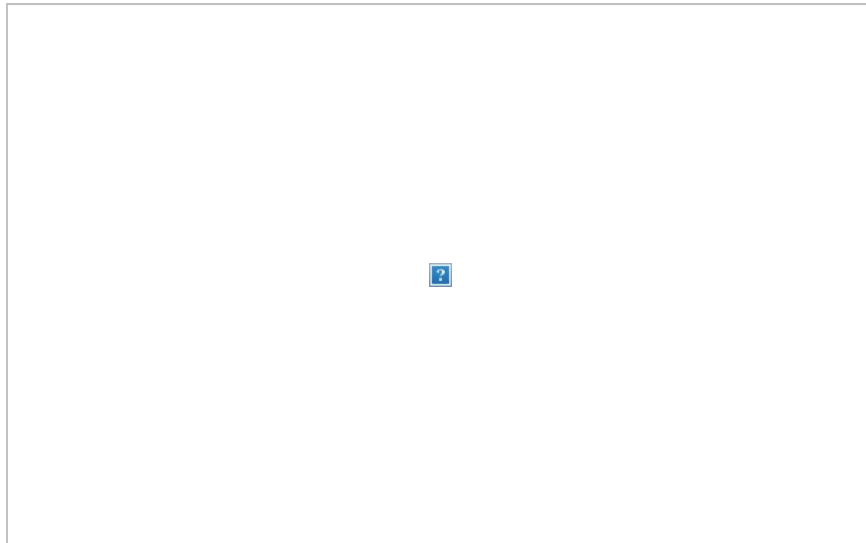
2019?

“Those who cannot remember (or never in the first place ever knew) the past ...”?

(“I was just up at the State Water Resources Control Board requesting they intervene in the Monterey Bay for the third time ...” @ 29:02 @ [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191113/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191113/) )



**... are condemned to repeat it”?**



**@ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) (2011)**

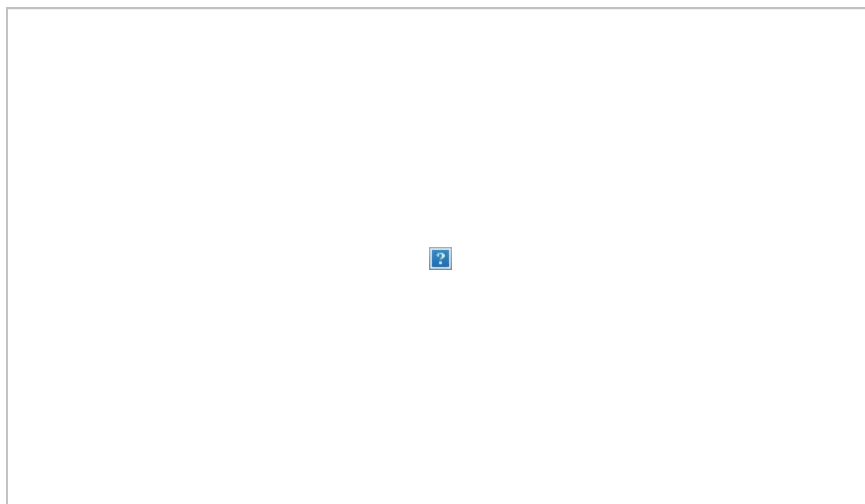
**“November 12, 2019**

**Dear Ms. Bochco and CCC,**

**I am still waiting to hear or see one word of response from my invitation sent November 19, 2019 to you...?**

**(and also issued the same invitation to tour to SWRCB**

**Chair Esquivel, also ignored ...**

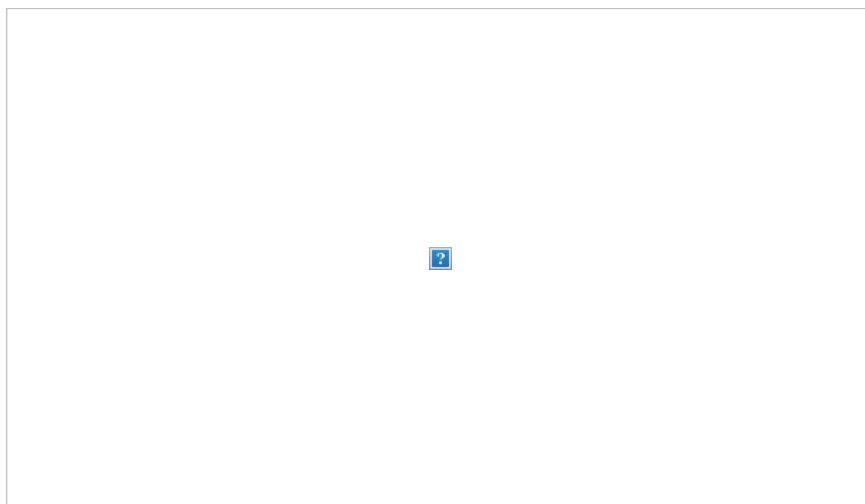


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136/photo/3>

**Please respond.**

**Respectfully,**

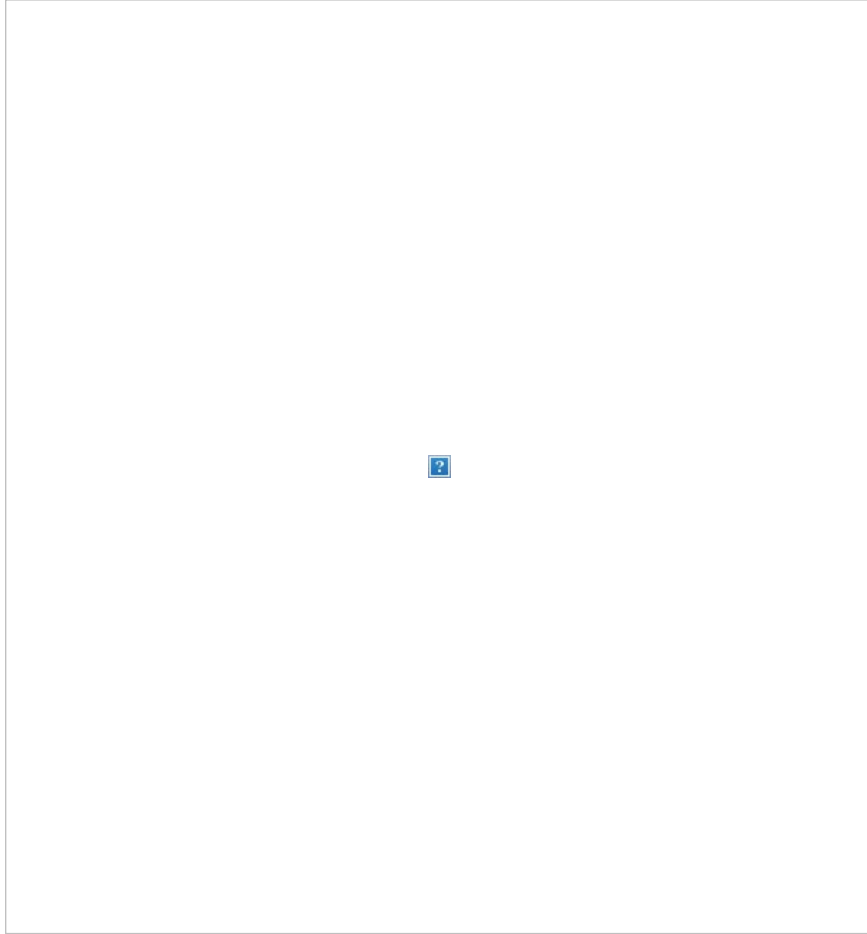
**Douglas Deitch/Monterey Bay Conservancy” ....**



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2705212229718138&set=pcb.2705216426384385>



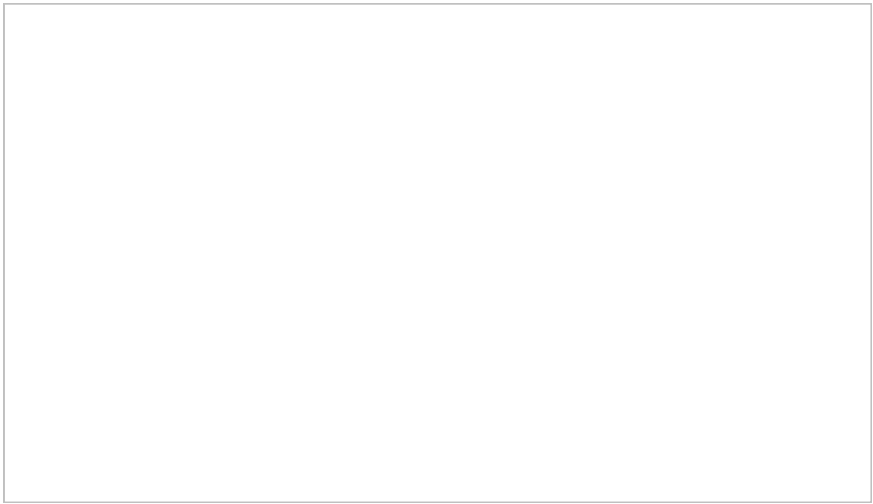
**... to tour my alternative “Monterey Bay Regional Water Fixx  
aka “21000 acre Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument”**



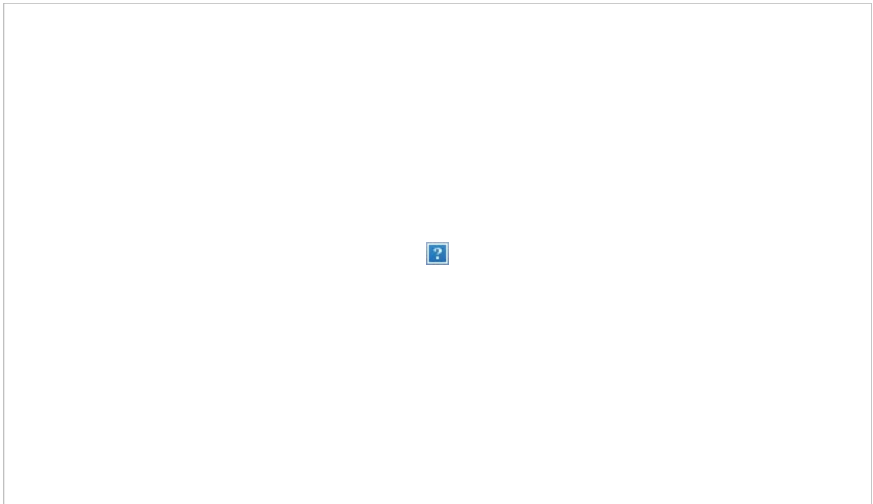
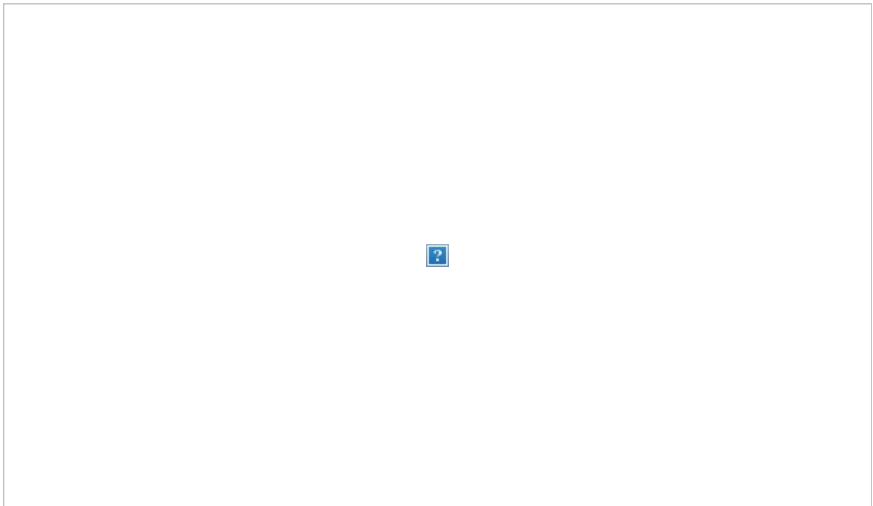
**... which I have already run down for you in 2019 twice !?**

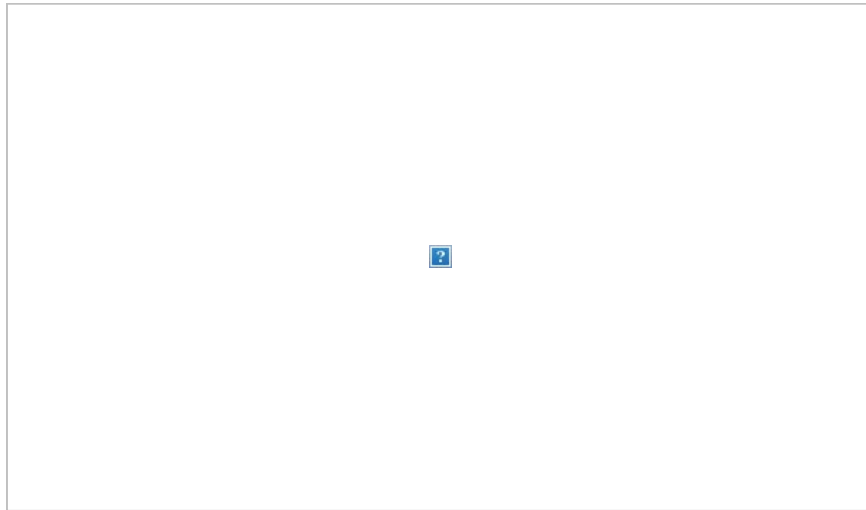
**@5:15 [cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191115/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191115/) & [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191113/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191113/)**

**and below & @ [dougdeitch.com](https://dougdeitch.com) (fb page)**

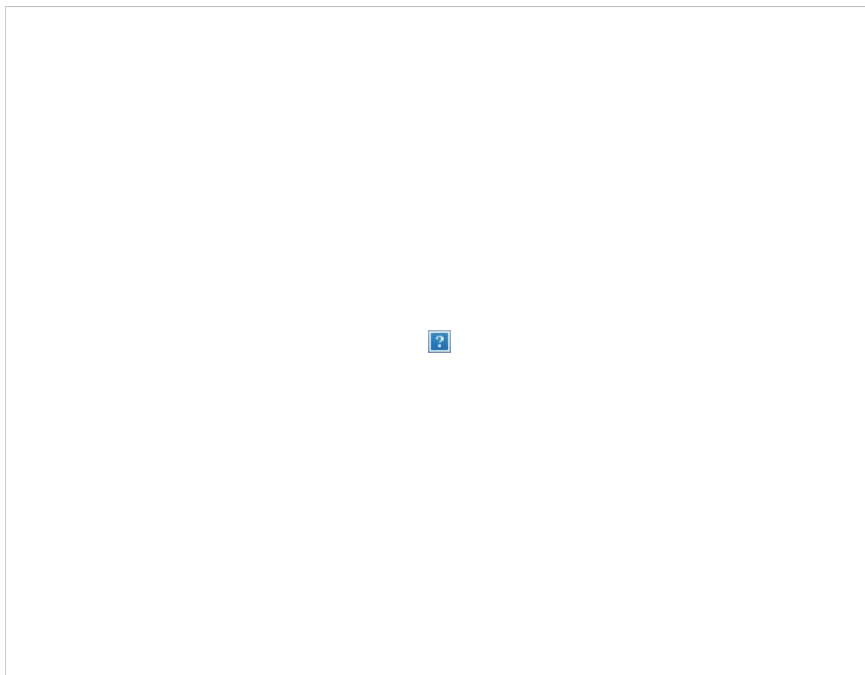


[SamFarr.info](http://SamFarr.info)





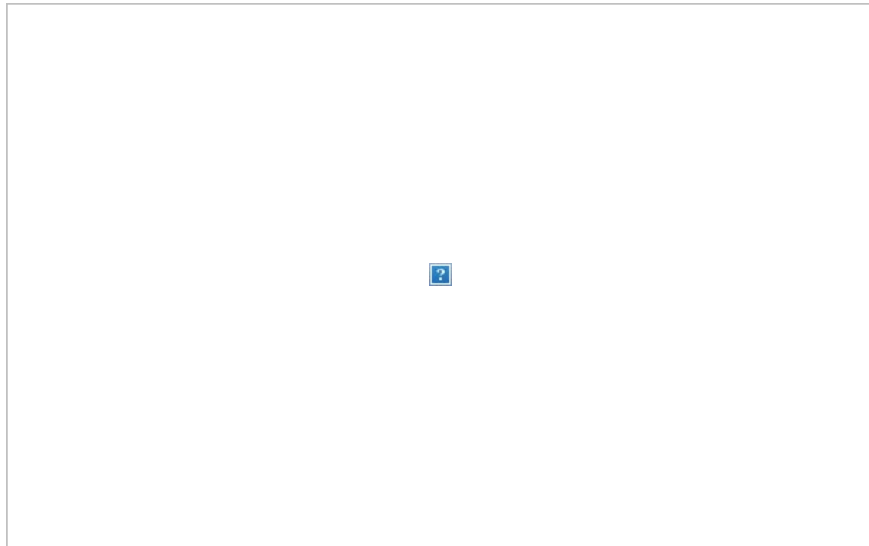
[https://www.facebook.com/photo/?  
fbid=2705212923051402&set=pcb.2705216426384385](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2705212923051402&set=pcb.2705216426384385)



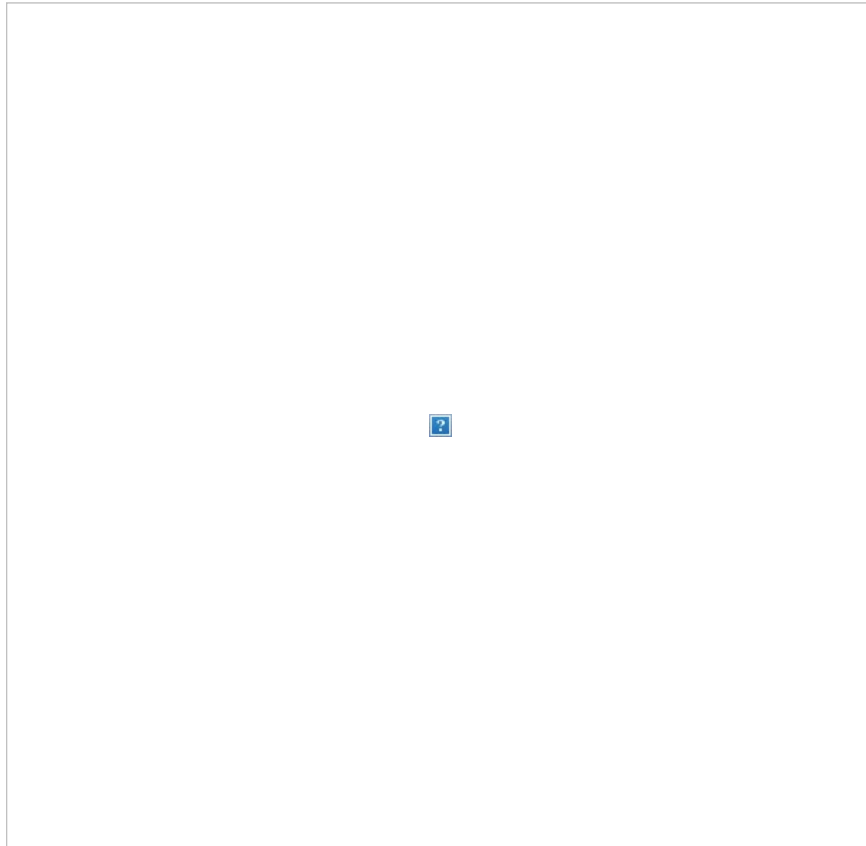
[sipodemos.democrat / thebestthatmoneycantbuy.com](#)

[CalAm I & Desal & Substance Abuse in 2011?](#)



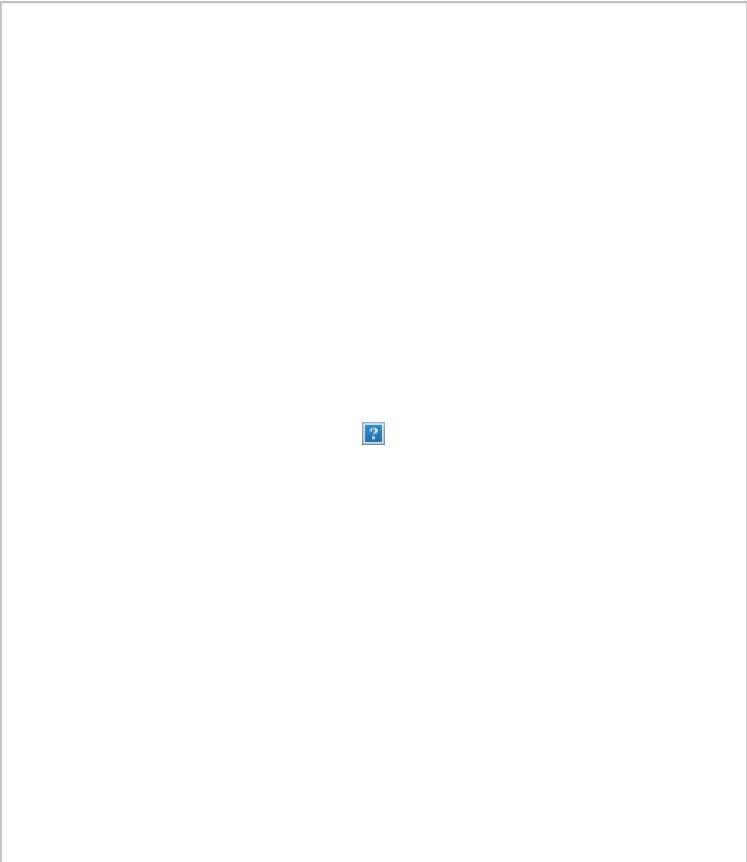
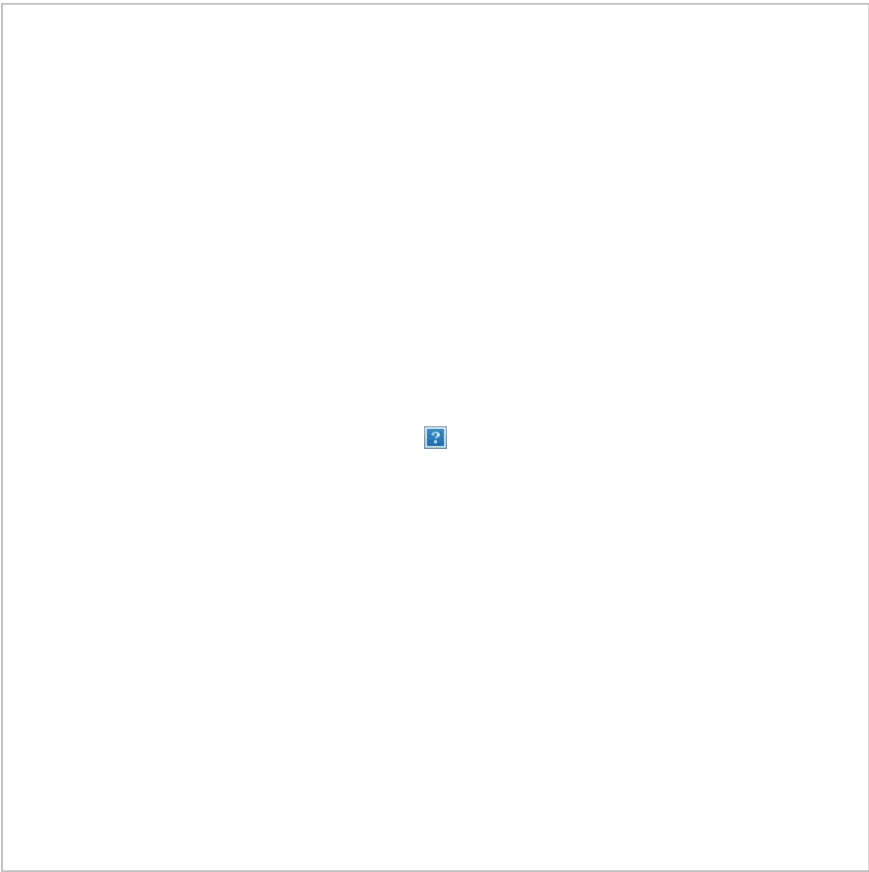


@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY> & later @

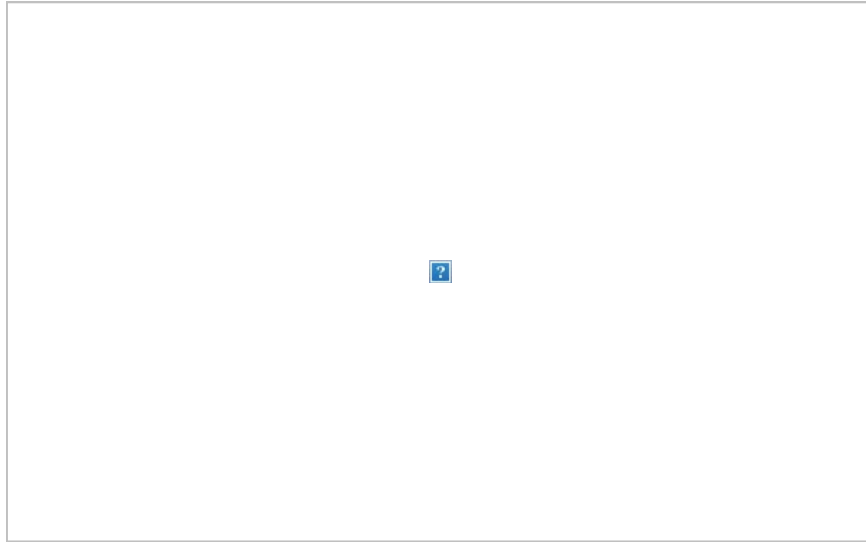


... “Water/Berry (&”Pure Water” Monterey&Soquel) Ponzi Scheme ...

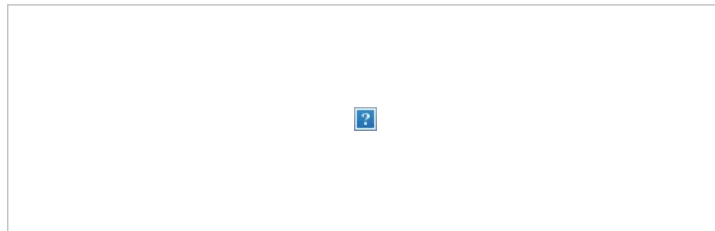
We can’t “print up” any more water”! @ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) & [douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1424394937630527489>

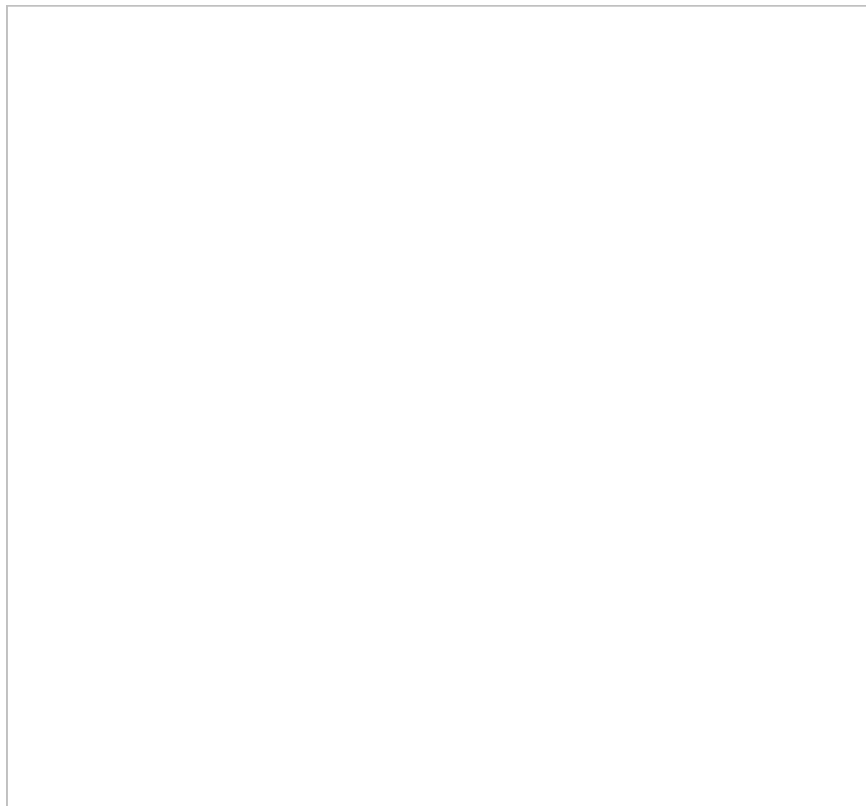


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRI8TH-KEs>  
[begentlewiththeearth.org](http://begentlewiththeearth.org) [begentlewiththeearth.com](http://begentlewiththeearth.com)  
[begentlewiththeearth.net](http://begentlewiththeearth.net) [ourinconvenienttruth.org](http://ourinconvenienttruth.org)  
[ourinconvenienttruth.net](http://ourinconvenienttruth.net) [ourinconvenienttruth.com](http://ourinconvenienttruth.com) ...



<https://www.youtube.com/c/DouglasDeitch>





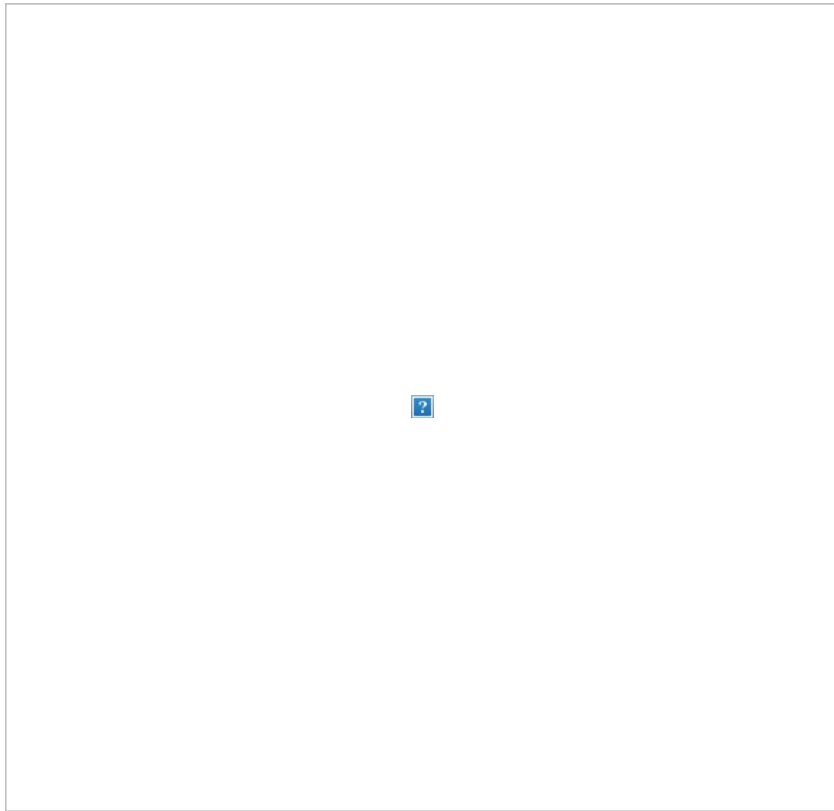
[lawandorderliberal.net](http://lawandorderliberal.net)

**"The mission of the Coastal Commission (CCC) is to: Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations...**

**The CCC, Dr. Lester, and the late Dr. Douglas refused in 2009 and any time thereafter to this moment ... and here's what we here in Santa Cruz and the entire Monterey Bay ended up with instead, as I testified we would in 2010 ...**

**... The entire CCC was "complicit in the greatest environmental catastrophe (ie the tragic and permanent decimation and waste of our local coastal Monterey Bay ground water commons) in the history of the Monterey Bay"**

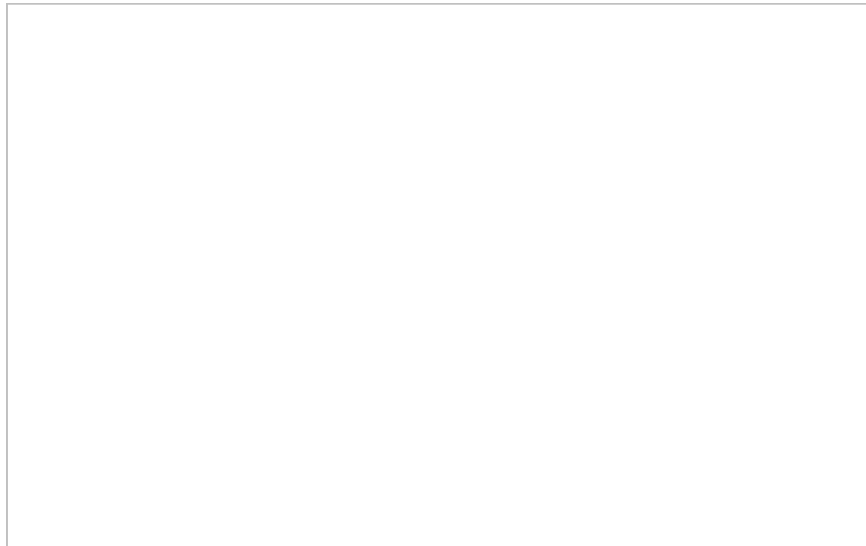
**... ( @ 1:54 "This is a food security problem..." @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccfaXnOF8ss> )**



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1374672809163550720>



**(Doug talks desal w/ MZ & “Dr. Nano” on KSCO 5/19/2012 Sat. Special @**  
<http://ksco.com/saturday-special-2/29670-2012-05-19mz-talks-desalination...>



... & “Our Inconvenient Truths” @ [OurInconvenientTruth.com](http://OurInconvenientTruth.com) (2007) ,  
[OurInconvenientTruth.net](http://OurInconvenientTruth.net) (1999) , & [OurInconvenientTruth.org](http://OurInconvenientTruth.org) 2009)



**From:** [Douglas Deitch](#)  
**To:** [Padilla, Stephen@Coastal](#); [Aminzadeh, Sara@Coastal](#); [Zach Friend](#); 100-District 1 (831) 647-7991; 100-District 2 (831) 755-5022; 100-District 3 (831) 385-8333; 100-District 4 (831) 883-7570; 100-District 5 (831) 647-7755; [Mark Primack](#); [City Council](#); [Crowfoot, Wade@CNRA](#); [Bruce McPherson](#); [Huffaker, Matt@City of Watsonville](#); [citymanager@cityofsantacruz.com](#); [Nemeth, Karla@DWR](#); [Groom, Carole@Coastal](#); [Turnbull-Sanders, Effie@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Luce, Shelley@Coastal](#); [paul@carmelpinecone.com](#); [Bradley Zeve](#); [Steve Paolopoli](#); [Ainsworth, John@Coastal](#); [Sierra Ryan](#); [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](#); [Greg Capul](#); [Ryan Coonerty](#); [Douglas Deitch](#); [editorial@montereyherald.com](#); [editorial@santacruzsentinel.com](#); [Energy@Coastal](#); [glennchurchforsupervisor@gmail.com](#); [Howell, Erik@Coastal](#); [info@santacruzlafo.org](#); [jyork@santacruzsentinel.com](#); [Townsend, Jeanine@Waterboards](#); [Rice, Katie@Coastal](#); [lkrieger@bayareanewsgroup.com](#); [opinion@lookoutlocal.com](#); [Sarah Easley Perez](#); [Michael Turpin](#); [Uranga, Roberto@Coastal](#); [Vogel, Nancy@CNRA](#); [Yun, Joseph@DWR](#); [zancan@aol.com](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:29:18 PM

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

**From:** **Douglas Deitch** <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Nov 11, 2022 at 2:37 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**To:** Douglas Deitch <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>, <[EORFC@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:EORFC@coastal.ca.gov)>, Douglas Deitch <[ddeitch@got.net](mailto:ddeitch@got.net)>

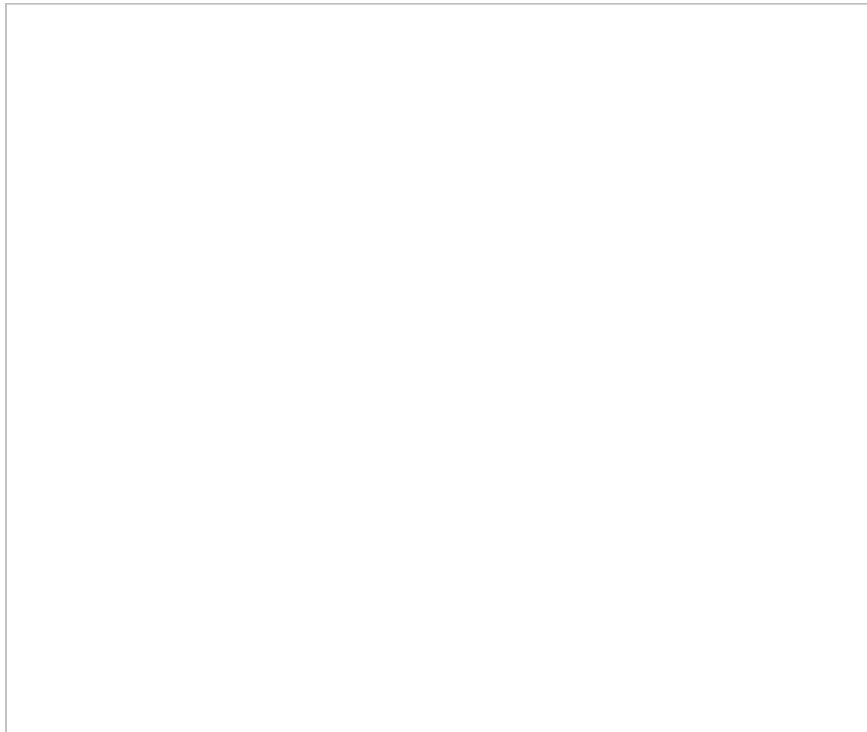
----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Douglas Deitch** <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Fri, Nov 11, 2022 at 2:14 PM  
**Subject:** Public Comment on November 2022 Agenda Item Thursday 7a - Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 (California American Water Co., Marina)  
**To:** Douglas Deitch <[ddeitch@got.net](mailto:ddeitch@got.net)>  
**Cc:** <[siddhartha1212@yahoo.com](mailto:siddhartha1212@yahoo.com)>, Douglas Deitch <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>

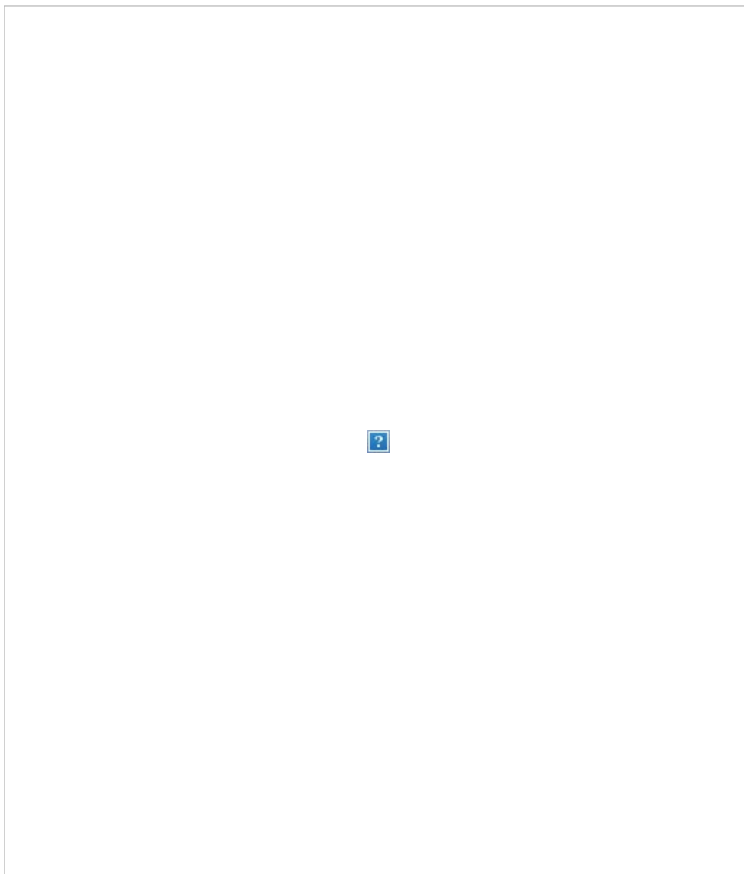
**Sustainability, Rapid “SLR”, “ASR” or “DPR” H2O,  
#NatureBasedSolutions, Our \$5 billion+yr food production (10% of Cali’s  
\$50 billion of total US \$138)?**

**Did we need either Cal Am or it’s coast front illegal slant welled desal  
plant in 2011 @ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) [douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY> [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com)  
then?**

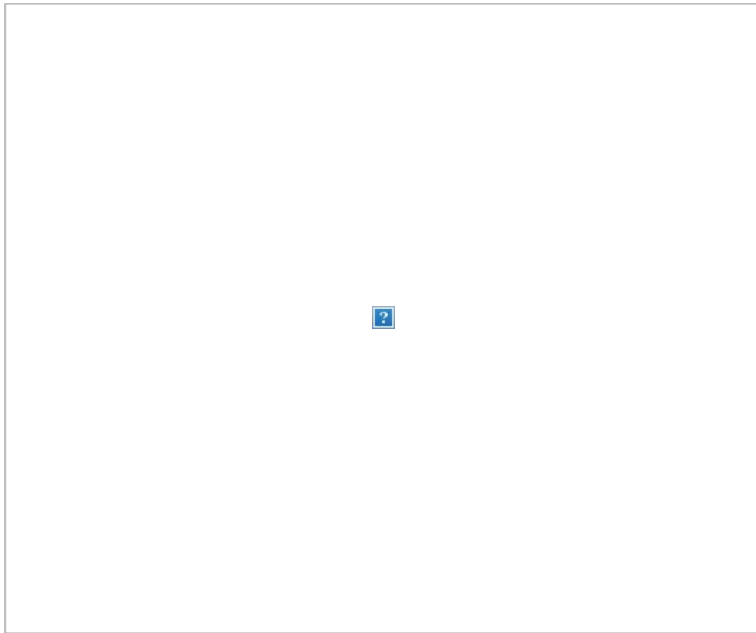
**... or now, any other/better alternatives, #nbs/nature based like mine run down  
in my comment right below and @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) is or not?**



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1534167031377018881>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136>



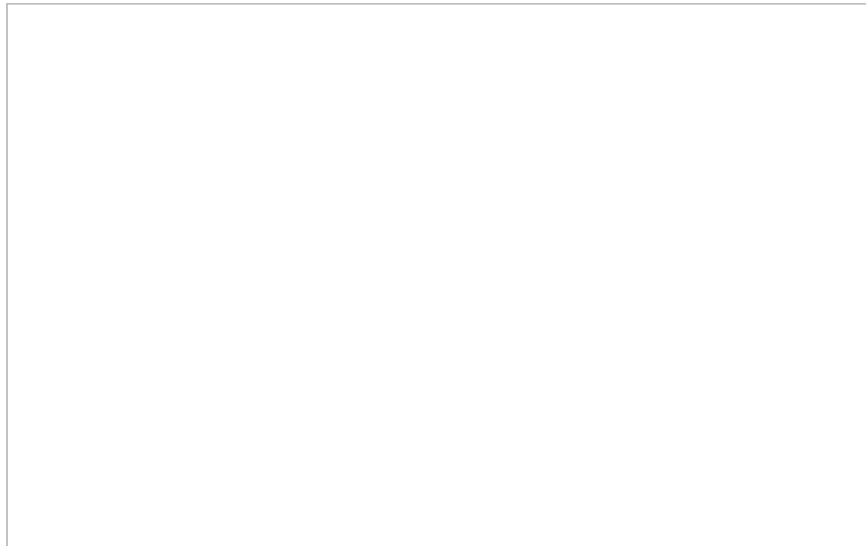
([April 29, 2016 LinkedIn article](#) & [Distributed documents in my hand...](#))

**Dear Coastal Commission, Governor Newsom, SWRCB, DWR, Monterey and Santa Cruz County Supervisors and City of Santa Cruz, et al...**

**The Monterey Bay Conservancy demands, for now the eighth time since the first on [April 19, 2016](#) (@ 10:21) immediate SWRCB Emergency “Intervention” and takeover of all Monterey Bay Regional water management, sustainability planning and projects, and all other related control under direction of Governor Newsom’s Office.**

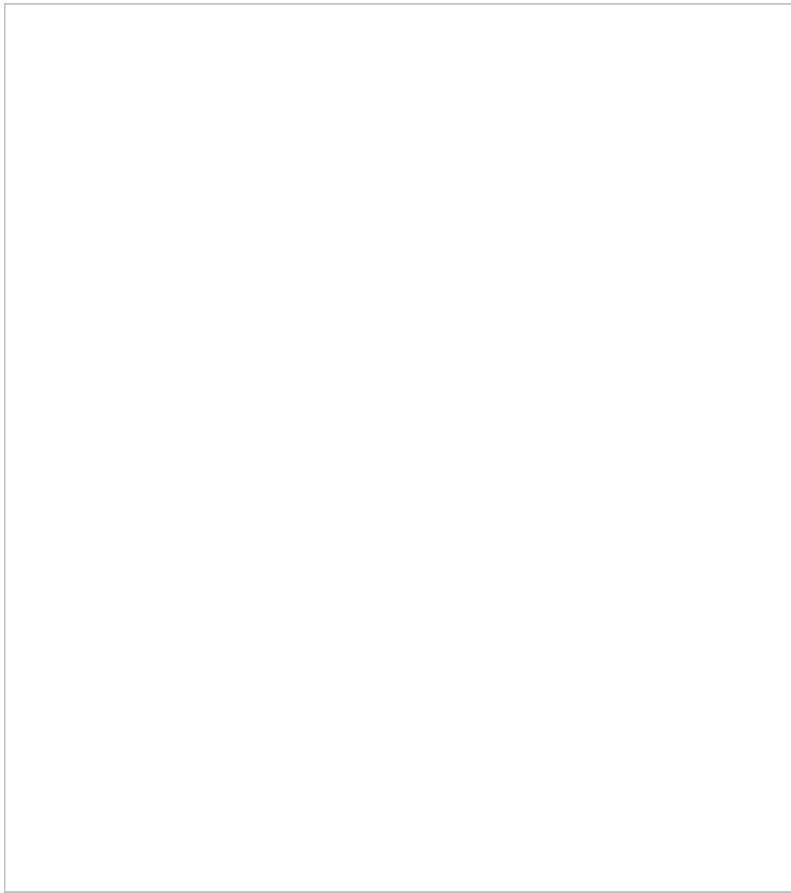
**[Additionally, due to the recent shockingly high Monterey \(and San Francisco \) Bay SLR Projections](#) and the quickly approaching completed DPR (Direct Potable Reuse regs and, [as I well over 2 and one half years ago advised the CCC @ 12:12](#)),**



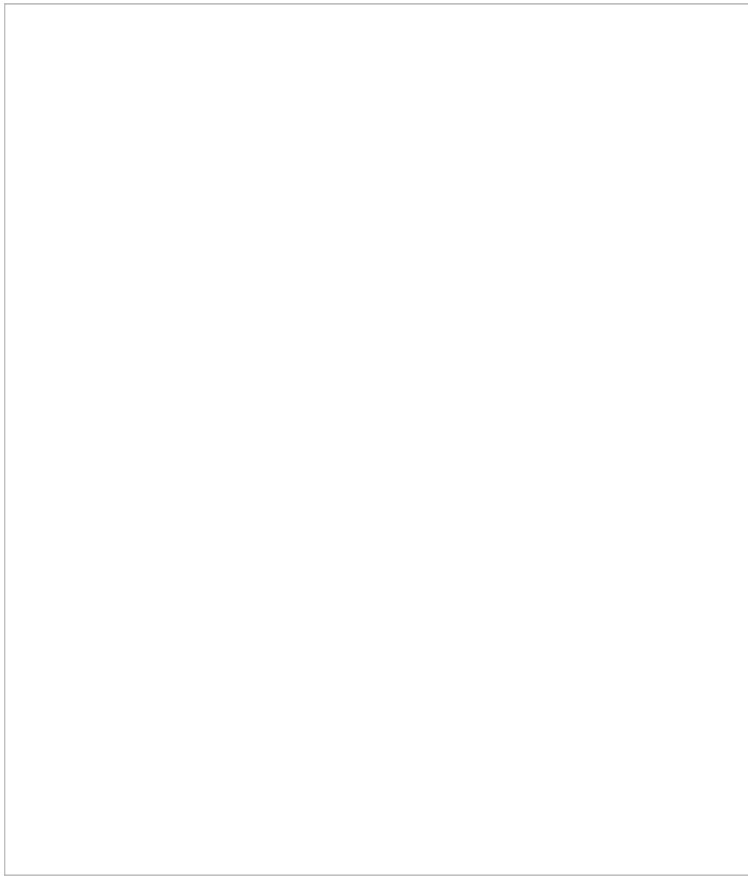


**all “Pure Water” recycling “ASR/IPR” projects should be stopped and held in suspension until, due to DPR H<sub>2</sub>O which does not have to be injected and mixed in our coastal aquifers and can be used directly, all “ASR/IPR” injection will be abandoned and millions of dollars not imprudently spent on useless pipelines and other unneeded new infrastructure...**

**... particularly when 33000 acre feet of DPR H<sub>2</sub>O will be yearly available w/o any more “ASR/IPR” injection from the repurposed from Ag to Monterey Bay regional urban water needs of all our other humans and their activities and businesses here and best sustain and protect our \$5 billion yearly food production here and so much more run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com)?**

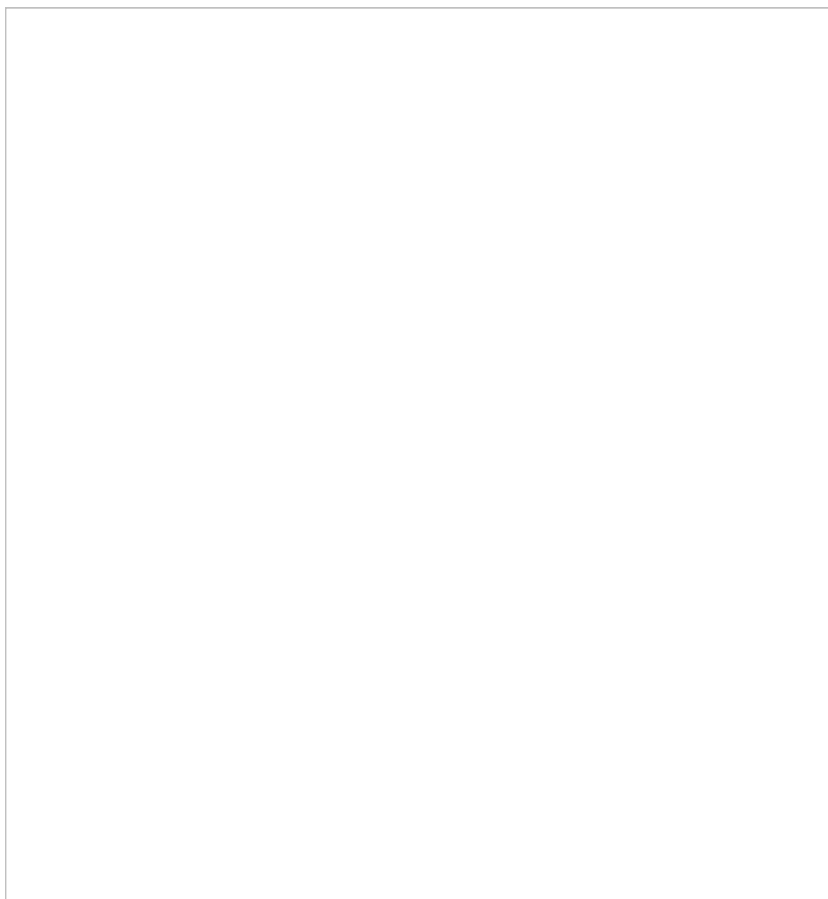


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1577652083079008257>

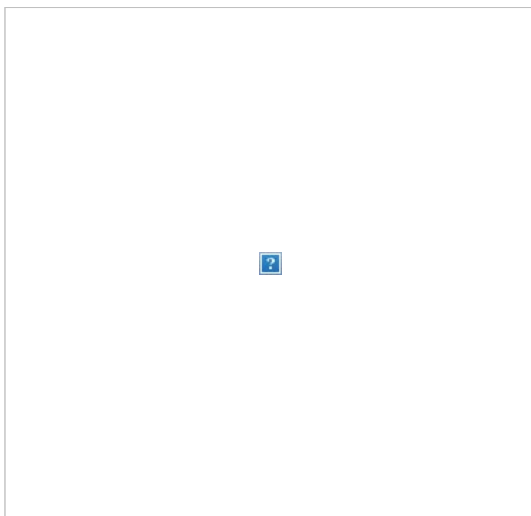


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136>





<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1587048714270429189>



[Ourinconvenienttruth.org](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.org) [Ourinconvenienttruth.net](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.net) [Ourinconvenienttruth.com](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.com)

**2011 Desal @ CCC ?:**

[DouglasDeitch.com](http://DouglasDeitch.com) ([douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net) & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY>)

2010 [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com)

**Here's Monterey Bay Conservancy's 30 year old plus #NatureBasedSolution (and 100% unconsidered and DirectPotableReuse/"DPR" Recycled H2O) and best 33,000 acre feet/year new no shovel/build back better-Farmlands to wetlands infrastructure Monterey Bay Regional Urban Water Supply Alternative to best address Sea Level Rise, preserve and sustain us and our \$5 billion year farm/food production, 90% water user ...**

**And much, much more ... ASAP**

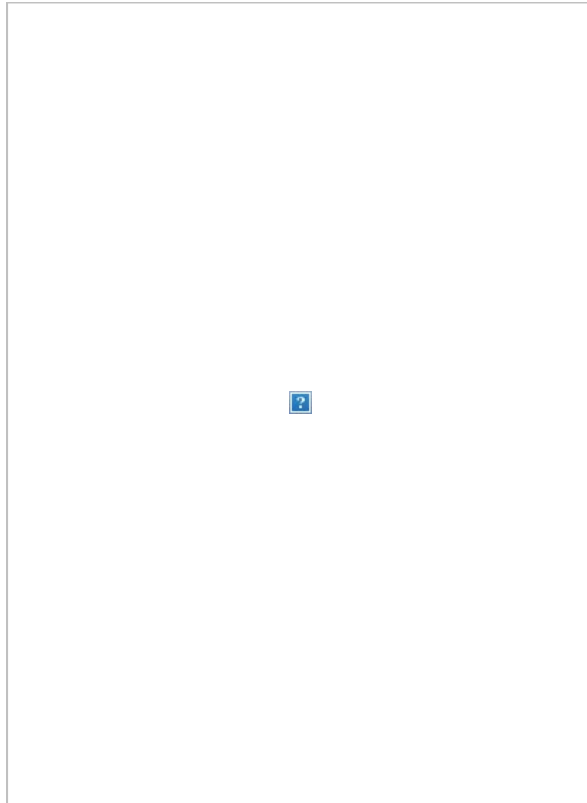
**w/i 2 years by Governor Newsom's Emergency Executive Order...**

**after SWRCB "Intervention" in Monterey Bay Region ...**

**requested by Monterey Bay Conservancy continuously ...**

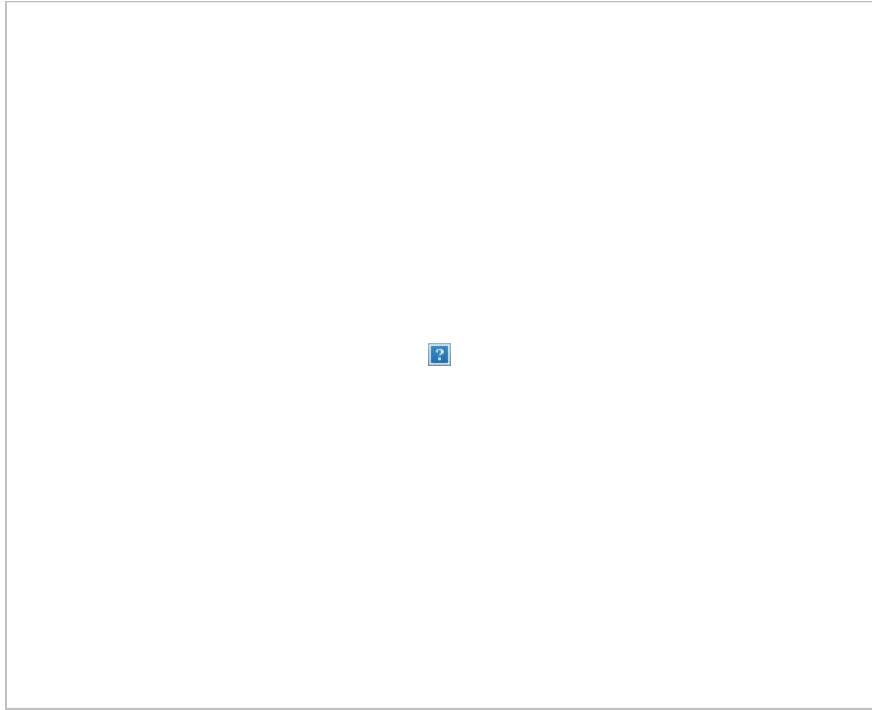
**Starting April 19, 2016 @**

**For a one time, "Show Me The Money" \$2.5 billion (1/2 Federal/1/2 State) investment...**



**(i.e "OPM" @ <https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1417170870133399585>)**

**Run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) & in the comment right below:**



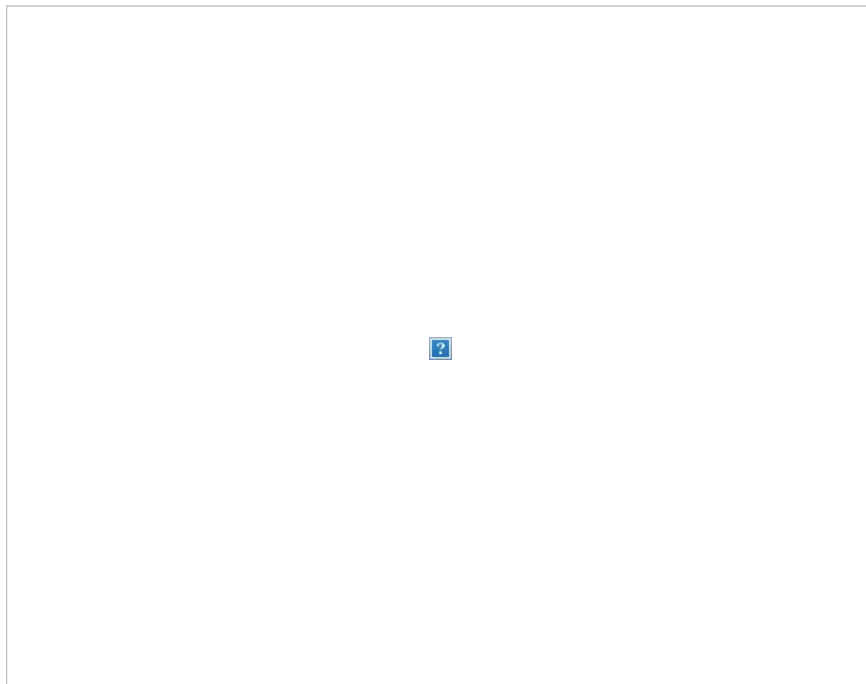
[Monterey County elected officials to debate a change in desal law](#)



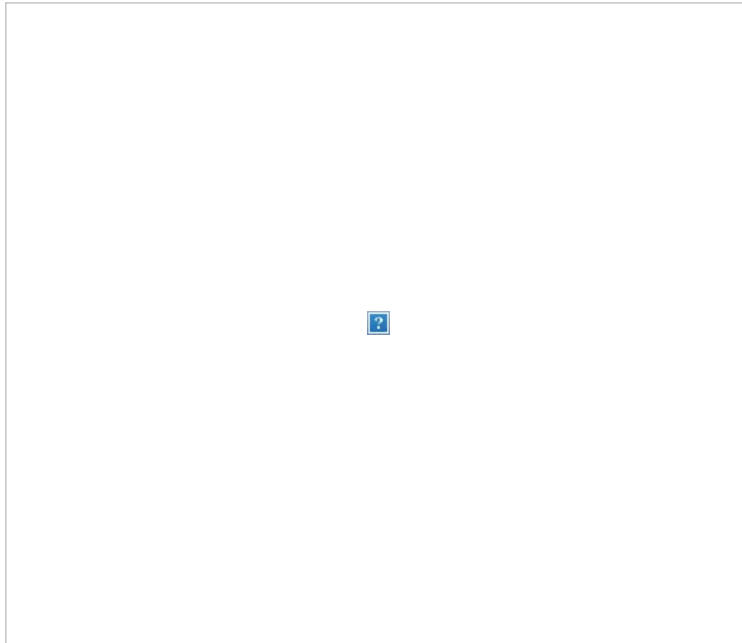


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1534167031377018881>

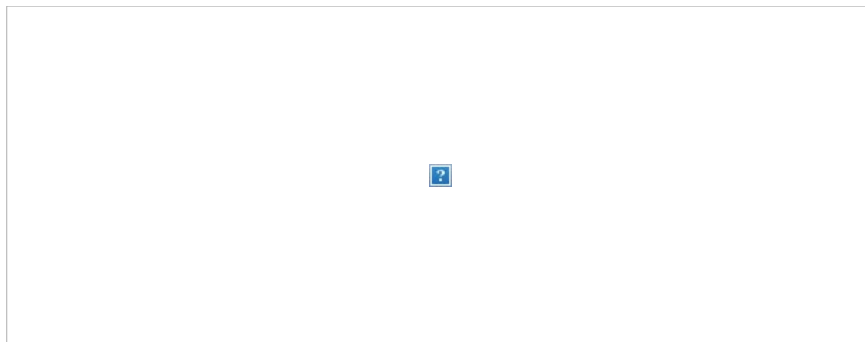
[MakeCaliforniaGreatAgain.democrat](#)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1374672809163550720>

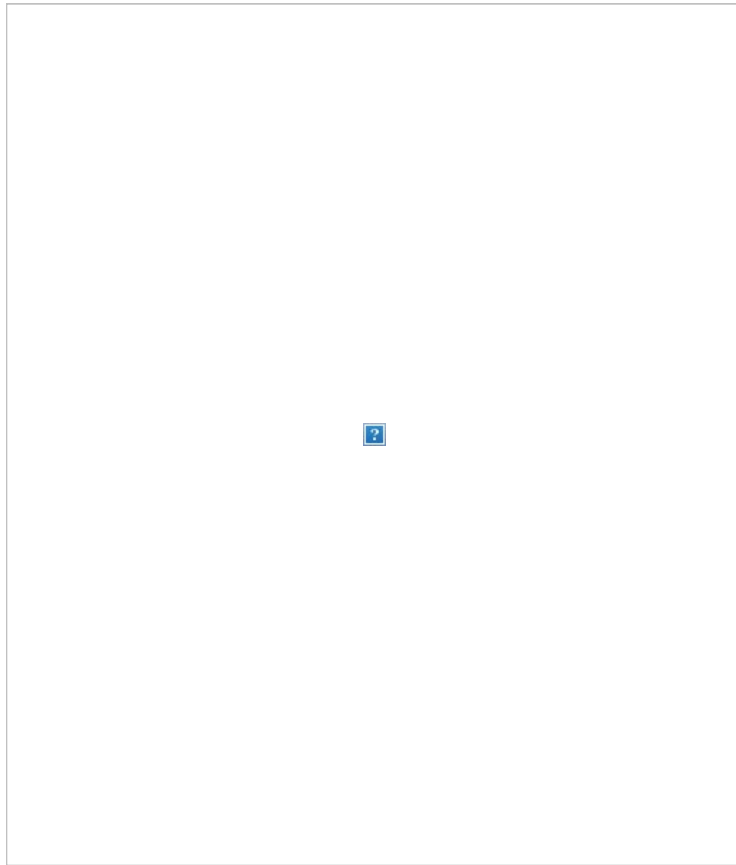


[Dear Chairman Esquivel & Ms. Bochco, et al @ SWRCB & California Coastal Commission,](#)



**(Please, for the now 8th time since 2016)...**

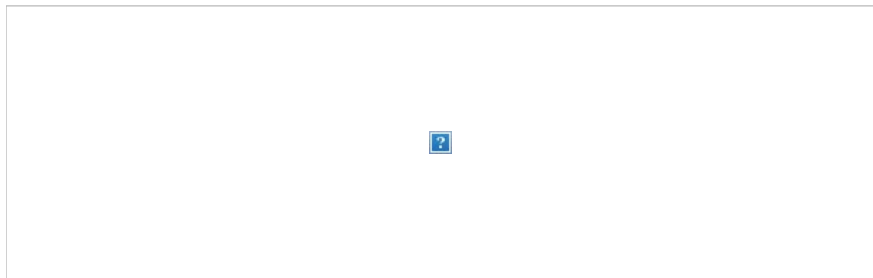
**[INTERVENE NOW IN MONTEREY BAY @ thebestthatmoneycantbuy.org @ 11: 21](#)**  
**[, 4/19/2016 !!!](#)**



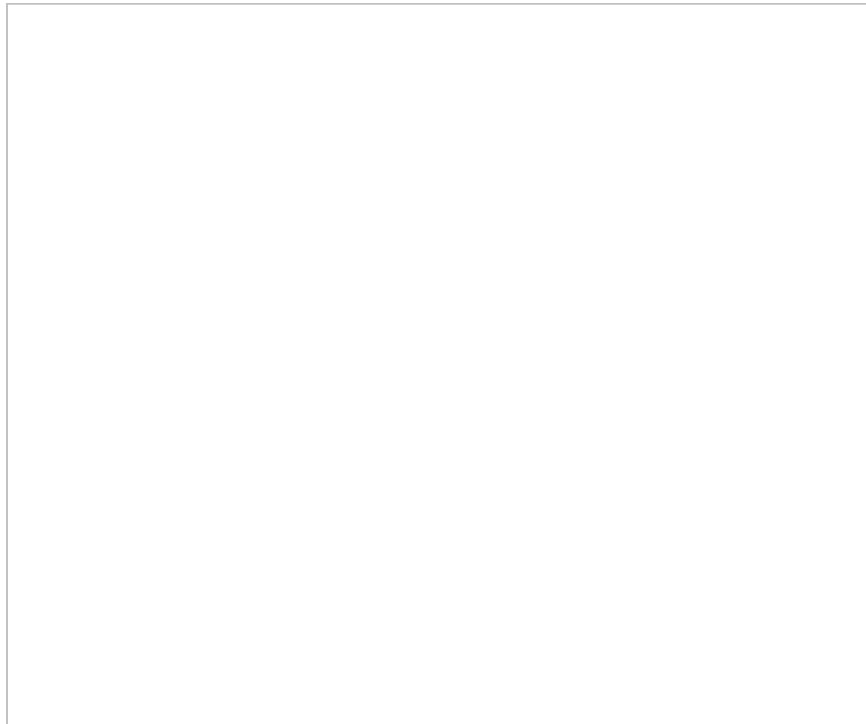
**@It's past time for the State Water Resources Control Board to take control of our now predominantly below sea level Monterey Bay ground water commons**

**& @ dougforassembly.com**

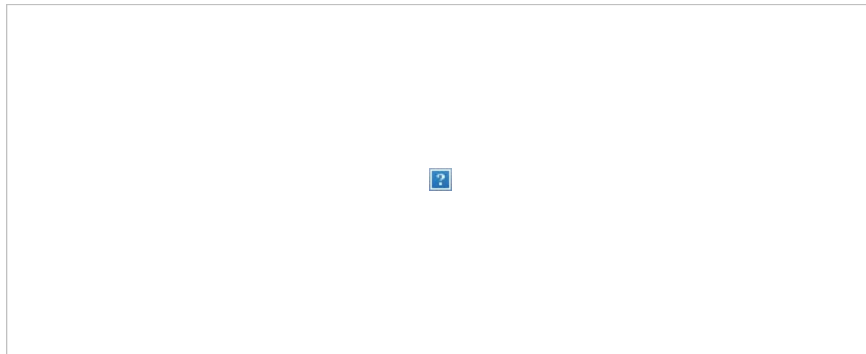
**Does SqCWD have any water rights to do anything?**







[lomejorqueeldineronopuedecomprar.com](http://lomejorqueeldineronopuedecomprar.com)

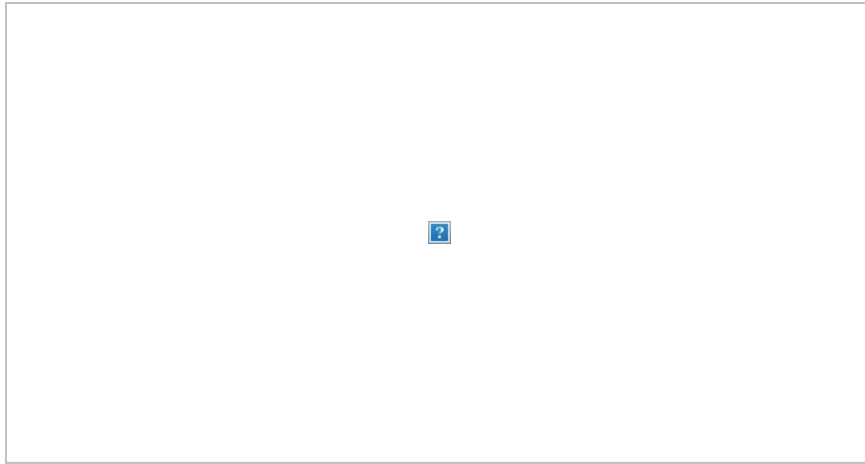


[begentlewiththeearth.com](http://begentlewiththeearth.com) (2005)

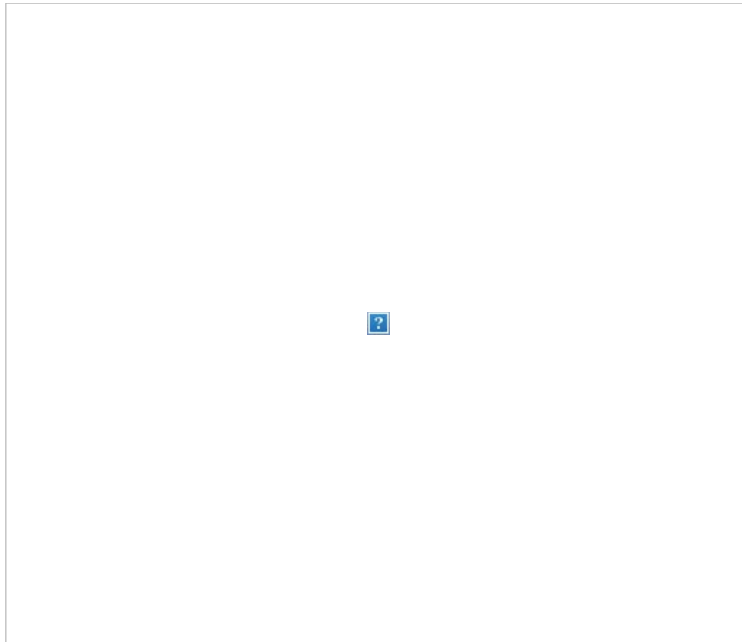
Query I: Our future water supply: Our most important “Community” decision?

Query II: Will it be Desal, “ASR” (aquifer storage recovery **with injection and later extraction**)...

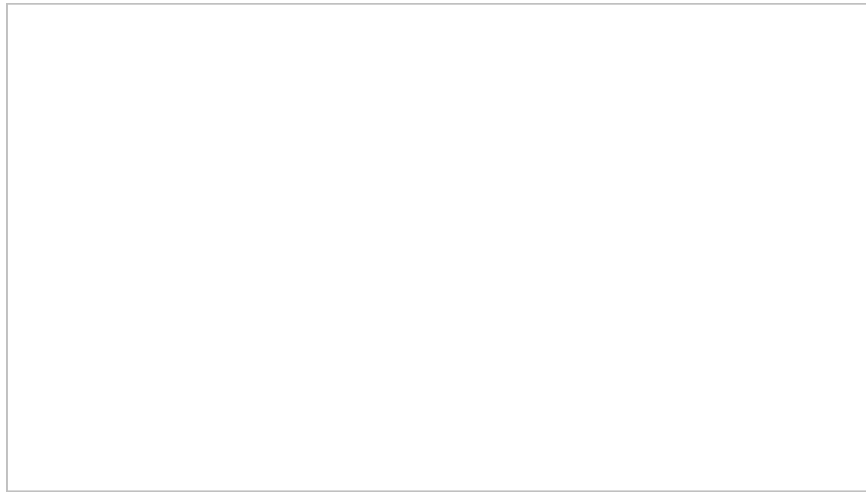
or 33000 a/ft/yr new Monterey Bay regional “DPR” (direct potable reuse) urban recycled H<sub>2</sub>O w/o any injection **with 63000 a/ft/yr PERMANENT w/o EXTRACTION IN PERPETUITY passive strategic recharge through/and conservation (@ 3 afyr per acre)** of [#NatureBasedSolution ESHA 21000 acres of “farmlands back to wetlands”](#), the [Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument](#) , like at Zmudowski Beach at [1992 43 acre Pilot Project Willoughby Ranch?](#)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136/photo/4>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1577652083079008257>

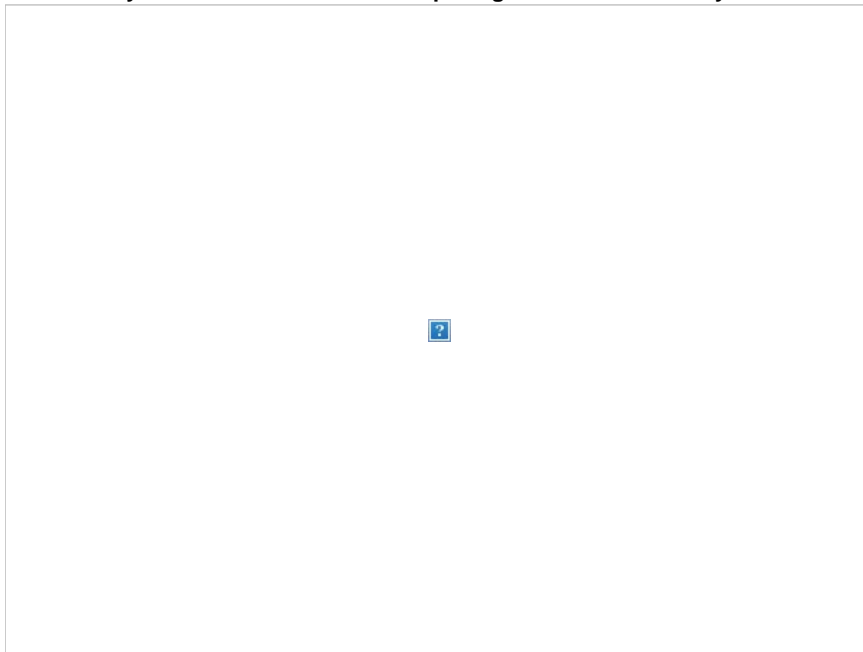


@ [dougdeitch.com](https://www.dougdeitch.com) (a fb page)

2020

**“DPR vs “ASR”: All recycled water is not the same ?**

Please use your common sense and simple logic to understand why?



Why?: The one foot of SLR will push into our and all coastsides aquifers that are at or below sea level and force sea water and other pollutants into our still pristine for the most part local aquifers and pollute them too.

My 30+ year old ignored plan, the NATURE BASED SOLUTION/#nbs 21000 acre “Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument”, including the repurposed to urban from ag 33000 acre feet/year of "DPR-Direct Potable Reuse" recycled water from the already but upgraded extant and online built in 1998 for \$75 million Castroville Reclamation Plant, which also includes 63000 acre feet per year and then **EVERY FOLLOWING YEAR IN PERPETUITY** of permanent and not later extracted both strategically located and #nbs and passive Monterey Bay regional groundwater CONSERVATION and PERMANENT AQUIFER RECHARGE and 21000 NEW ACRES of new



"FARMLANDS BACK TO WETLANDS" (43 acre since 1995 Pilot Project @ Zmudowski Beach run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) , a fb page, will solve all and best both sustain and preserve or increase our current \$5 billion year (10% of Cali's total \$50 billion year farm production of USA's total \$136 billion!) and many other benefits for us here IN THE BIGGEST DROUGHT/FOOD/AIR/SAFETY/[ALLLABSMATTER.INFO](http://ALLLABSMATTER.INFO) etc AND ALREADY SO MANY OTHER EMERGENCIES IN HUMAN HISTORY?, ...

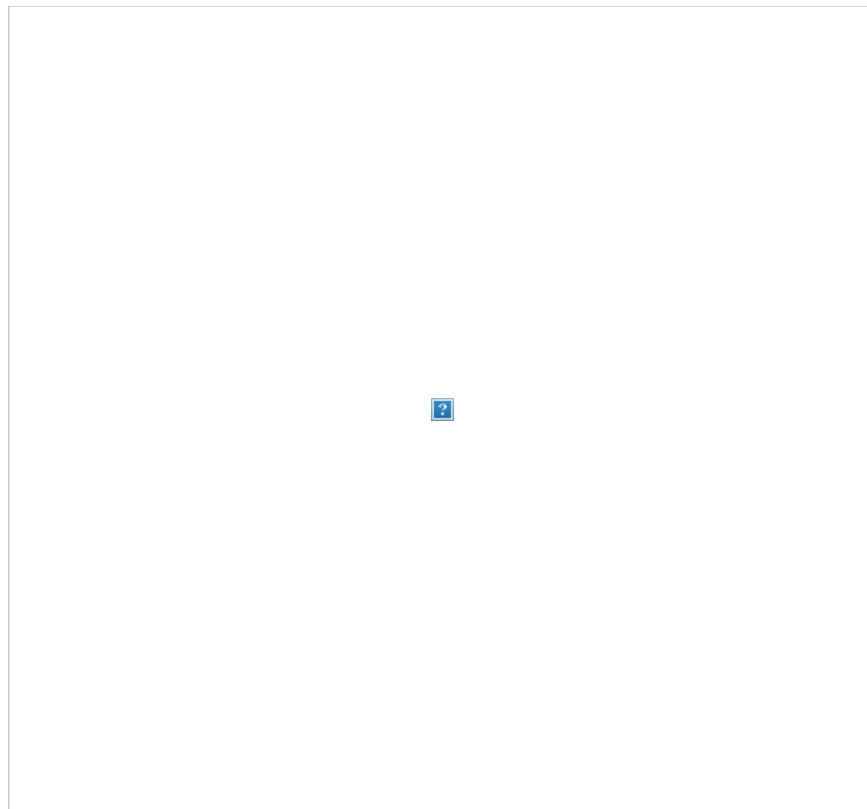
...for only a one time \$2.1 billion build back better (one billion each State and Federal) infrastructure investment which will make us here in "our" (... fyi, one of my two "pronouns") Monterey Bay Region where "we" all live (... fyi II, the second of my two "pronouns")

... "the global exemplar social economic and natural system for the rest of our planet to admire and emulate", by Douglas Deitch (2007) [www.begentlewiththeearth.com](http://www.begentlewiththeearth.com) [lomejorqueeldineroNOpuedecomprar.com](http://lomejorqueeldineroNOpuedecomprar.com) ( a fb page)

**"You can lead a horse or Governor Newsom, California Coastal Commission, SWRCB, DWR, "PUREWATER EVERYWHERE", et al to "DPR" not "ASR" Recycled water and so much more (@ [www.dougdeitch.com](http://www.dougdeitch.com) etc...) but you can't make them drink ..."**

**(That's why I am/was running for Congress to get us the \$2.1 billion to fund this project WITH an immediate following emergency executive order from our Governor immediately authorizing, funding \$ 1 billion for, and implementing my project, the 21000 acre "Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument run down @ <https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136> & [www.dougdeitch.com](http://www.dougdeitch.com) for us/US ASAP !)**

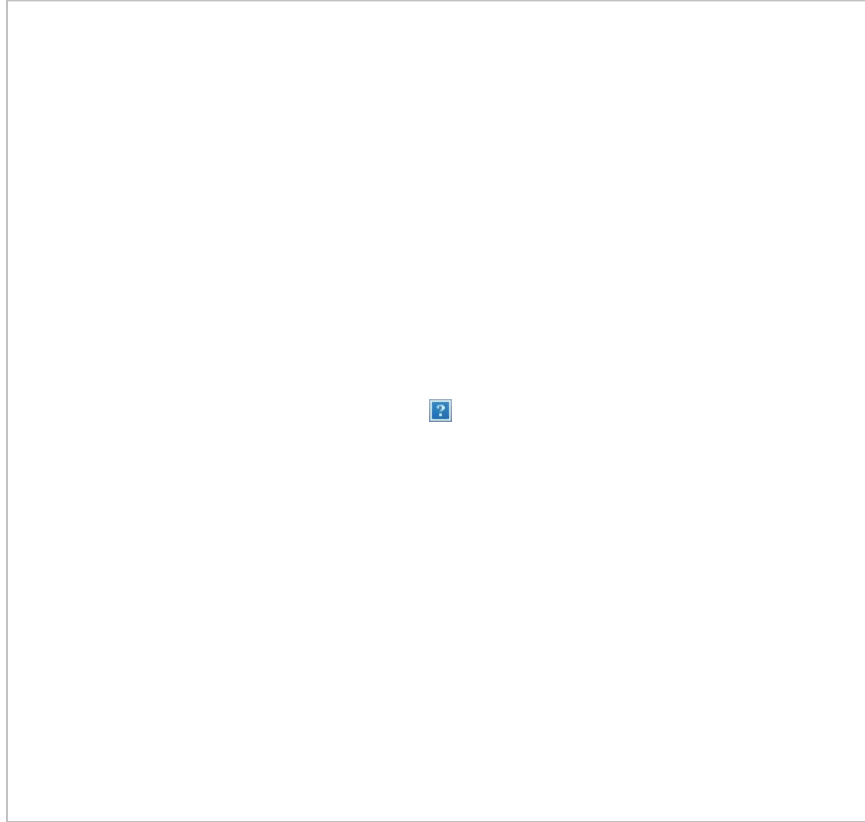
**Problems solved!"**



@ 12:12 @ [cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20200312/](http://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20200312/) (2020)

**& Repeating my CCC comment from 10 years ago, to the day, ...**

**“...made the Coastal Commission (et al) complicit ... in the biggest environmental catastrophe, irremediable, in the history of the Monterey Bay Region. Please ...”**



**@ 3:25 @ [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com) , March 11, 2010**

**(PLEASE NOTE: THIS March 11, 2010 CCC Meeting VIDEO, APPARENTLY ... @ [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20100311/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20100311/) ...**

**HAS BEEN REMOVED, “LOST”, & REPLACED FROM OFFICIAL CCC CAL\_SPAN SITE along with video and other CCC records with an “Arana Gulch Field Trip” video !?**

**... just like the documents filed by me earlier w/ CCC @ [begentlewiththeearth.org](http://begentlewiththeearth.org) in 2009 and @ [lawandorderliberal.net](http://lawandorderliberal.net) in 2016 for the matters therein referenced also mysteriously “DISAPPEARED”!?)**

**2011**

**2011 “CalAm I Desal” CCC Hearing Comments of [Douglas Deitch](#) and [George Riley](#) (@ 2:27:50)**

**“Water/Berry” (and now PureWaterMonterey & PureWaterSoquel) Ponzi Scheme?**

**Query/SqCWD: Does Soquel Creek Water District have any water rights?**  
(Search @ [https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/ewrims/EWServlet?Redirect\\_Page=EWWaterRightPublicSearch.jsp&Purpose=getEWAppSearchPage](https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/ewrims/EWServlet?Redirect_Page=EWWaterRightPublicSearch.jsp&Purpose=getEWAppSearchPage)  
)

1.

**Query/SqCWD: How much is “Pure Water Soquel” project now estimated to now cost , in total, and when is completion estimated?**

2.

**Query/SqCWD: Does SqCWD need perfected and legal water rights? Why don't they have them , if they don't?**

3.

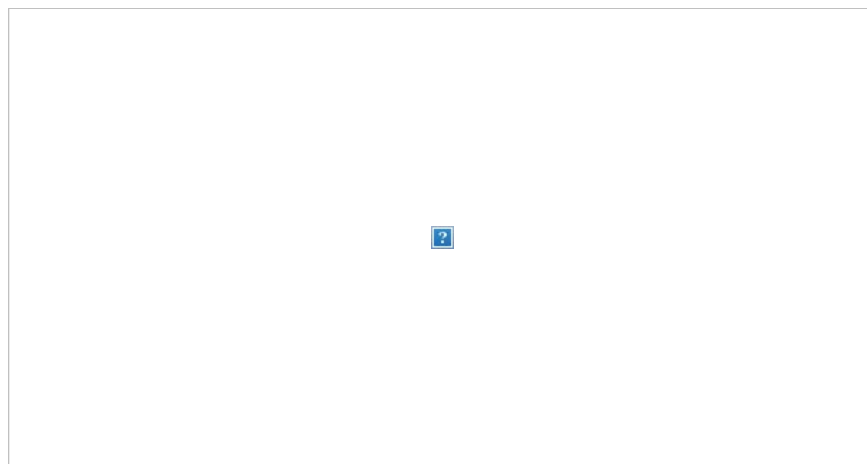
**Is this a responsible and prudent business practice and a “safe harbor” manner of conducting business?**

4.

**Query/”Pure Water” “ASR” Projects: After “DPR” is approved, will injection of water cease and “DPR” recycled water be used directly instead?**

5.

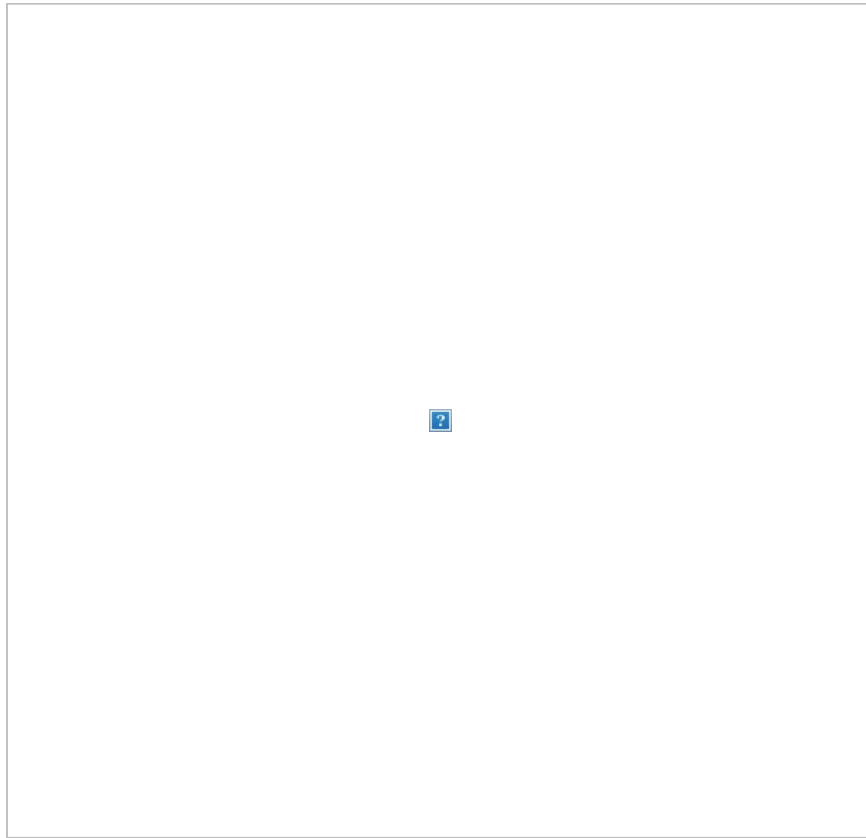
**Query: How did/does/will Pure Water Monterey project w/ expansion to 5+k/a/f/yr deal w/ account for new/increased since 2018 ag well pumping on 1800 acre Armstrong Ranch (@ 3 a/f/yr per acre +/- ) run down in [MCWeekly's Mr. Schmaltz' excellent 2018 article](#)**



**[“We can't print up any more H2O!”](#)**







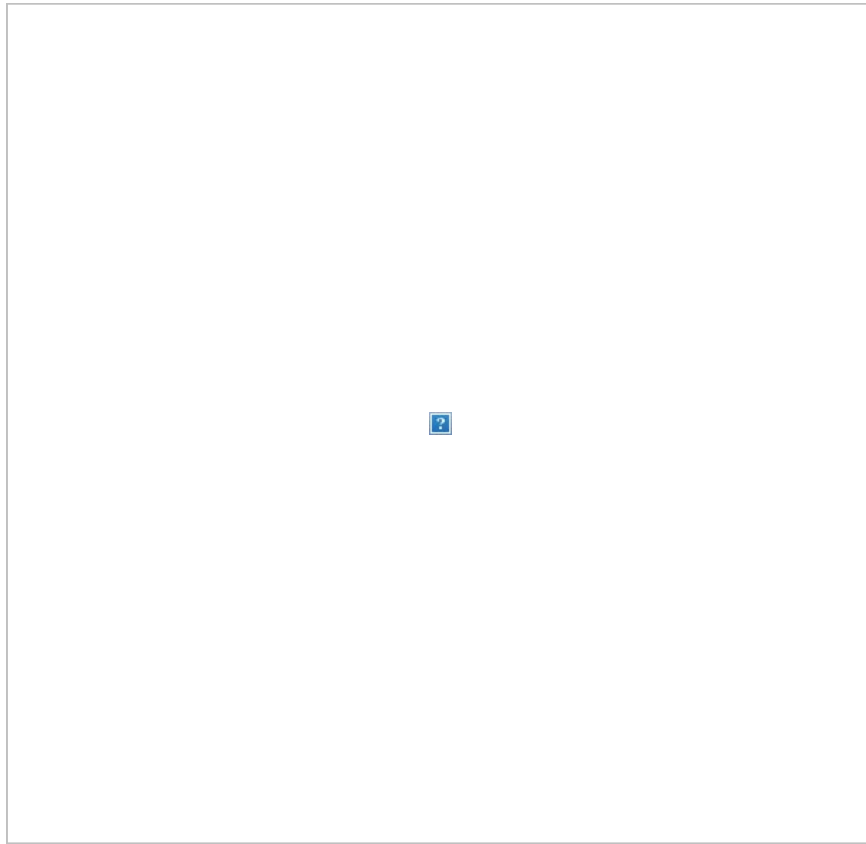
[https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20200311/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20200311/) @ 13:44

... (from CCC Meeting video of March 11, 2010 ten years ago, no longer to be found @ Cal-Span CCC site) !?

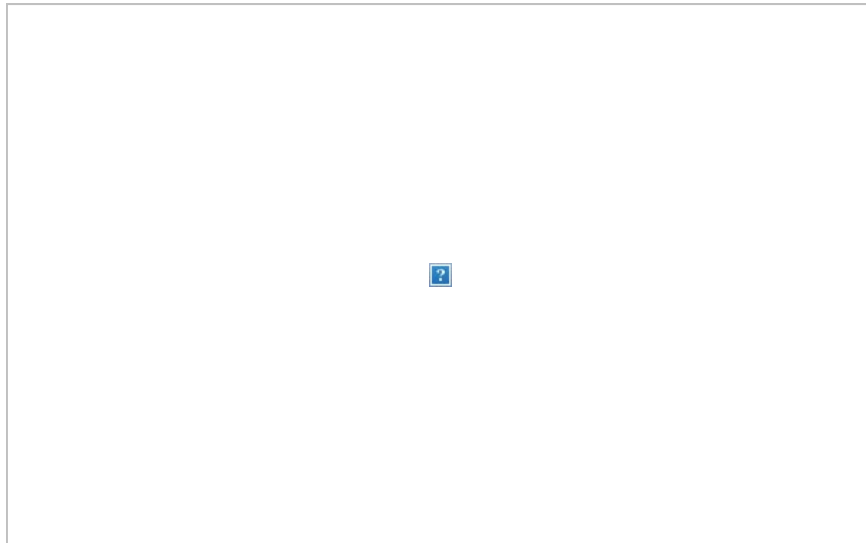
2019?

“Those who cannot remember (or never in the first place ever knew) the past ...”?

(“I was just up at the State Water Resources Control Board requesting they intervene in the Monterey Bay for the third time ...” @ 29:02 @ [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191113/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191113/) )



**... are condemned to repeat it”?**



**@ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) (2011)**

**“November 12, 2019**

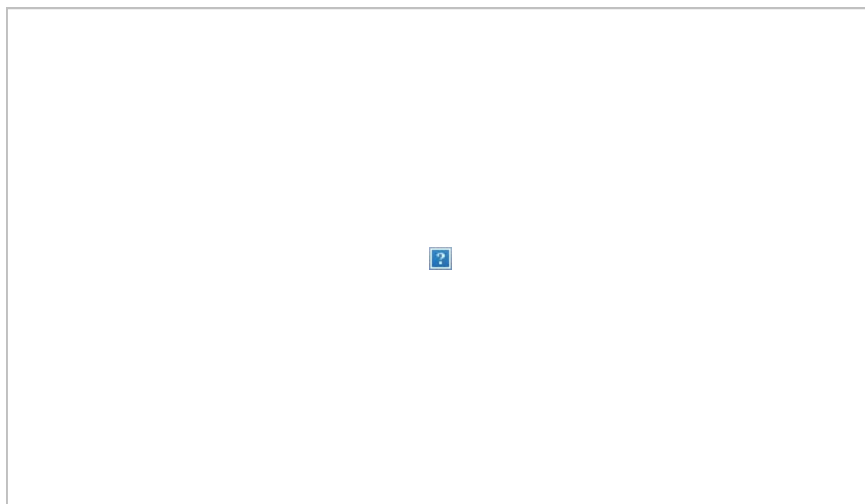


**Dear Ms. Bochco and CCC,**

**I am still waiting to hear or see one word of response from my invitation sent November 19, 2019 to you...?**

**(and also issued the same invitation to tour to SWRCB**

**Chair Esquivel, also ignored ...**

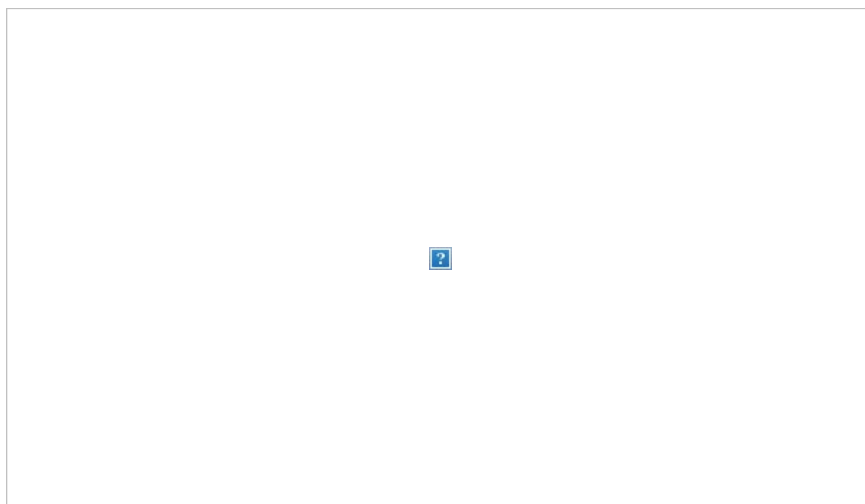


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136/photo/3>

**Please respond.**

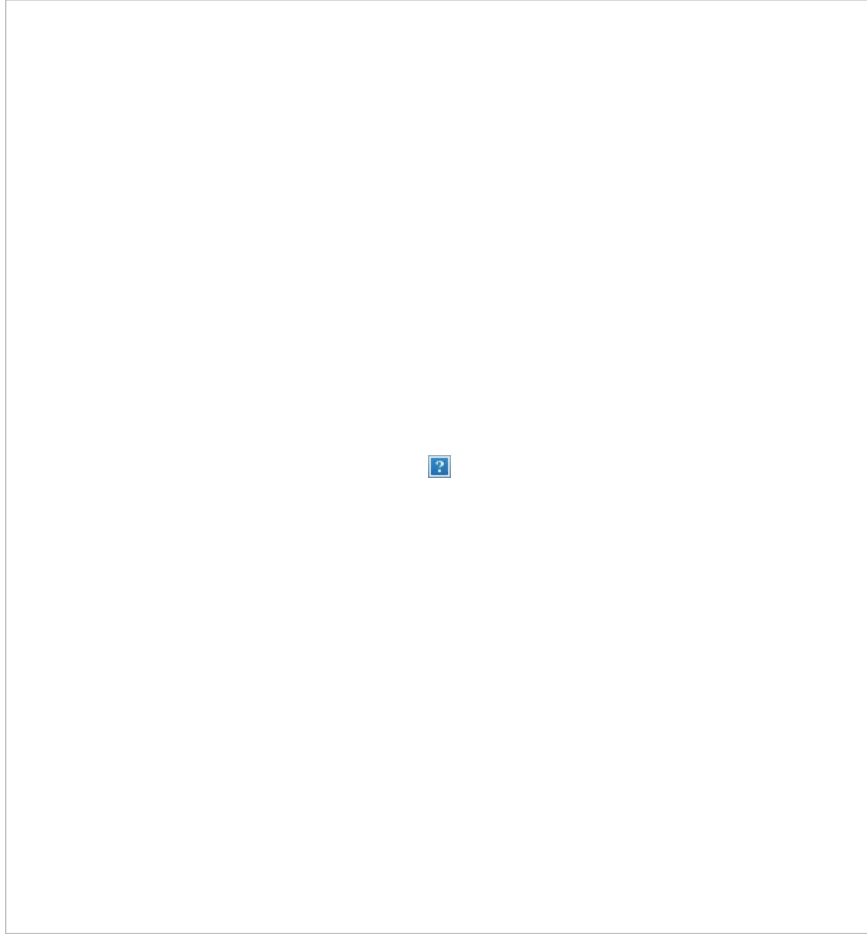
**Respectfully,**

**Douglas Deitch/Monterey Bay Conservancy” ....**



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2705212229718138&set=pcb.2705216426384385>

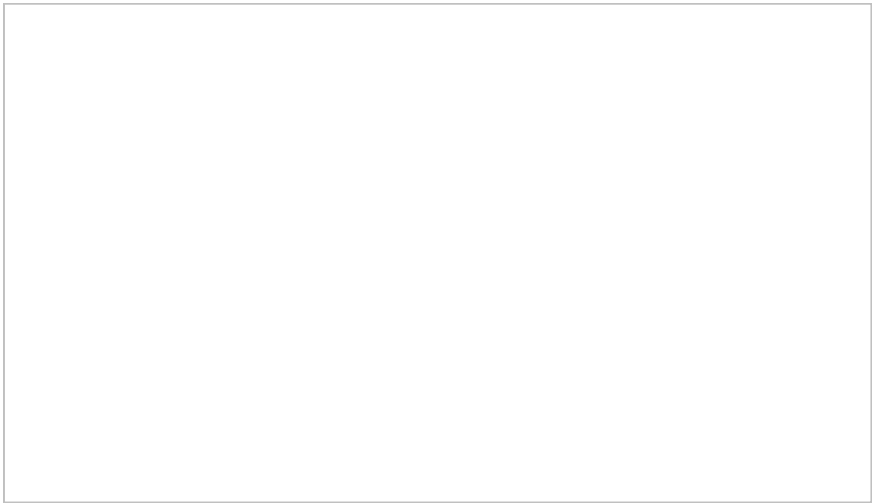
**... to tour my alternative “Monterey Bay Regional Water Fixx  
aka “21000 acre Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument”**



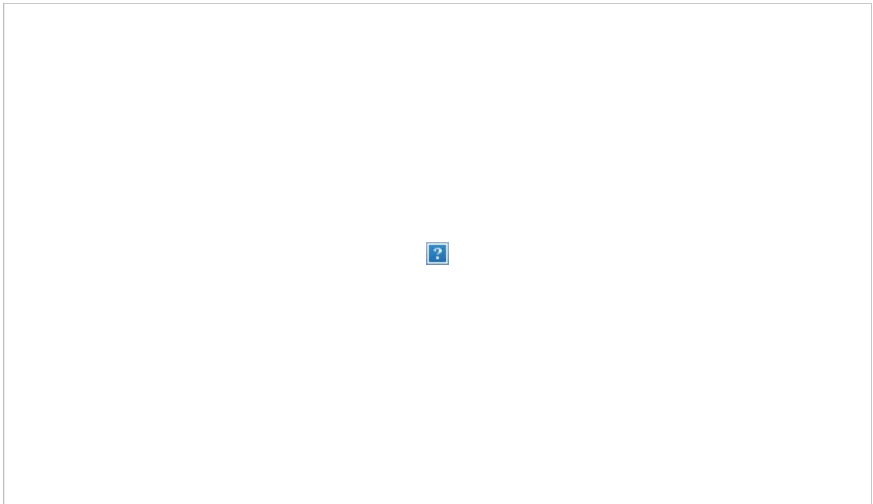
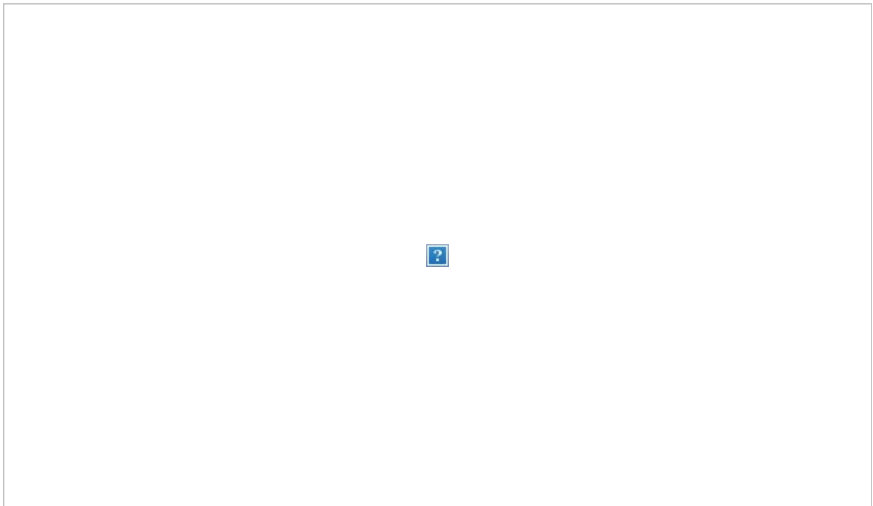
**... which I have already run down for you in 2019 twice !?**

**@5:15 [cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191115/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191115/) & [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191113/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191113/)**

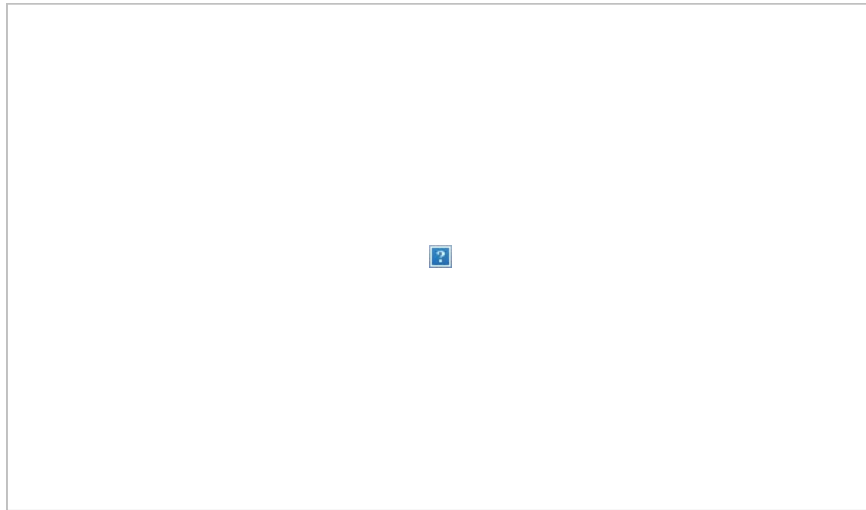
**and below & @ [dougdeitch.com](https://dougdeitch.com) (fb page)**



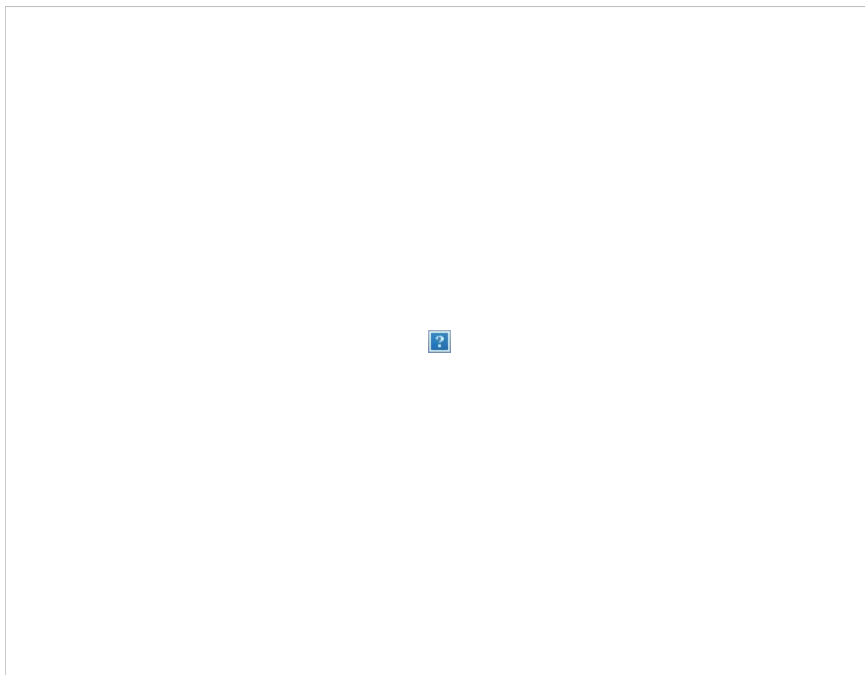
[SamFarr.info](http://SamFarr.info)





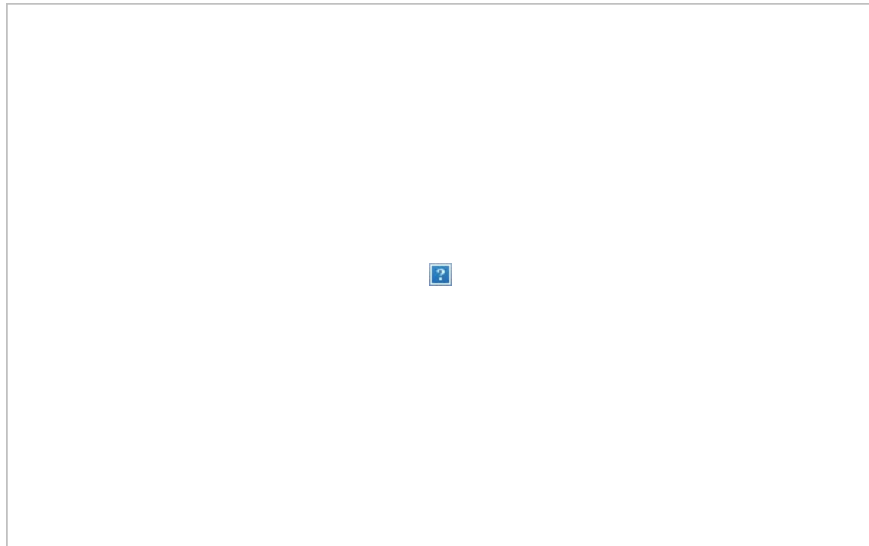


[https://www.facebook.com/photo/?  
fbid=2705212923051402&set=pcb.2705216426384385](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2705212923051402&set=pcb.2705216426384385)

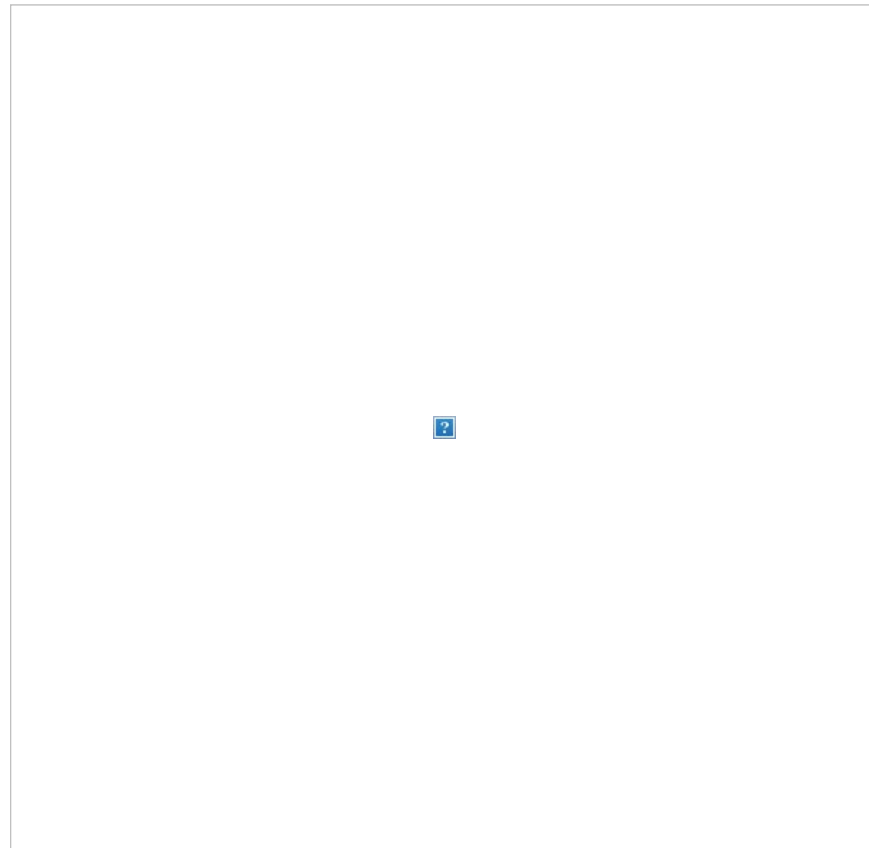


[sipodemos.democrat / thebestthatmoneycantbuy.com](#)

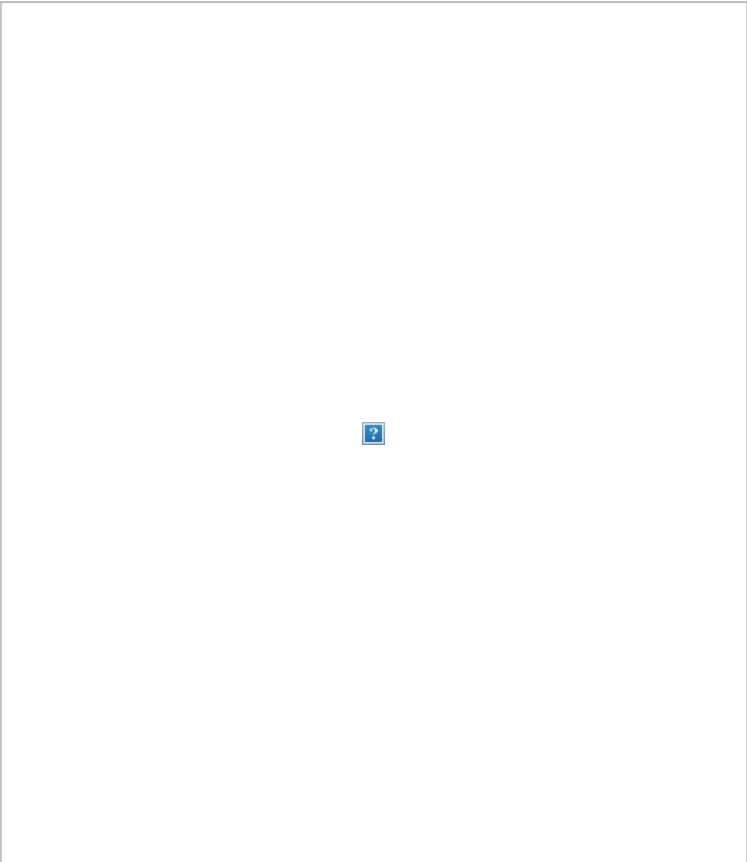
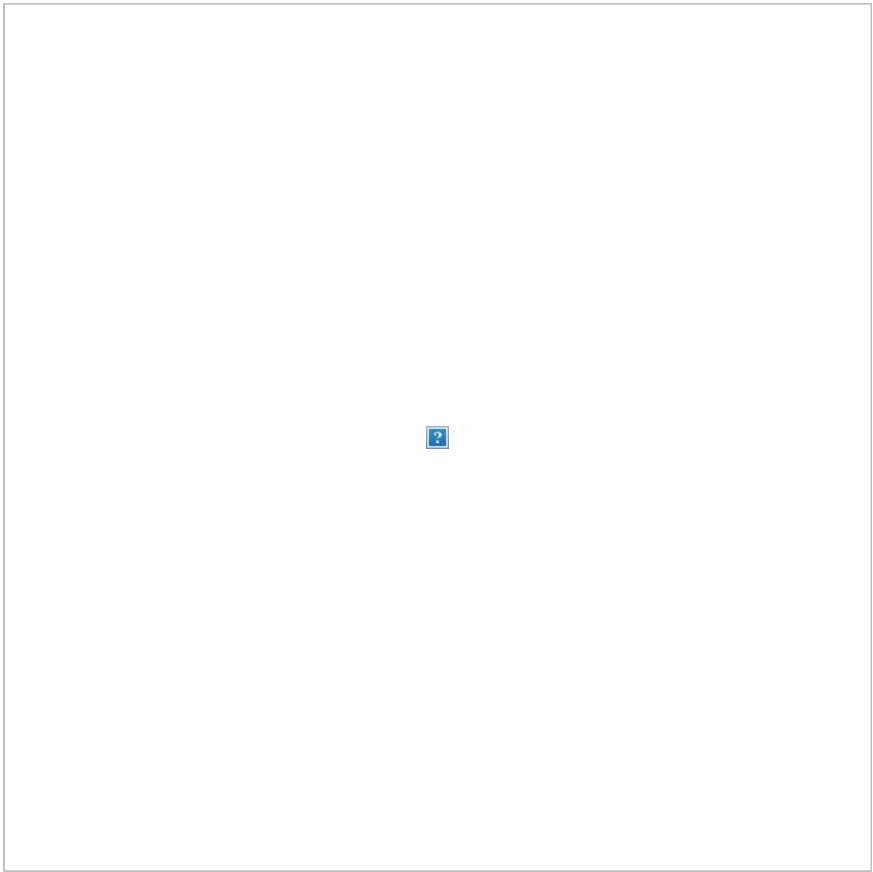
[CalAm I & Desal & Substance Abuse in 2011?](#)



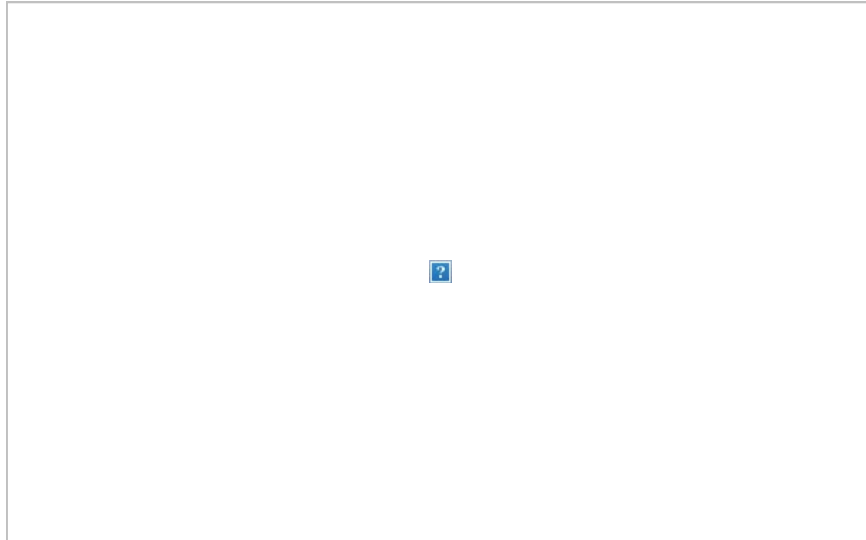
@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY> & later @



... “Water/Berry (&”Pure Water” Monterey&Soquel) Ponzi Scheme ...  
We can’t “print up” any more water”! @ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) & [douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1424394937630527489>

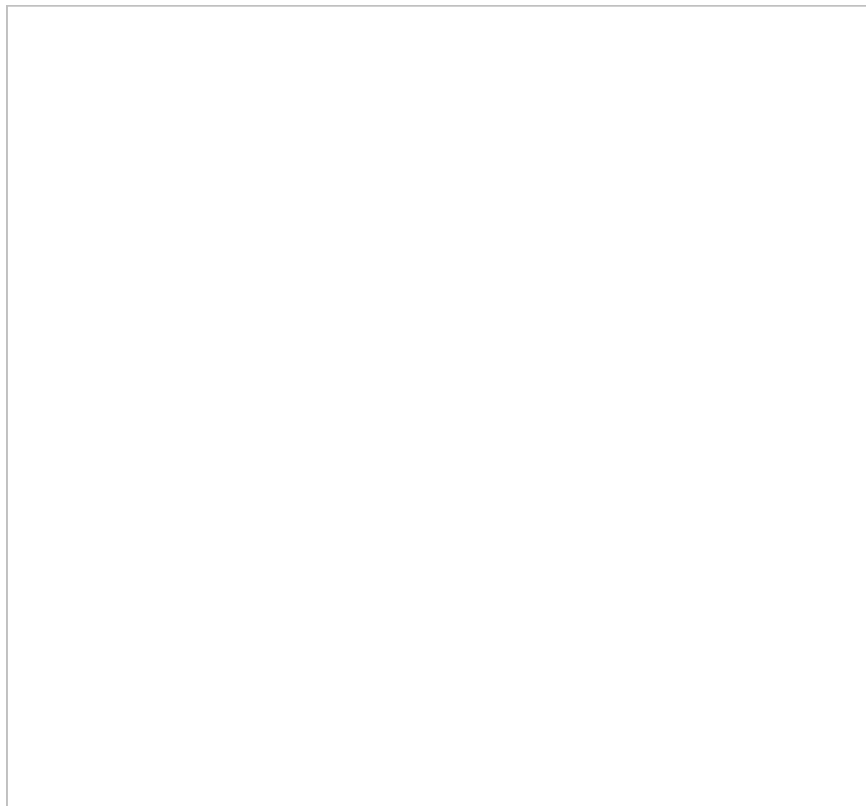


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRld8TH-KEs>  
[begentlewiththeearth.org](http://begentlewiththeearth.org) [begentlewiththeearth.com](http://begentlewiththeearth.com)  
[begentlewiththeearth.net](http://begentlewiththeearth.net) [ourinconvenienttruth.org](http://ourinconvenienttruth.org)  
[ourinconvenienttruth.net](http://ourinconvenienttruth.net) [ourinconvenienttruth.com](http://ourinconvenienttruth.com) ...



<https://www.youtube.com/c/DouglasDeitch>





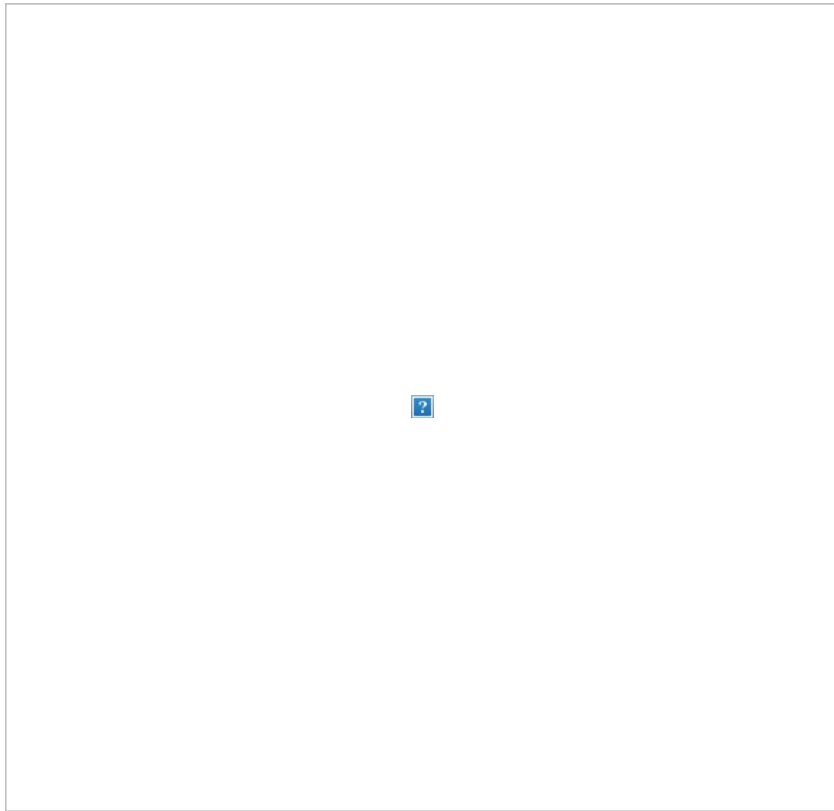
[lawandorderliberal.net](http://lawandorderliberal.net)

**"The mission of the Coastal Commission (CCC) is to: Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations...**

**The CCC, Dr. Lester, and the late Dr. Douglas refused in 2009 and any time thereafter to this moment ... and here's what we here in Santa Cruz and the entire Monterey Bay ended up with instead, as I testified we would in 2010 ...**

**... The entire CCC was "complicit in the greatest environmental catastrophe (ie the tragic and permanent decimation and waste of our local coastal Monterey Bay ground water commons) in the history of the Monterey Bay"**

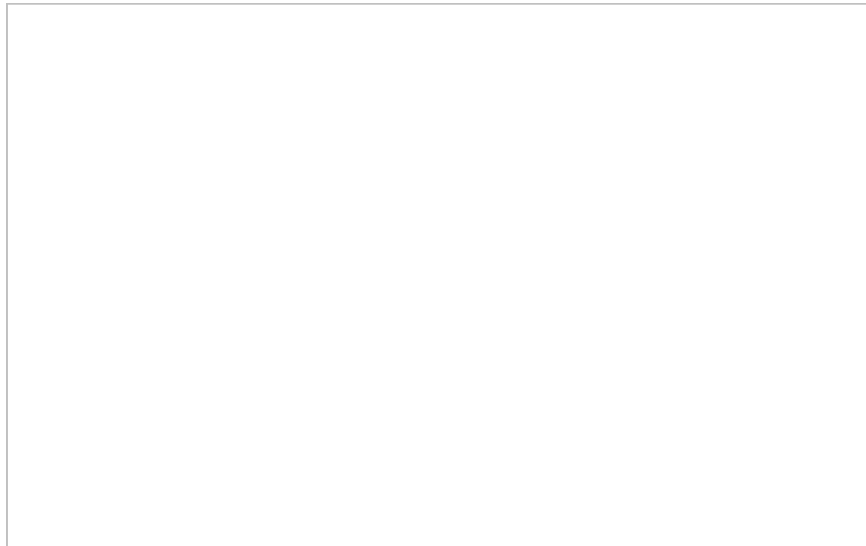
**... ( @ 1:54 "This is a food security problem..." @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccfaXnOF8ss> )**



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1374672809163550720>



(Doug talks desal w/ MZ & “Dr. Nano” on KSCO 5/19/2012 Sat. Special @  
<http://ksco.com/saturday-special-2/29670-2012-05-19mz-talks-desalination...>



... & “Our Inconvenient Truths” @ [OurInconvenientTruth.com](http://OurInconvenientTruth.com) (2007) ,  
[OurInconvenientTruth.net](http://OurInconvenientTruth.net) (1999) , & [OurInconvenientTruth.org](http://OurInconvenientTruth.org) 2009)

**From:** [Janel Wilbur](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:21:55 PM

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My name is Jan Wilbur and I am a Marina resident and homeowner. I am writing to say that this desal plant does not belong in Marina!

Our own Marina Coast Water District does not want this or need its water. WE THE PEOPLE of Marina do not want this or need its water. HE THE GOVERNOR wants desal plants and is pushing for them everywhere possible, I get it. But does that mean at OUR expense??? I cannot believe that he would push us to do that here in Marina under these circumstance. He seems more fair than that.

Please please please do not vote for this! The water will be delivered to the peninsula so please direct CalAm to use one of their other leases in a city it will be delivering its water to. It's only fair. The cheapest location for CalAm to build is here in Marina. Sorry, but their cost should not be the deciding factor here. WE THE PEOPLE OF MARINA should matter more! It's OUR city! Please represent us. WE OBJECT!!!

Thank you,  
Jan Wilbur



**From:** [Sean Folsom](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** I Oppose the Cal Am Desal-Application # 9-20-0603  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:09:38 PM

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Dear Coastal Commissioners, I am writing to you to ask you to please deny the Cal Am Water desal permit. We can't afford the "estimated" \$426 million-dollar cost of this badly designed and environmentally unjust desal project.

I've lived in Carmel Valley since 1956. I grew up with Cal Am's water theft on the Carmel River. I saw the Cal Am water trucks arriving in the middle of the night with big hoses siphoning from the Carmel River. I was here in Carmel Valley in the 1990's when Cal Am was finally busted for overdrafting the Carmel River and charging all of us for the privilege of being robbed. Despite the Cal Am track record, there has been no monetary reparations to Carmel Valley customers from Cal Am, it's been the exact opposite. I've watched my water bill go up from \$25/month to \$120/month since 2006, with the CPUC ALWAYS siding in favor of Cal Am. Even in a historical drought emergency, we were penalized because Cal Am share-holders needed more profit.

Now, I'm 73 years old, it's sixty-six years since I moved here as a young boy, and nothing has changed. Cal Am Water is still doing its best to gouge us and lie to us. They fought against the Pure Water Monterey Expansion for several years so they could con the Coastal Commission and the CPUC into the lie that we need an expensive desal plant in order to stop overdrafting the Carmel River and meet our growth demands. They're lying to you and to us, saying that the Pure Water Monterey Expansion won't generate enough water. Why is your staff buying the lie? How come Cal Am is blocking the Pure Water Monterey Expansion at the CPUC? I know why; Cal Am is a greedy, lying, and mean profit taker, that only serves the interests of their shareholders. They want to drive up the cost of their capital so the shareholders can make hand-over-fist profits. Cal Am doesn't care one bit about keeping affordable water prices and neither does the CPUC, if they did we wouldn't be living with some of the most expensive water bills in the United States, and this is And yet, the Coastal Commission staff want you to lay the wreath of responsibility at the indifferent feet of the CPUC.

Please don't be swayed by Cal Am's lies. Read the MPWMD letters and read the facts about our growth projects. We may need a desal in the future, but we can't afford this terrible desal plant now. I'm a retired senior on a fixed income. I've lived here since 1956. My kids and grandkids live here and I have a loving community that is important to me. Are you going to allow Cal Am to rob me and rob my community, again, with this unnecessary and excessive profit-driven desal that none of us need or want? Are you going to allow Cal Am to drive me out of my community because I can't afford the water costs? If you approve Cal Am's desal permit, conditions or no conditions, you are helping Cal Am to gouge and abuse our coastal community, and the last time I checked that is against the Coastal Commission environmental equity charter.

Contrary to the beliefs of some big-ag power brokers and Cal Am proponents who want to force this desal on the peninsula, the Carmel River doesn't run through Salinas Valley, it runs through my valley, and the Pure Water Monterey Expansion is the solution to our water needs. Ask yourselves why Cal Am is blocking it. I'll tell you again in case you don't know; because they know that if the PWM Expansion is online, the desal is superfluous. In fact it's worse than useless, it's actually harmful to our community. Don't let Cal Am bully us. I ask the Coastal

Commission to have the moral courage to stand up for our coastal community.

Sincerely,

SHAWN G. FOLSOM  
CARMEL VALLEY, CA.

**From:** [Steve Moore](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:08:46 PM

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Dear California Coastal Commission:

I am a California American water customer on the Monterey Peninsula, and I OPPOSE Cal Am's desal project.

There is a less expensive and environmentally superior alternative in the expansion of Pure Water Monterey that the Coastal Commission must consider. The Pure Water Monterey expansion will provide all the water we need for housing and growth for at least the next 20 to 30 years, even in drought, and without any need for a desal plant.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and that 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, yet Cal Am is claiming we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet -- apparently inflating estimates in an effort to justify a desal plant that is needed more for corporate profits than for water.

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. This would raise water bills by at least 50%. Monterey Peninsula customers voted (Measure J, Nov 2018) to have water delivered by a public agency (MPWMD) rather than a private corporation (Cal Am). More than enough public water will be produced through the Pure Water Monterey expansion and can be delivered to customers by MPWMD within the next two years at significantly less cost to customers and the environment than with the Cal Am desal plant.

I am not interested in lining the pockets of Cal Am investors, when I can get my water from the more affordable, locally-controlled, not-for-profit Pure Water Monterey and MPWMD.

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

Further, as a coastal Californian and environmental scientist, I cannot agree to the massive greenhouse gas emissions this plant would produce. Desal is extremely energy intensive, and building a desal plant is committing us to decades of increased, rather than decreased, power consumption. I am alarmed by Governor Newsom's pressure on the Coastal Commission to approve all desal projects, whether they are needed or not.

This desal proposal makes no sense, unless you are a Cal Am investor who stands to profit from it at the expense of Monterey area residents' water bills and the region's environment. Please deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project!

Steven W. Moore, Ph.D.

Monterey, CA.



**From:** [Gregory Miller](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Against Cal Am's desal plant  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 3:03:52 PM

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Dear Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:

My name is Gregory Miller. My family and I have lived in Marina for over 18 years. The children have grown and are starting families of their own. They all attended public schools in Marina and went on to earn science and engineering degrees. Part of their success was the excellent and diverse community of Marina, exposing them to people from around the world and from all walks of life and cultures.

I am against Cal Am's proposed desal plant because of its potential negative impacts to our environment and our little town. Professor Tom Moore of the Naval Postgraduate School recently wrote a guest commentary in the Monterey Herald (<https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/11/01/guest-commentary-cal-am-desal-no-like-doheny/>). He summarized the issues perfectly: "it is simply unfair and unjust to saddle MCWD, Marina and our neighbors with all of Cal Am's harms and none of the supposed benefits."

Indeed, the desal plant is unnecessary because Pure Water Monterey can supply our community's needs for years to come. It is safe, effective, and environmentally friendly. Singapore has been using the same technology for decades with great success and no need for risky desal or unproven slant wells.

I cannot attend the upcoming Coastal Commission meeting in person, but I hope you will deny Cal Am's dangerous proposal, making the right decision for Marina.

Thank you.

Gregory Miller

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: [Douglas Deitch](#)  
To: [Douglas Deitch](#); [Energy@Coastal](#); [Douglas Deitch](#)  
Subject: Fwd:  
Date: Friday, November 11, 2022 2:37:44 PM

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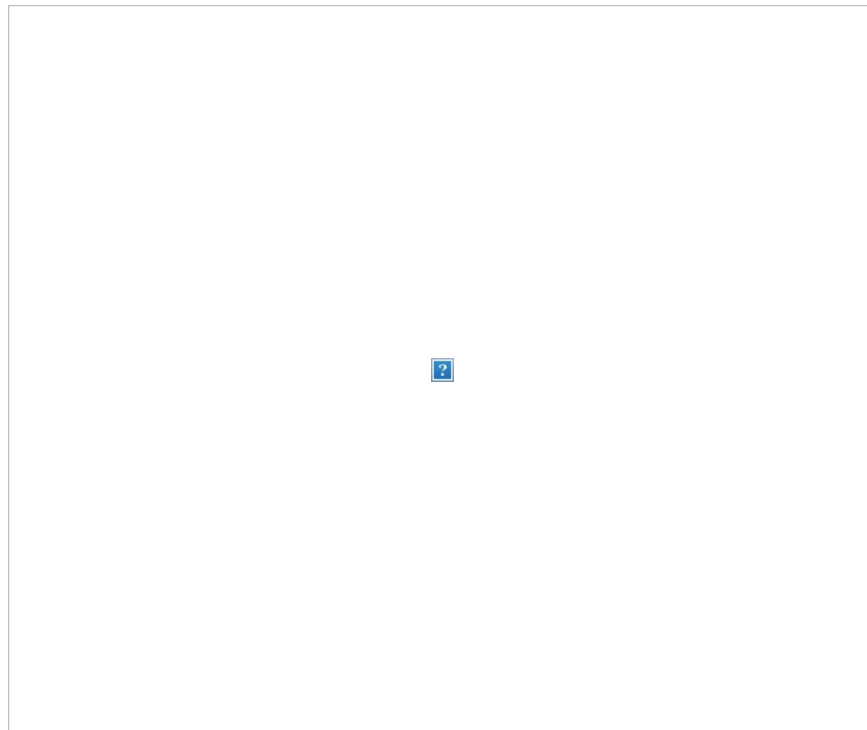
----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Douglas Deitch** <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Nov 11, 2022 at 2:14 PM  
Subject: Public Comment on November 2022 Agenda Item Thursday 7a - Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 (California American Water Co., Marina)  
To: Douglas Deitch <[ddeitch@got.net](mailto:ddeitch@got.net)>  
Cc: <[siddhartha1212@yahoo.com](mailto:siddhartha1212@yahoo.com)>, Douglas Deitch <[siddhartha1002@gmail.com](mailto:siddhartha1002@gmail.com)>

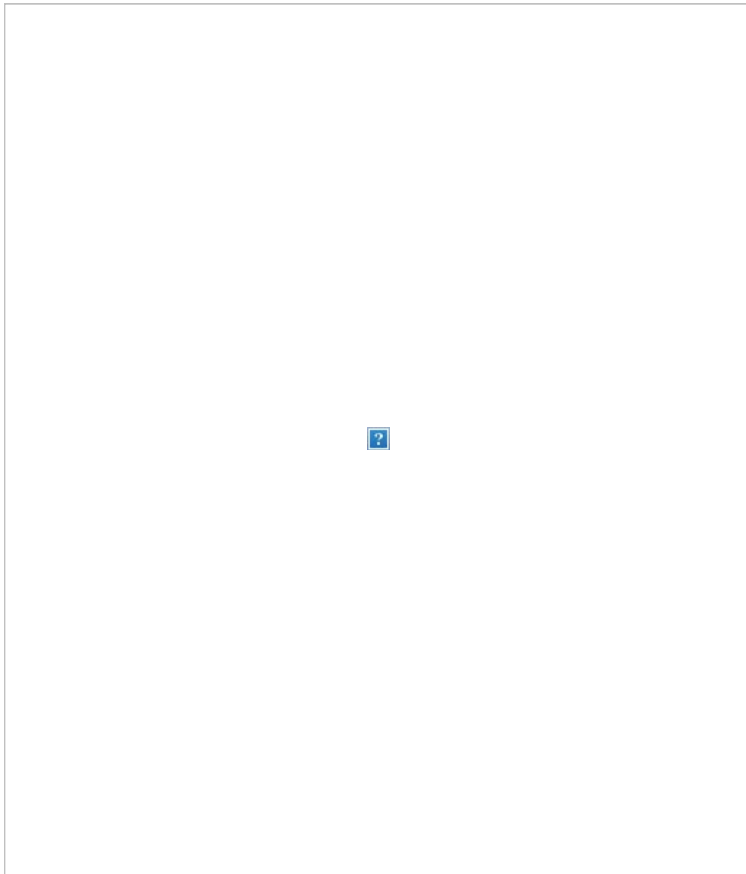
**Sustainability, Rapid “SLR”, “ASR” or “DPR” H2O,**  
**#NatureBasedSolutions, Our \$5 billion+yr food production (10% of Cali’s**  
**\$50 billion of total US \$138)?**

**Did we need either Cal Am or it’s coast front illegal slant welled desal**  
**plant in 2011 @ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) [douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net)**  
**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY> [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com)**  
**then?**

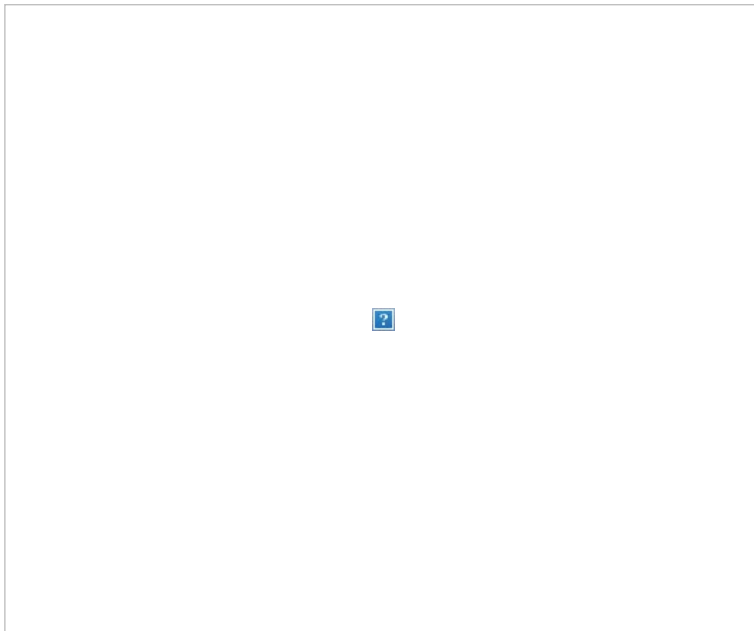
**... or now, any other/better alternatives, #nbs/nature based like mine run down**  
**in my comment right below and @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) is or not?**



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1534167031377018881>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136>



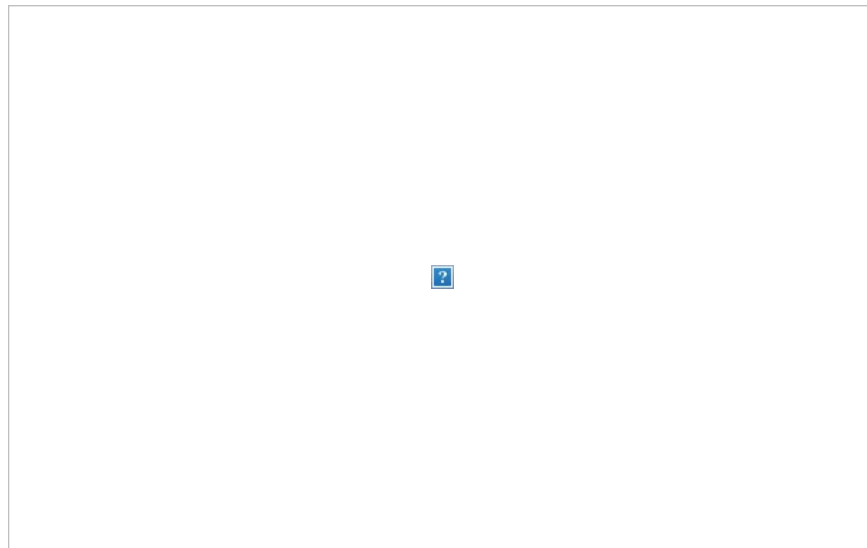
([April 29, 2016 LinkedIn article](#) & [Distributed documents in my hand...](#))

**Dear Coastal Commission, Governor Newsom, SWRCB, DWR, Monterey and**

**Santa Cruz County Supervisors and City of Santa Cruz, et al...**

**The Monterey Bay Conservancy demands, for now the eighth time since the first on [April 19, 2016](#) (@ 10:21) immediate SWRCB Emergency “Intervention” and takeover of all Monterey Bay Regional water management, sustainability planning and projects, and all other related control under direction of Governor Newsom’s Office.**

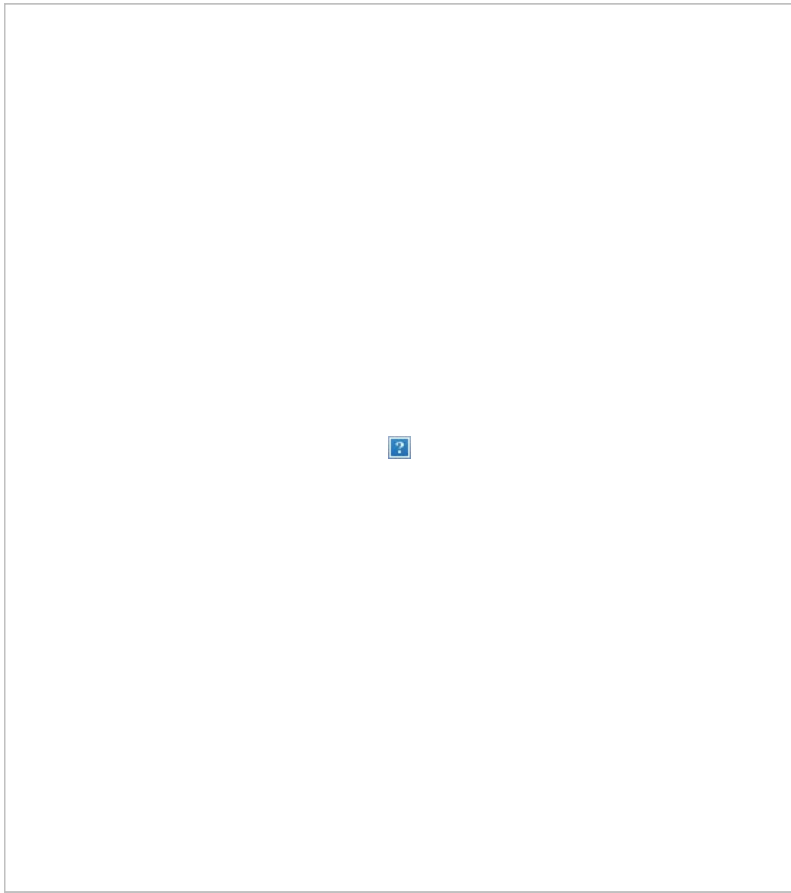
**[Additionally, due to the recent shockingly high Monterey \(and San Francisco \) Bay SLR Projections](#) and the quickly approaching completed DPR (Direct Potable Reuse regs and, [as I well over 2 and one half years ago advised the CCC @ 12:12](#)),**



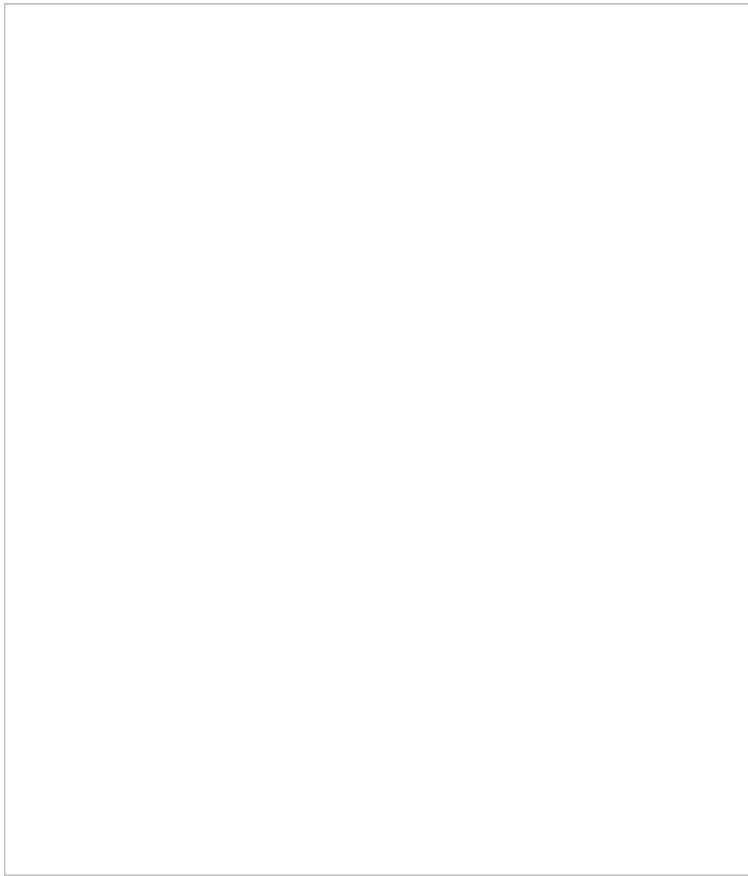
**all “Pure Water” recycling “ASR/IPR” projects should be stopped and held in suspension until, due to DPR H2O which does not have to be injected and mixed in our coastal aquifers and can be used directly, all “ASR/IPR” injection will be abandoned and millions of dollars not imprudently spent on useless pipelines and other unneeded new infrastructure...**

**... particularly when 33000 acre feet of DPR H2O will be yearly available w/o any more “ASR/IPR” injection from the repurposed from Ag to Monterey Bay regional urban water needs of all our other humans and their activities and businesses here and best sustain and protect our \$5 billion yearly food production here and so much more run down @ [dougdeitch.com](#)?**

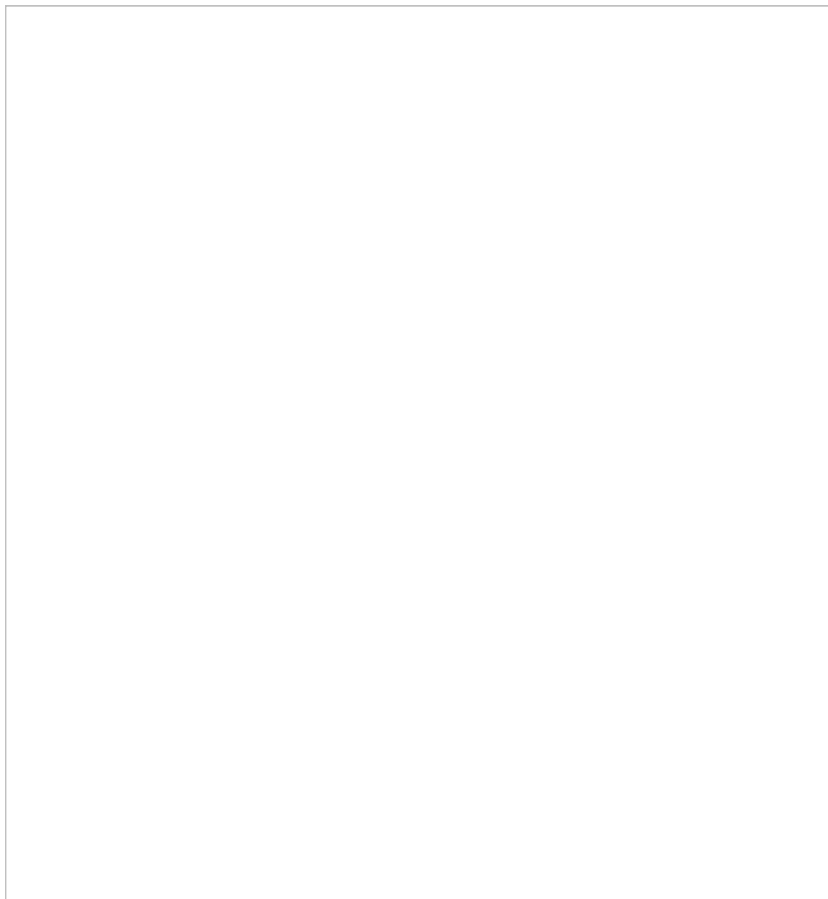




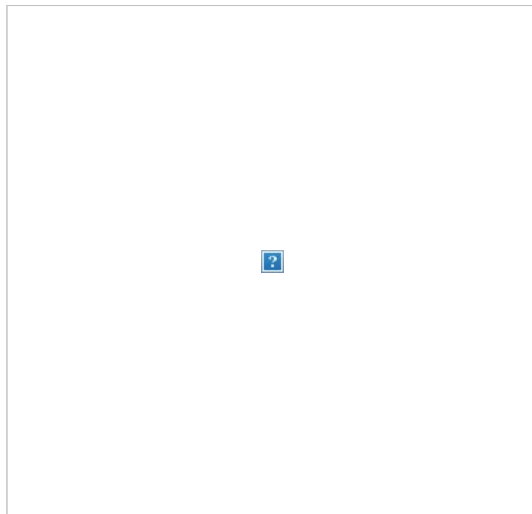
<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1577652083079008257>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1587048714270429189>



[Ourinconvenienttruth.org](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.org) [Ourinconvenienttruth.net](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.net) [Ourinconvenienttruth.com](http://Ourinconvenienttruth.com)

**2011 Desal @ CCC ?:**

[DouglasDeitch.com](http://DouglasDeitch.com) ([douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net) & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY>)

2010 [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com)

**Here's Monterey Bay Conservancy's 30 year old plus #NatureBasedSolution (and 100% unconsidered and DirectPotableReuse/"DPR" Recycled H2O) and best 33,000 acre feet/year new no shovel/build back better-Farmlands to wetlands infrastructure Monterey Bay Regional Urban Water Supply Alternative to best address Sea Level Rise, preserve and sustain us and our \$5 billion year farm/food production, 90% water user ...**

**And much, much more ... ASAP**

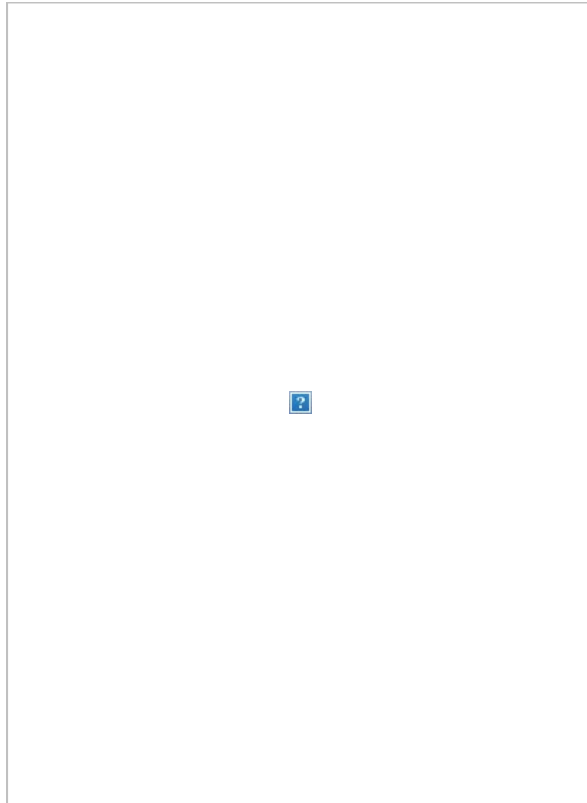
**w/i 2 years by Governor Newsom's Emergency Executive Order...**

**after SWRCB "Intervention" in Monterey Bay Region ...**

**requested by Monterey Bay Conservancy continuously ...**

**Starting April 19, 2016 @**

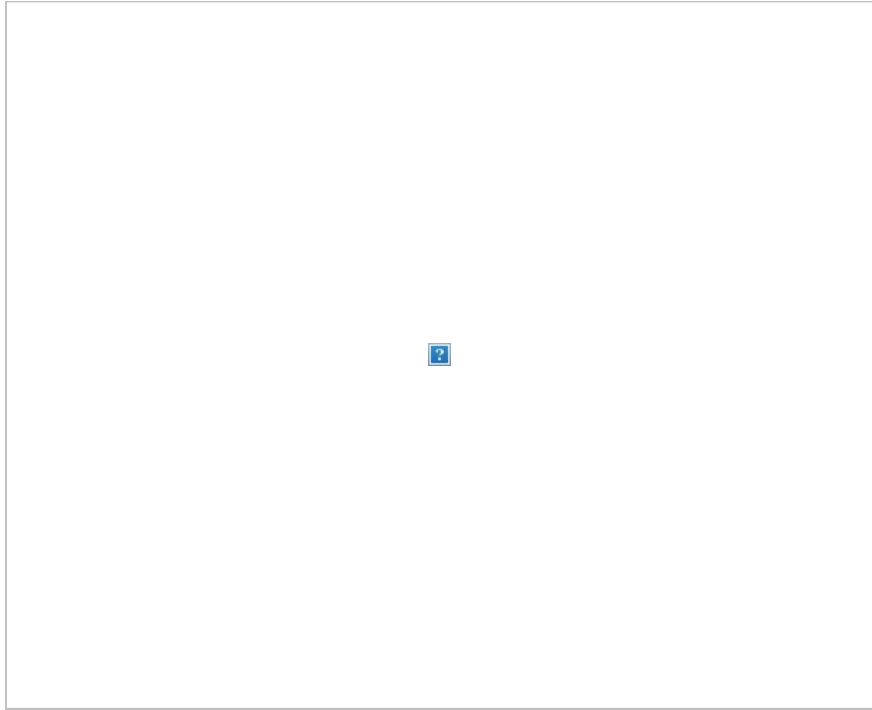
**For a one time, "Show Me The Money" \$2.5 billion (1/2 Federal/1/2 State) investment...**



**(i.e "OPM" @ <https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1417170870133399585>)**

**Run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) & in the comment right below:**



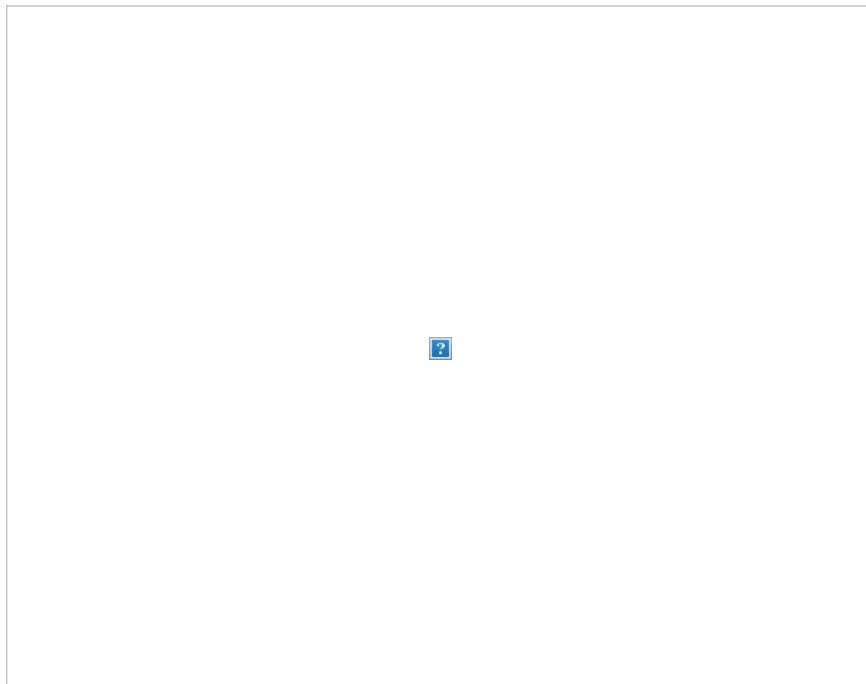


[Monterey County elected officials to debate a change in desal law](#)

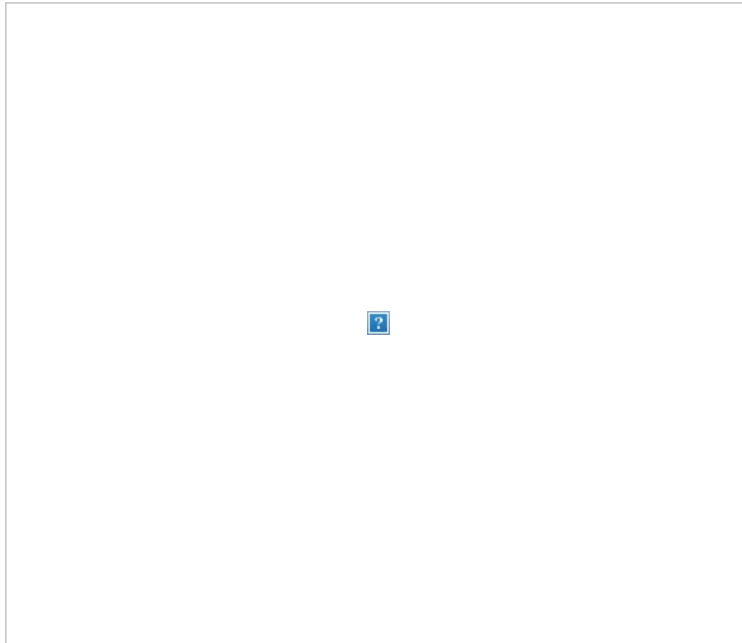


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1534167031377018881>

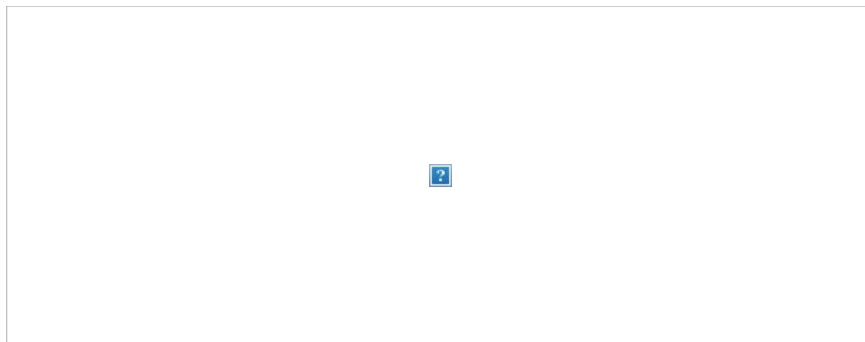
[MakeCaliforniaGreatAgain.democrat](#)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1374672809163550720>

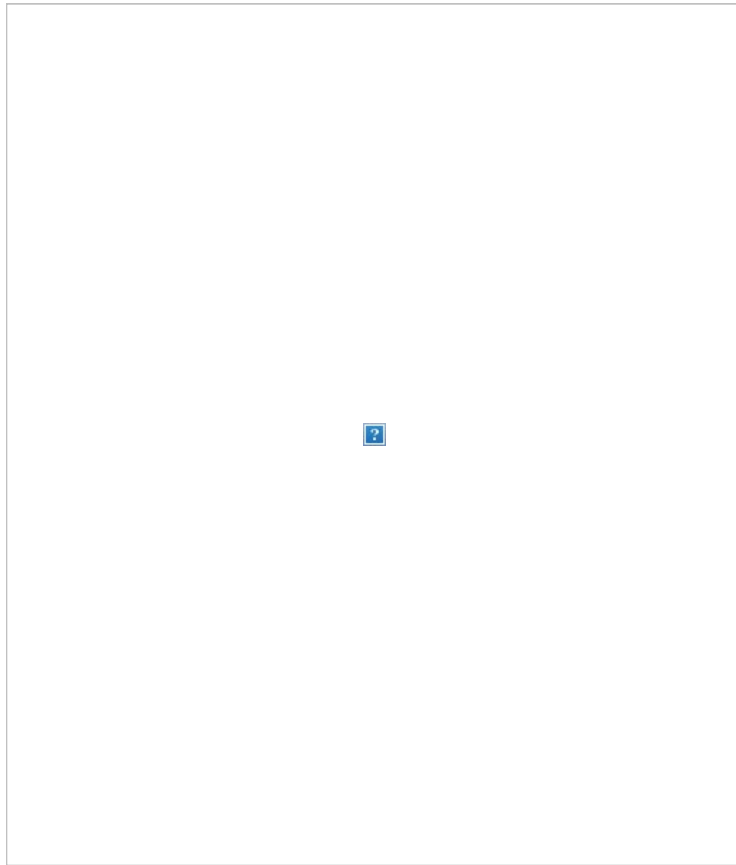


[Dear Chairman Esquivel & Ms. Bochco, et al @ SWRCB & California Coastal Commission,](#)



**(Please, for the now 8th time since 2016)...**

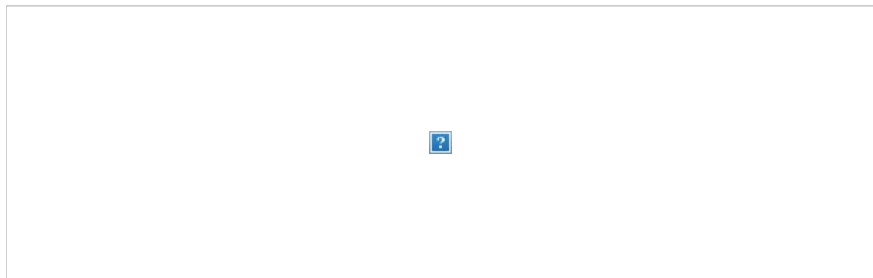
**[INTERVENE NOW IN MONTEREY BAY @ thebestthatmoneycantbuy.org @ 11: 21](#)**  
**[, 4/19/2016 !!!](#)**



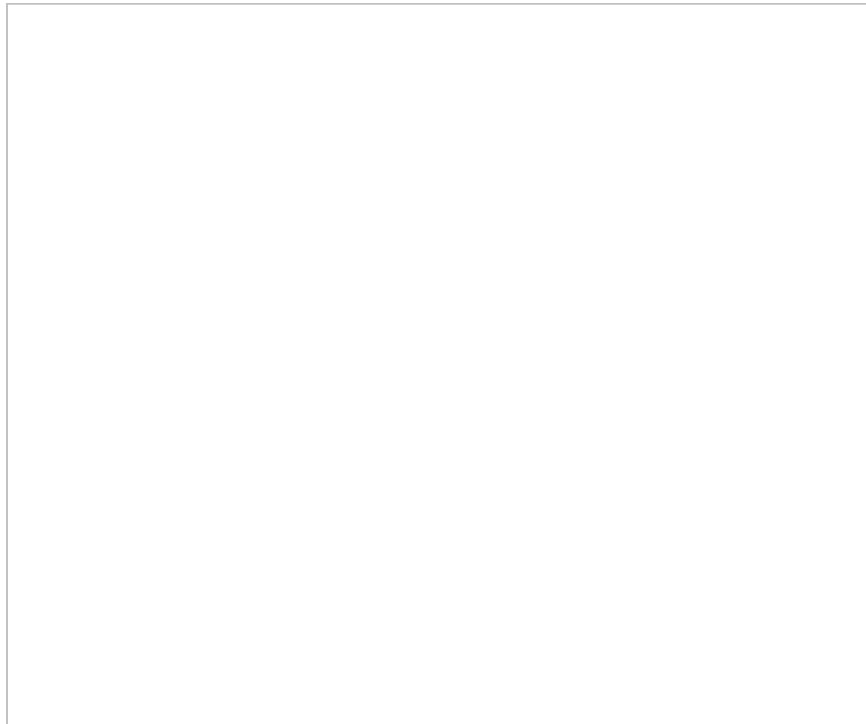
**@It's past time for the State Water Resources Control Board to take control of our now predominantly below sea level Monterey Bay ground water commons**

**& @ dougforassembly.com**

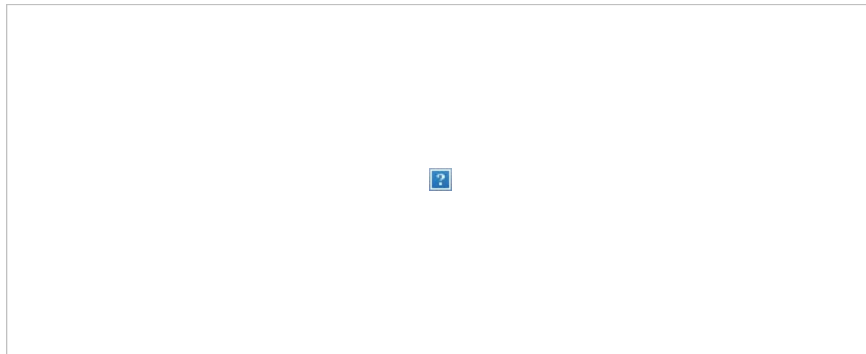
**Does SqCWD have any water rights to do anything?**







[lomejorqueeldineronopuedecomprar.com](http://lomejorqueeldineronopuedecomprar.com)

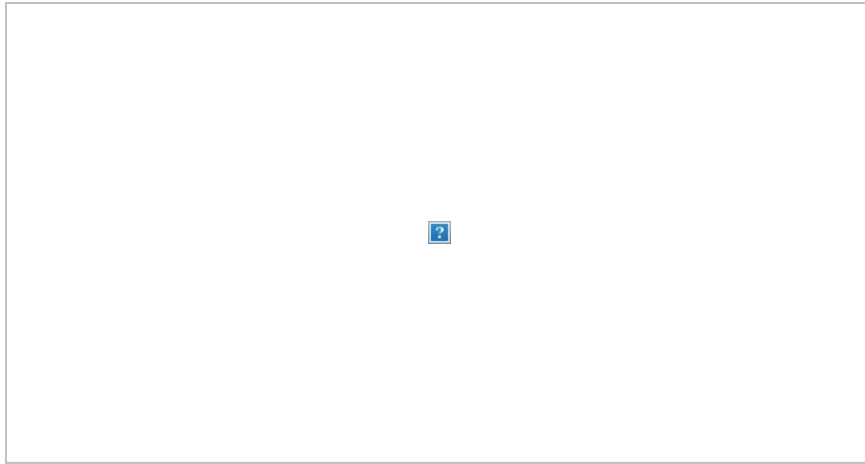


[begentlewiththeearth.com](http://begentlewiththeearth.com) (2005)

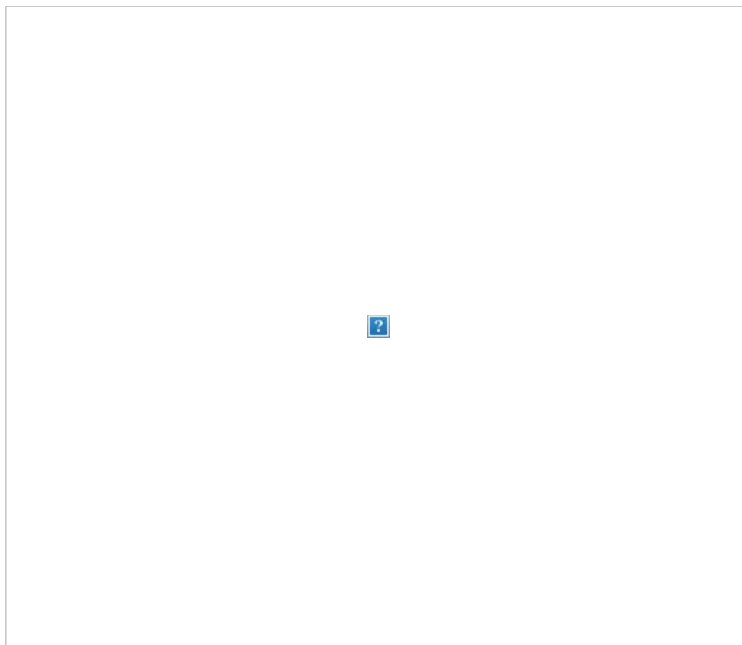
Query I: Our future water supply: Our most important “Community” decision?

Query II: Will it be Desal, “ASR” (aquifer storage recovery **with injection and later extraction**)...

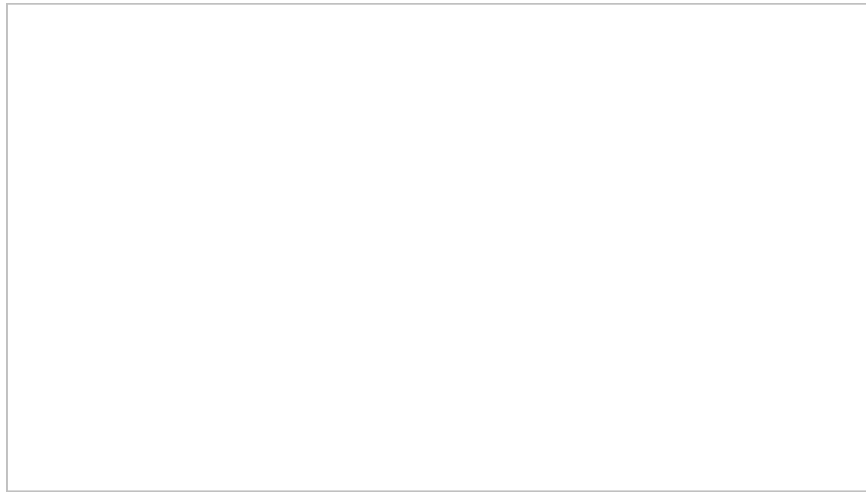
or 33000 a/ft/yr new Monterey Bay regional “DPR” (direct potable reuse) urban recycled H<sub>2</sub>O w/o any injection **with 63000 a/ft/yr PERMANENT w/o EXTRACTION IN PERPETUITY passive strategic recharge through/and conservation (@ 3 afyr per acre)** of [#NatureBasedSolution ESHA 21000 acres of “farmlands back to wetlands”](#), the [Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument](#) , like at Zmudowski Beach at [1992 43 acre Pilot Project Willoughby Ranch?](#)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136/photo/4>



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1577652083079008257>

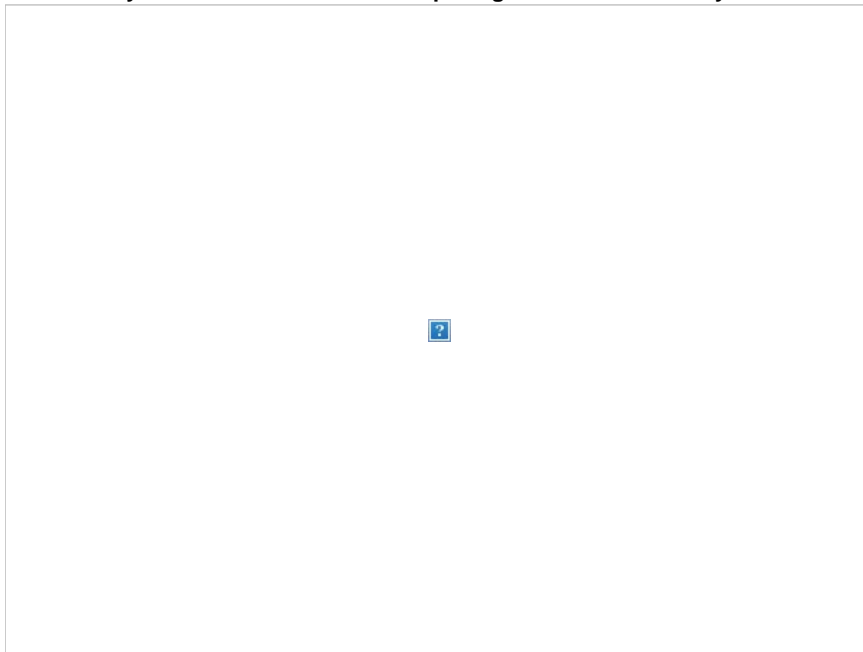


@ [dougdeitch.com](https://www.dougdeitch.com) (a fb page)

2020

**“DPR vs “ASR”: All recycled water is not the same ?**

Please use your common sense and simple logic to understand why?



Why?: The one foot of SLR will push into our and all coastsides aquifers that are at or below sea level and force sea water and other pollutants into our still pristine for the most part local aquifers and pollute them too.

My 30+ year old ignored plan, the NATURE BASED SOLUTION/#nbs 21000 acre “Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument”, including the repurposed to urban from ag 33000 acre feet/year of "DPR-Direct Potable Reuse" recycled water from the already but upgraded extant and online built in 1998 for \$75 million Castroville Reclamation Plant, which also includes 63000 acre feet per year and then **EVERY FOLLOWING YEAR IN PERPETUITY** of permanent and not later extracted both strategically located and #nbs and passive Monterey Bay regional groundwater CONSERVATION and PERMANENT AQUIFER RECHARGE and 21000 NEW ACRES of new

"FARMLANDS BACK TO WETLANDS" (43 acre since 1995 Pilot Project @ Zmudowski Beach run down @ [dougdeitch.com](http://dougdeitch.com) , a fb page, will solve all and best both sustain and preserve or increase our current \$5 billion year (10% of Cali's total \$50 billion year farm production of USA's total \$136 billion!) and many other benefits for us here IN THE BIGGEST DROUGHT/FOOD/AIR/SAFETY/[ALLLABSMATTER.INFO](http://ALLLABSMATTER.INFO) etc AND ALREADY SO MANY OTHER EMERGENCIES IN HUMAN HISTORY?, ...

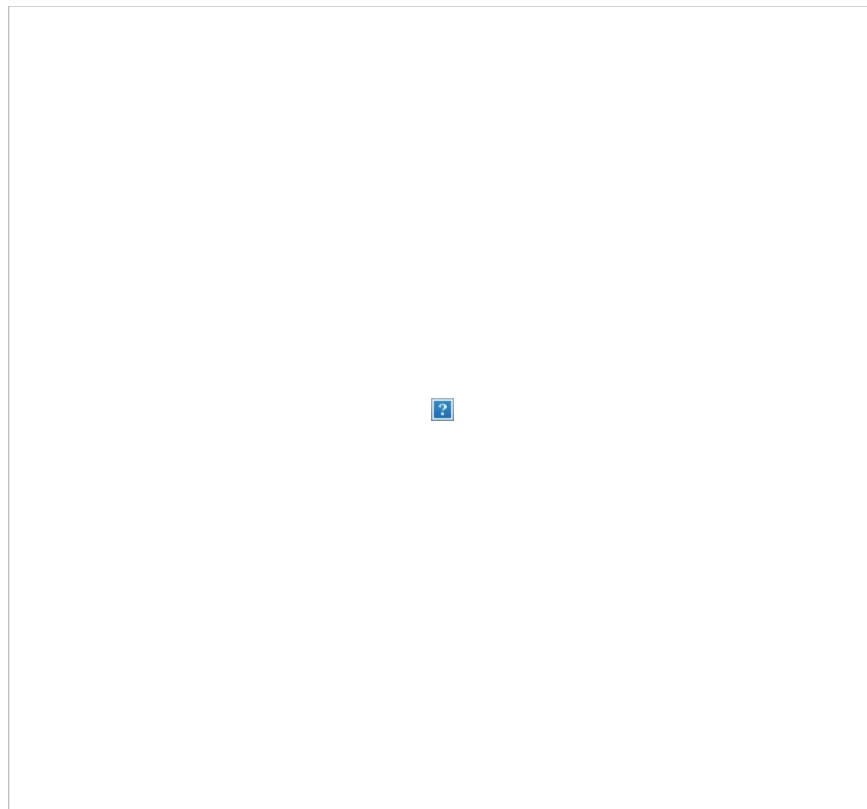
...for only a one time \$2.1 billion build back better (one billion each State and Federal) infrastructure investment which will make us here in "our" (... fyi, one of my two "pronouns") Monterey Bay Region where "we" all live (... fyi II, the second of my two "pronouns")

... "the global exemplar social economic and natural system for the rest of our planet to admire and emulate", by Douglas Deitch (2007) [www.begentlewiththeearth.com](http://www.begentlewiththeearth.com) [lomejorqueeldineroNOpuedecomprar.com](http://lomejorqueeldineroNOpuedecomprar.com) ( a fb page)

**"You can lead a horse or Governor Newsom, California Coastal Commission, SWRCB, DWR, "PUREWATER EVERYWHERE", et al to "DPR" not "ASR" Recycled water and so much more (@ [www.dougdeitch.com](http://www.dougdeitch.com) etc...) but you can't make them drink ..."**

**(That's why I am/was running for Congress to get us the \$2.1 billion to fund this project WITH an immediate following emergency executive order from our Governor immediately authorizing, funding \$ 1 billion for, and implementing my project, the 21000 acre "Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument run down @ <https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136> & [www.dougdeitch.com](http://www.dougdeitch.com) for us/US ASAP !)**

**Problems solved!"**

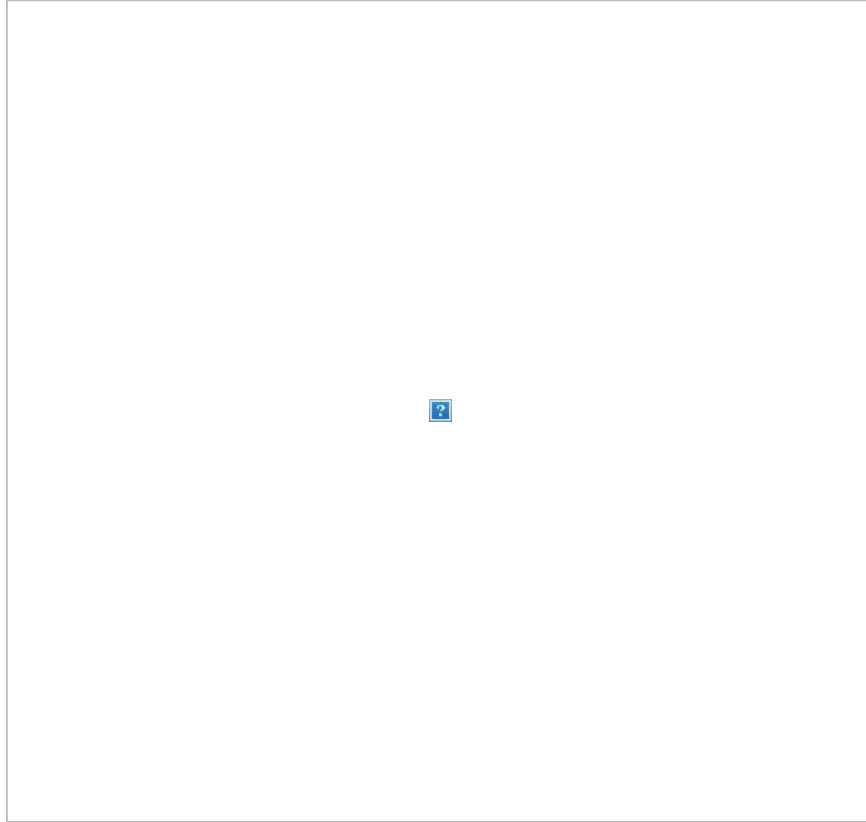


@ 12:12 @ [cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20200312/](http://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20200312/) (2020)



**& Repeating my CCC comment from 10 years ago, to the day, ...**

**“...made the Coastal Commission (et al) complicit ... in the biggest environmental catastrophe, irremediable, in the history of the Monterey Bay Region. Please ...”**



**@ 3:25 @ [besameprimero.com](http://besameprimero.com) , March 11, 2010**

**(PLEASE NOTE: THIS March 11, 2010 CCC Meeting VIDEO, APPARENTLY ... @ [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20100311/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20100311/) ...**

**HAS BEEN REMOVED, “LOST”, & REPLACED FROM OFFICIAL CCC CAL\_SPAN SITE along with video and other CCC records with an “Arana Gulch Field Trip” video !?**

**... just like the documents filed by me earlier w/ CCC @ [begentlewiththeearth.org](http://begentlewiththeearth.org) in 2009 and @ [lawandorderliberal.net](http://lawandorderliberal.net) in 2016 for the matters therein referenced also mysteriously “DISAPPEARED”!?)**

**2011**

**2011 “CalAm I Desal” CCC Hearing Comments of [Douglas Deitch](#) and [George Riley](#) (@ 2:27:50)**

**“Water/Berry” (and now PureWaterMonterey & PureWaterSoquel) Ponzi Scheme?**

**Query/SqCWD: Does Soquel Creek Water District have any water rights?**  
(Search @ [https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/ewrims/EWServlet?Redirect\\_Page=EWWaterRightPublicSearch.jsp&Purpose=getEWAppSearchPage](https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/ewrims/EWServlet?Redirect_Page=EWWaterRightPublicSearch.jsp&Purpose=getEWAppSearchPage)  
)

1.

**Query/SqCWD: How much is “Pure Water Soquel” project now estimated to now cost , in total, and when is completion estimated?**

2.

**Query/SqCWD: Does SqCWD need perfected and legal water rights? Why don't they have them , if they don't?**

3.

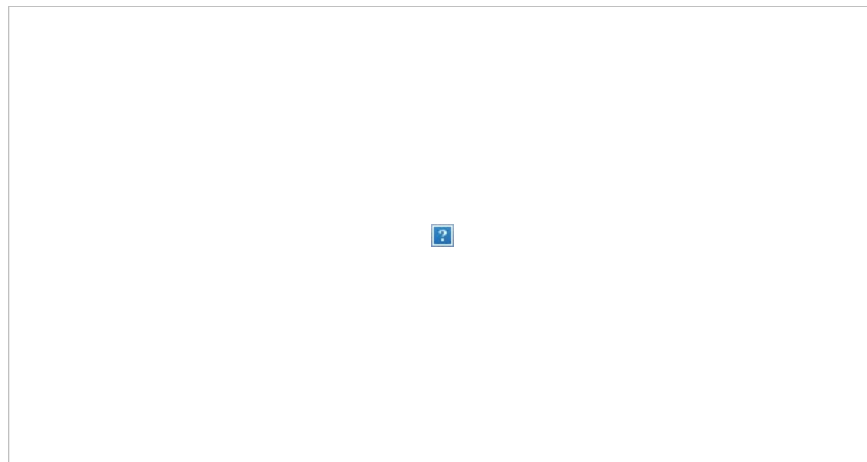
**Is this a responsible and prudent business practice and a “safe harbor” manner of conducting business?**

4.

**Query/”Pure Water” “ASR” Projects: After “DPR” is approved, will injection of water cease and “DPR” recycled water be used directly instead?**

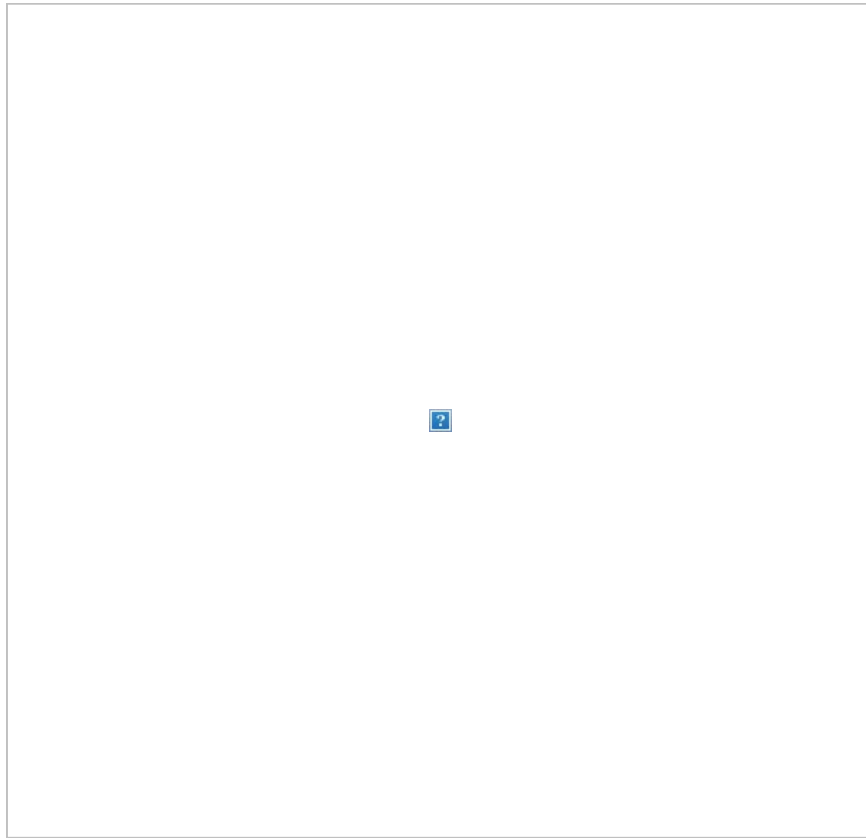
5.

**Query: How did/does/will Pure Water Monterey project w/ expansion to 5+k/a/f/yr deal w/ account for new/increased since 2018 ag well pumping on 1800 acre Armstrong Ranch (@ 3 a/f/yr per acre +/- ) run down in [MCWeekly's Mr. Schmaltz' excellent 2018 article](#)**



**[“We can't print up any more H2O!”](#)**





[https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20200311/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20200311/) @ 13:44

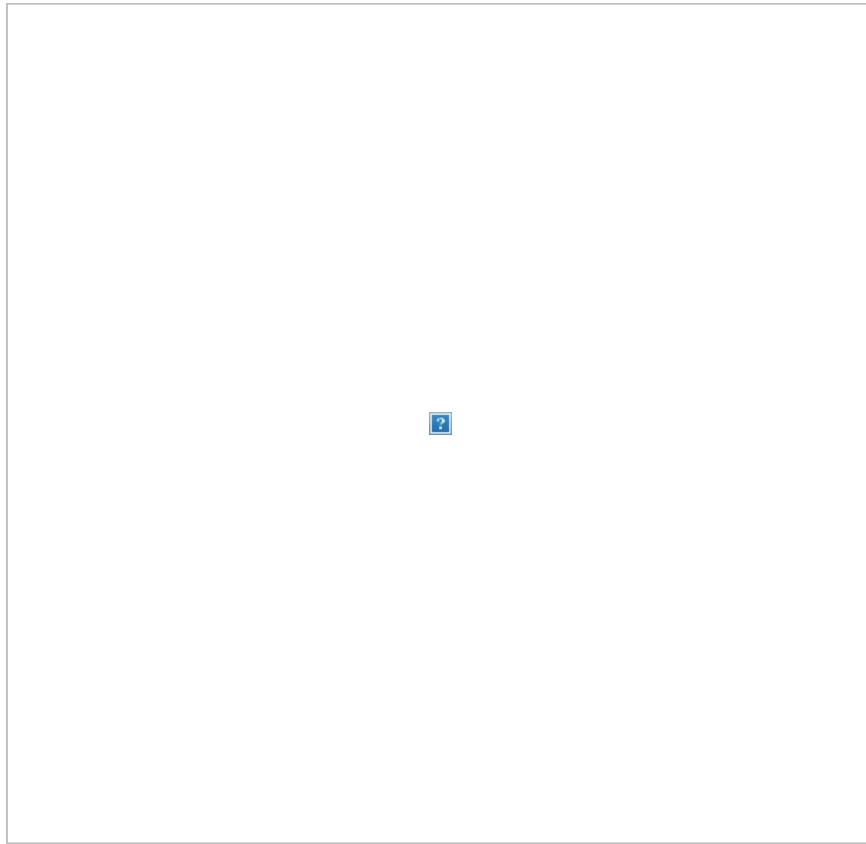
... (from CCC Meeting video of March 11, 2010 ten years ago, no longer to be found @ Cal-Span CCC site) !?

2019?

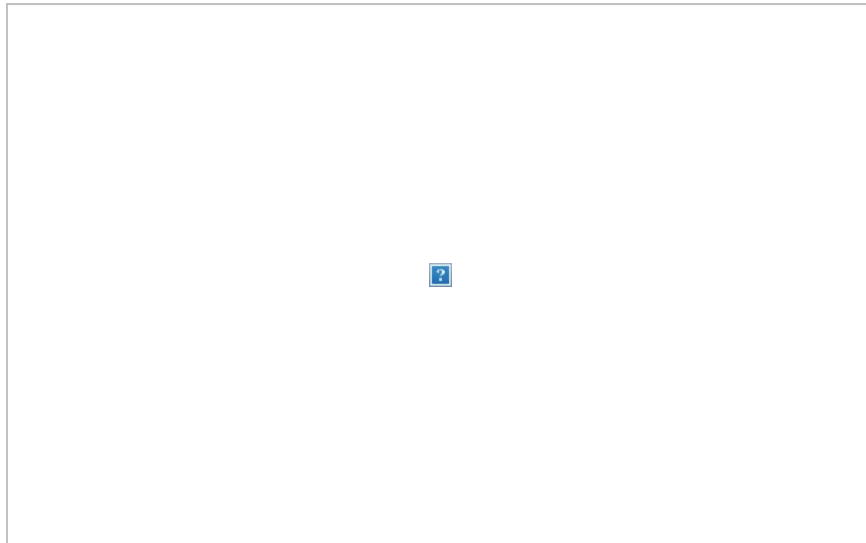
“Those who cannot remember (or never in the first place ever knew) the past ...”?

(“I was just up at the State Water Resources Control Board requesting they intervene in the Monterey Bay for the third time ...” @ 29:02 @ [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191113/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191113/) )





**... are condemned to repeat it”?**



**@ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) (2011)**

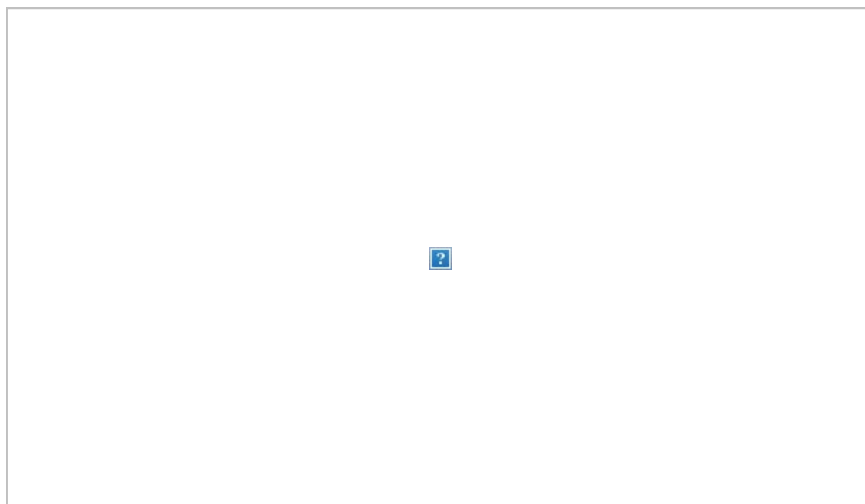
**“November 12, 2019**

**Dear Ms. Bochco and CCC,**

**I am still waiting to hear or see one word of response from my invitation sent November 19, 2019 to you...?**

**(and also issued the same invitation to tour to SWRCB**

**Chair Esquivel, also ignored ...**

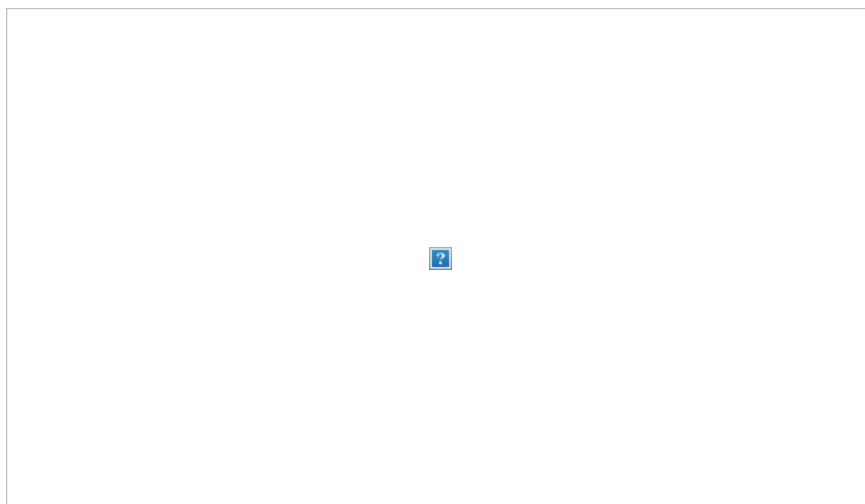


<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1482497651098587136/photo/3>

**Please respond.**

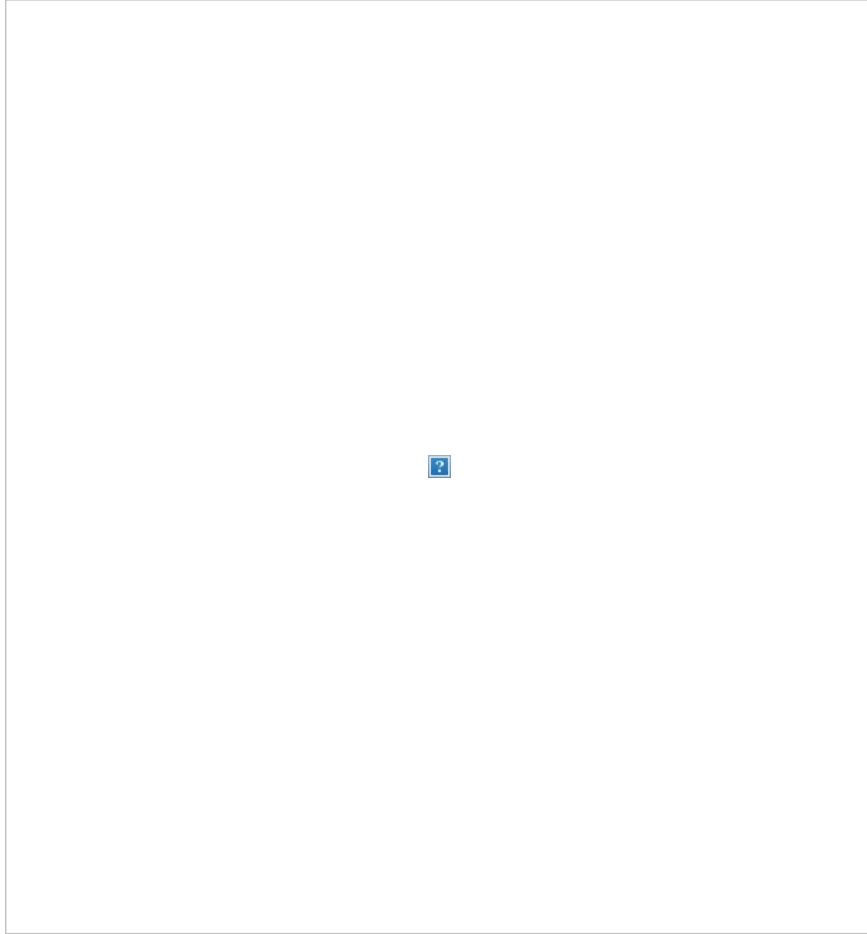
**Respectfully,**

**Douglas Deitch/Monterey Bay Conservancy” ....**



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2705212229718138&set=pcb.2705216426384385>

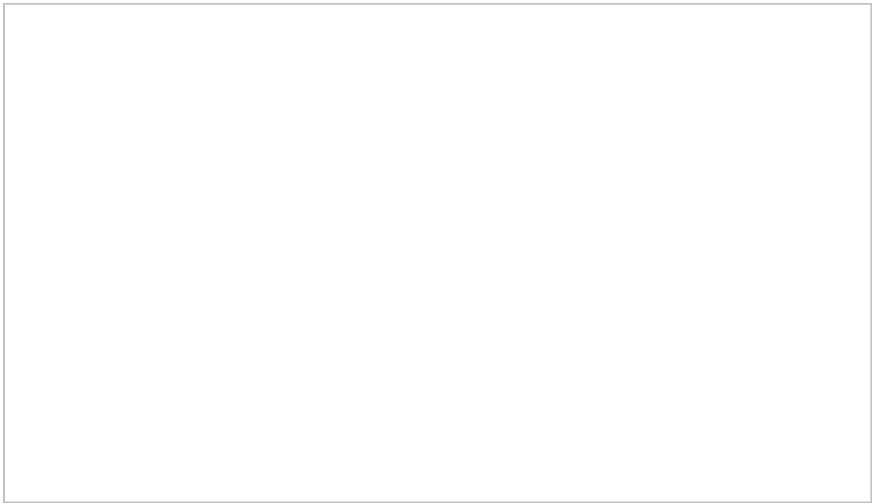
**... to tour my alternative “Monterey Bay Regional Water Fixx  
aka “21000 acre Monterey Bay Estuarine National Monument”**



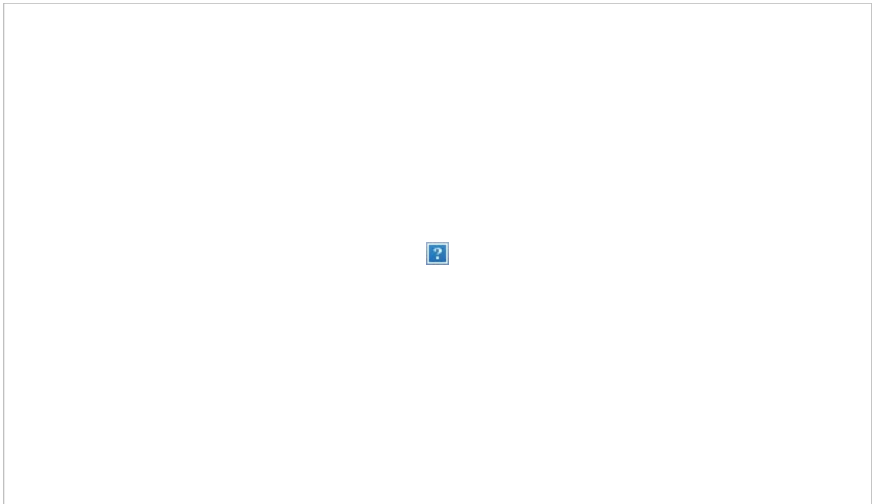
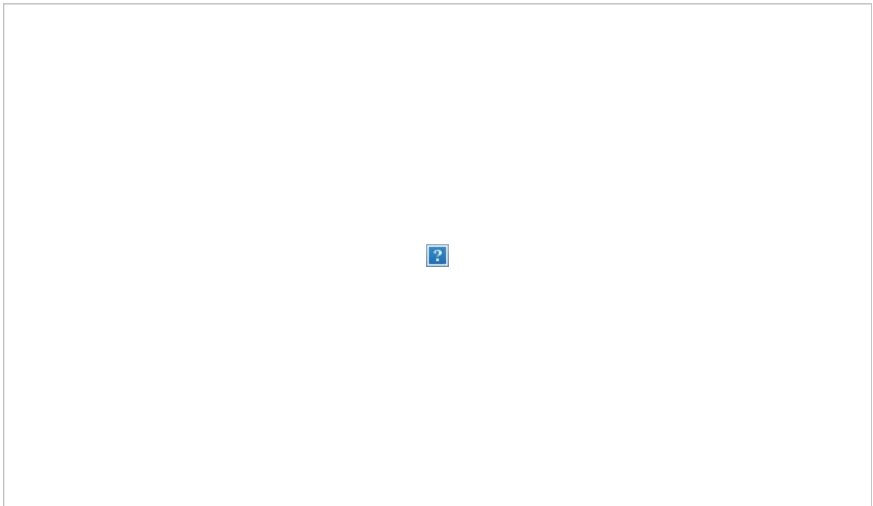
**... which I have already run down for you in 2019 twice !?**

**@5:15 [cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191115/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191115/) & [https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc\\_20191113/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/ccc_20191113/)**

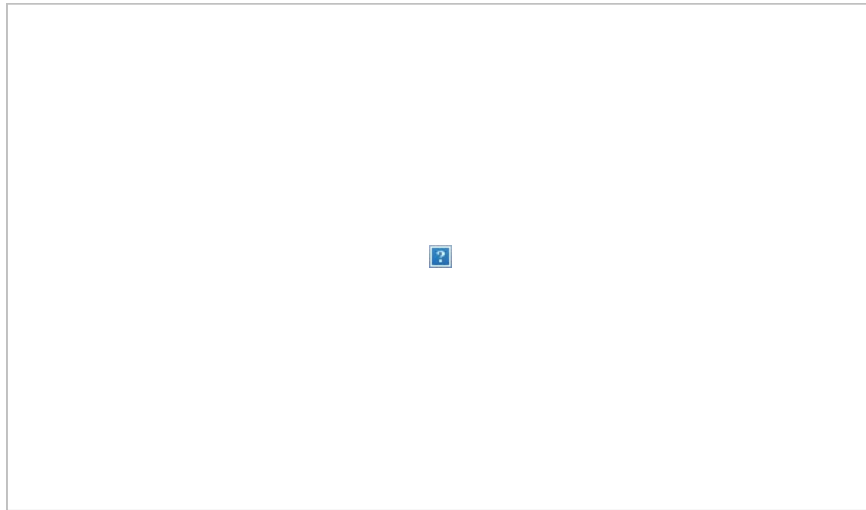
**and below & @ [dougdeitch.com](https://dougdeitch.com) (fb page)**



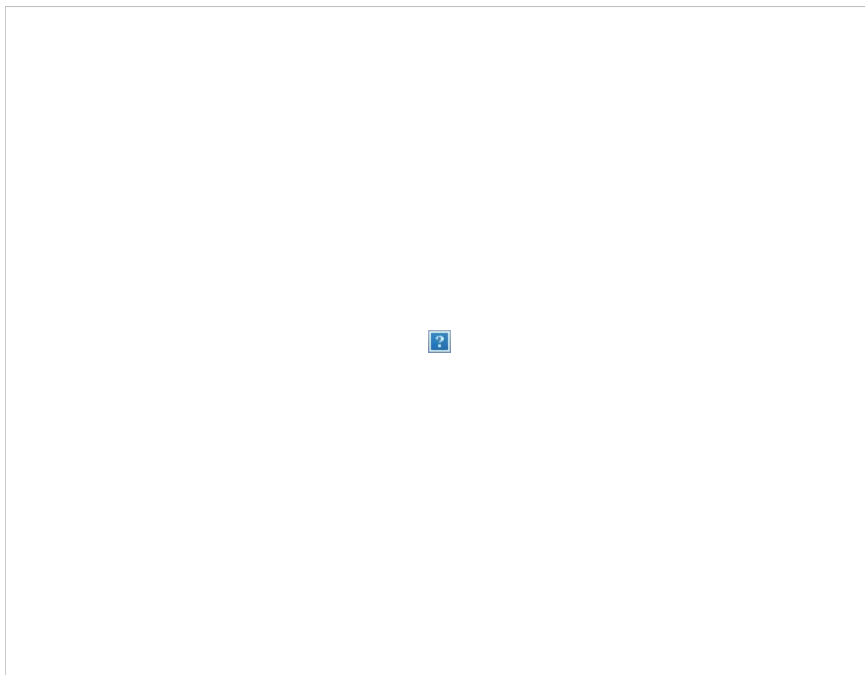
[SamFarr.info](http://SamFarr.info)





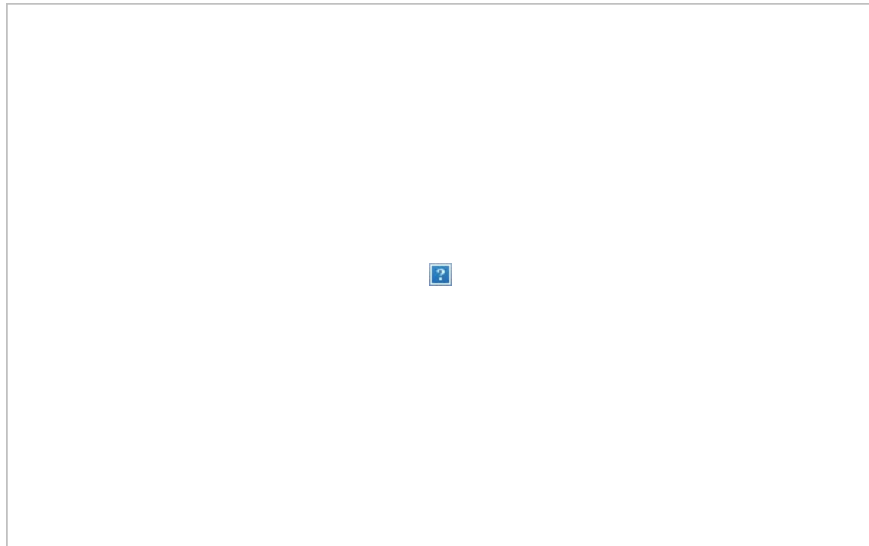


[https://www.facebook.com/photo/?  
fbid=2705212923051402&set=pcb.2705216426384385](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=2705212923051402&set=pcb.2705216426384385)

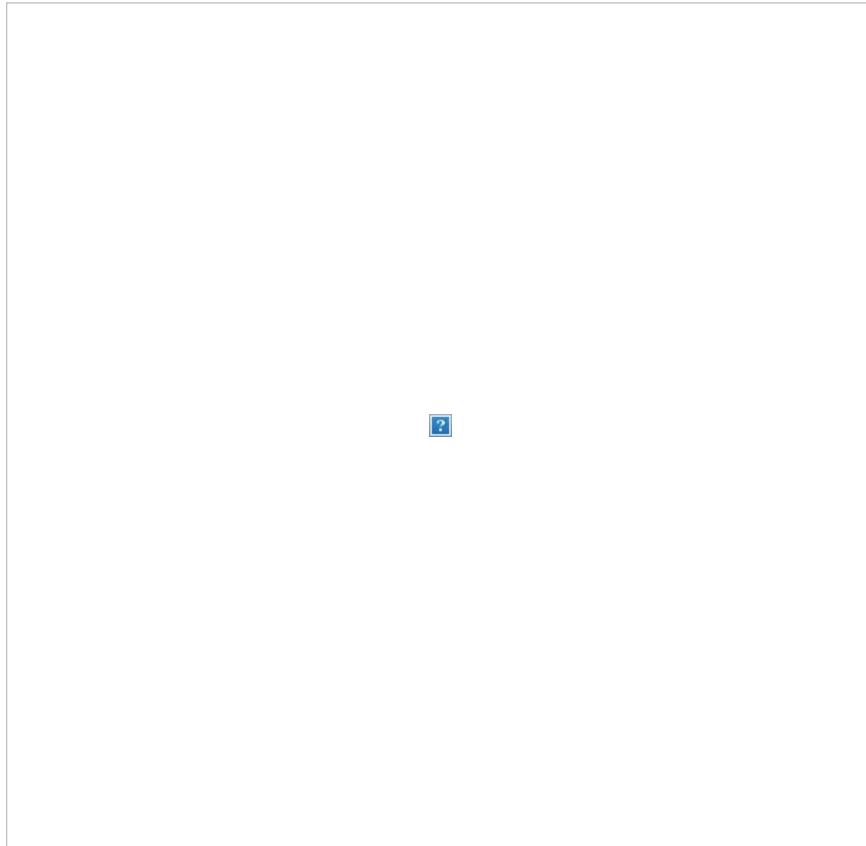


[sipodemos.democrat / thebestthatmoneycantbuy.com](#)

[CalAm I & Desal & Substance Abuse in 2011?](#)

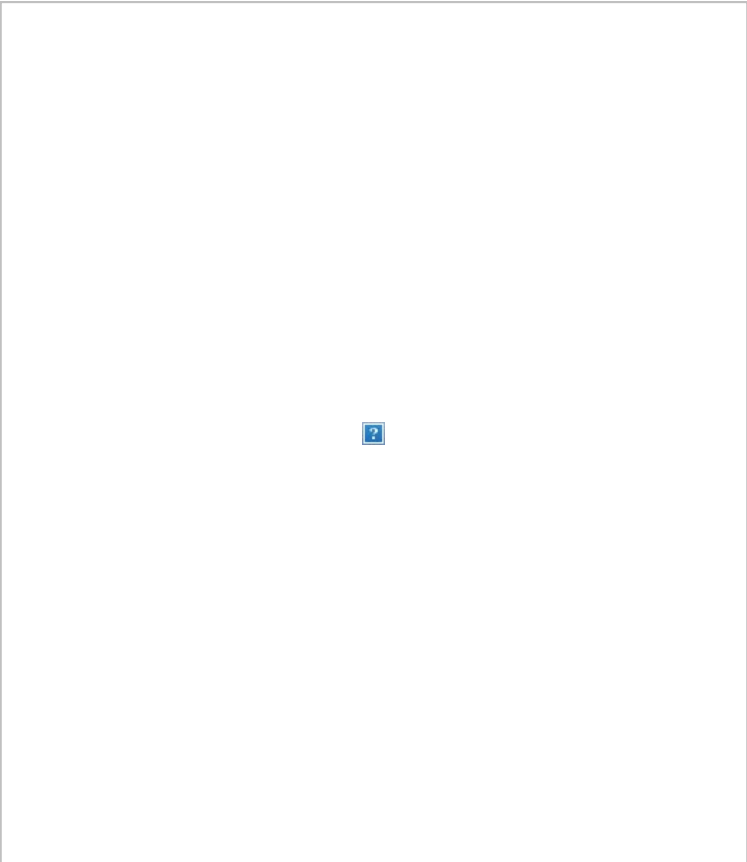
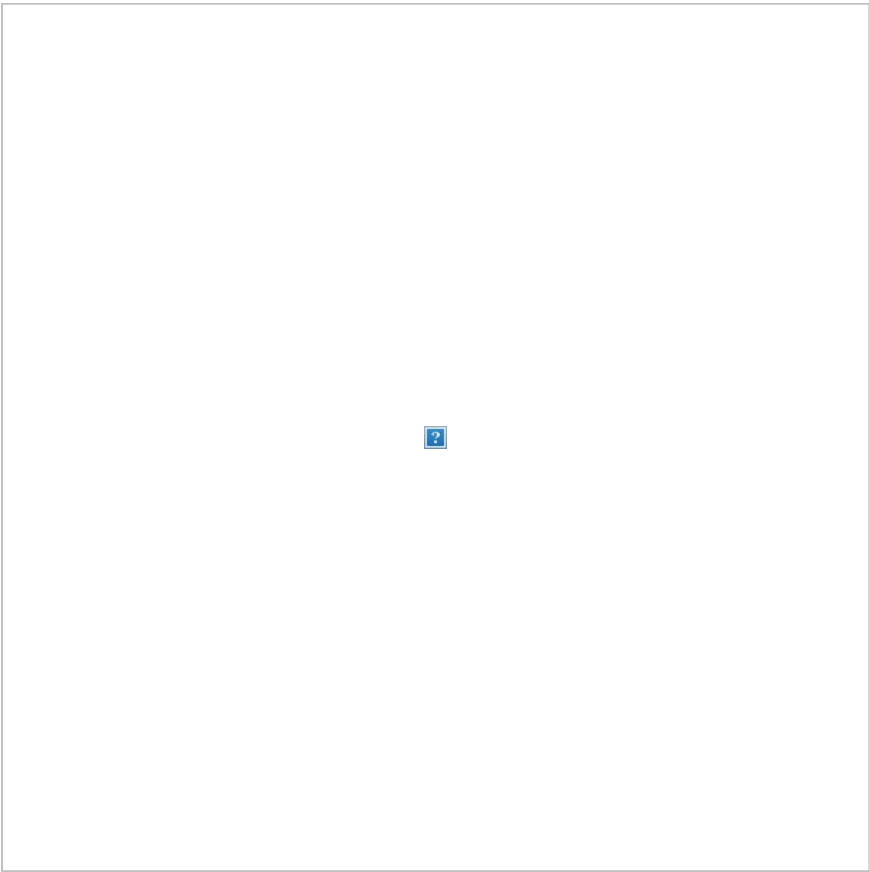


@ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ija6HUdP-eY> & later @

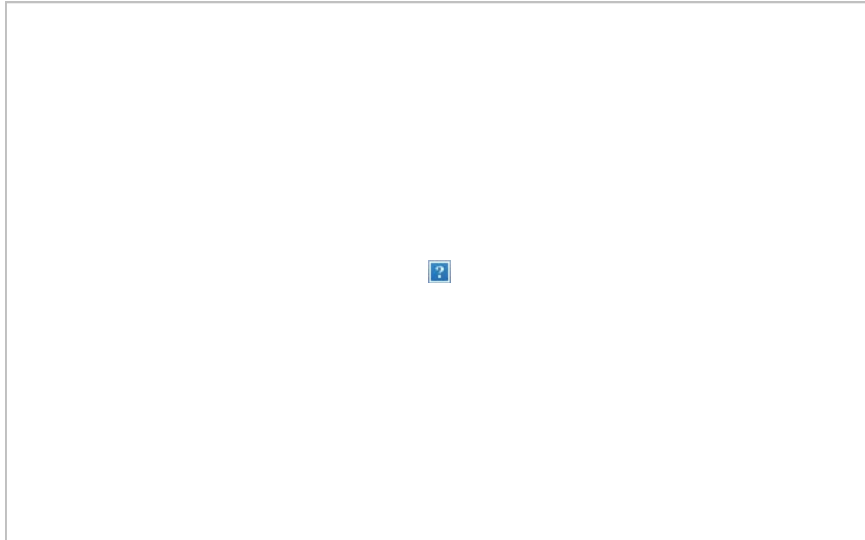


... “Water/Berry (&”Pure Water” Monterey&Soquel) Ponzi Scheme ...

We can’t “print up” any more water”! @ [douglasdeitch.com](http://douglasdeitch.com) & [douglasdeitch.net](http://douglasdeitch.net)



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1424394937630527489>

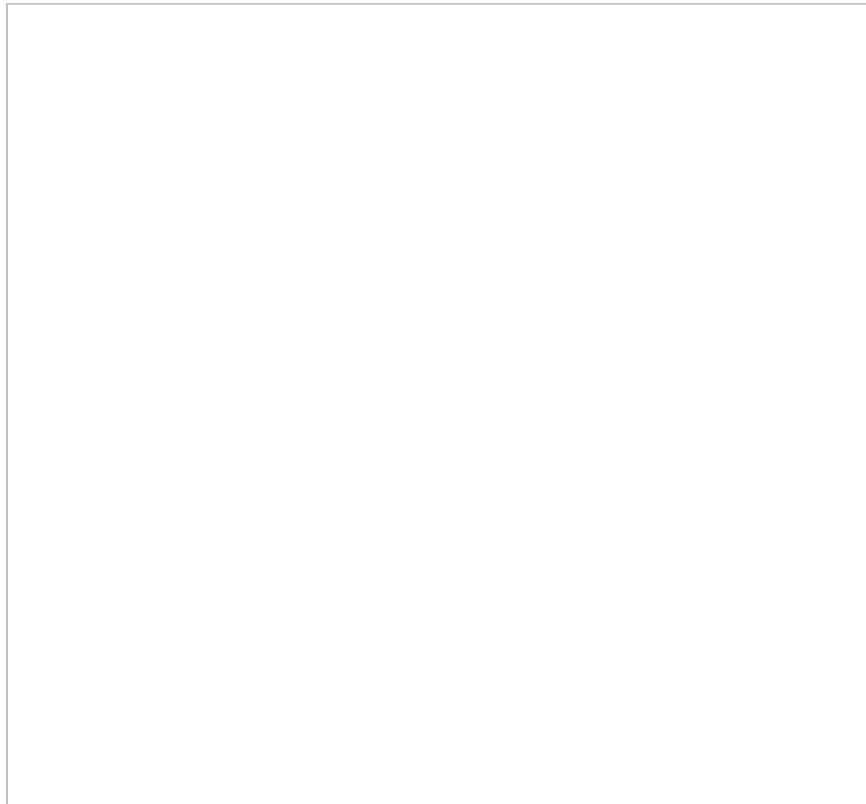


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRld8TH-KEs>  
[begentlewiththeearth.org](http://begentlewiththeearth.org) [begentlewiththeearth.com](http://begentlewiththeearth.com)  
[begentlewiththeearth.net](http://begentlewiththeearth.net) [ourinconvenienttruth.org](http://ourinconvenienttruth.org)  
[ourinconvenienttruth.net](http://ourinconvenienttruth.net) [ourinconvenienttruth.com](http://ourinconvenienttruth.com) ...



<https://www.youtube.com/c/DouglasDeitch>





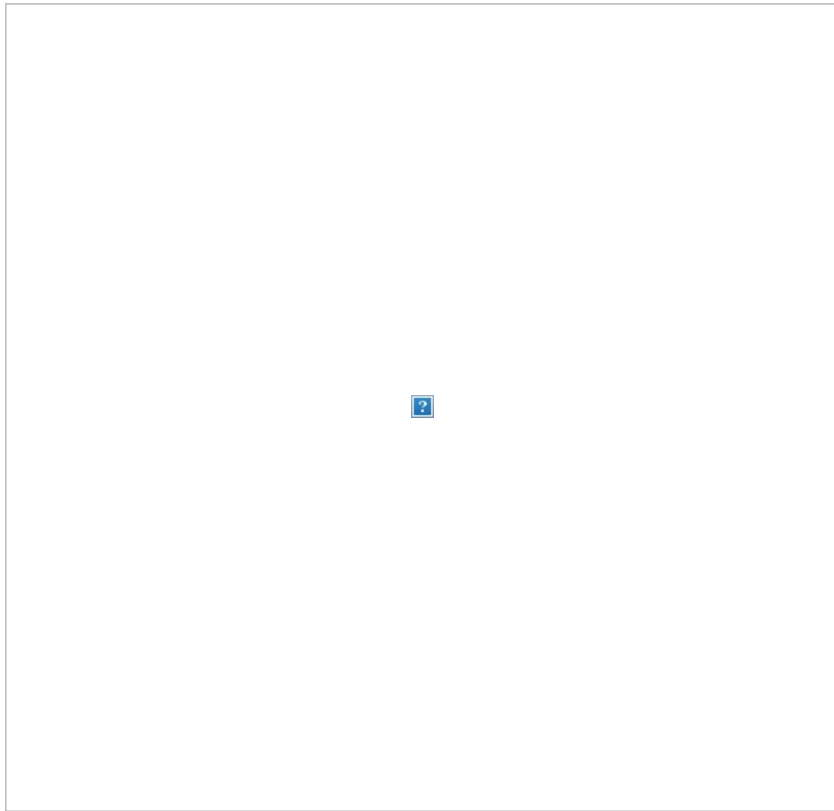
[lawandorderliberal.net](http://lawandorderliberal.net)

**"The mission of the Coastal Commission (CCC) is to: Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations...**

**The CCC, Dr. Lester, and the late Dr. Douglas refused in 2009 and any time thereafter to this moment ... and here's what we here in Santa Cruz and the entire Monterey Bay ended up with instead, as I testified we would in 2010 ...**

**... The entire CCC was "complicit in the greatest environmental catastrophe (ie the tragic and permanent decimation and waste of our local coastal Monterey Bay ground water commons) in the history of the Monterey Bay"**

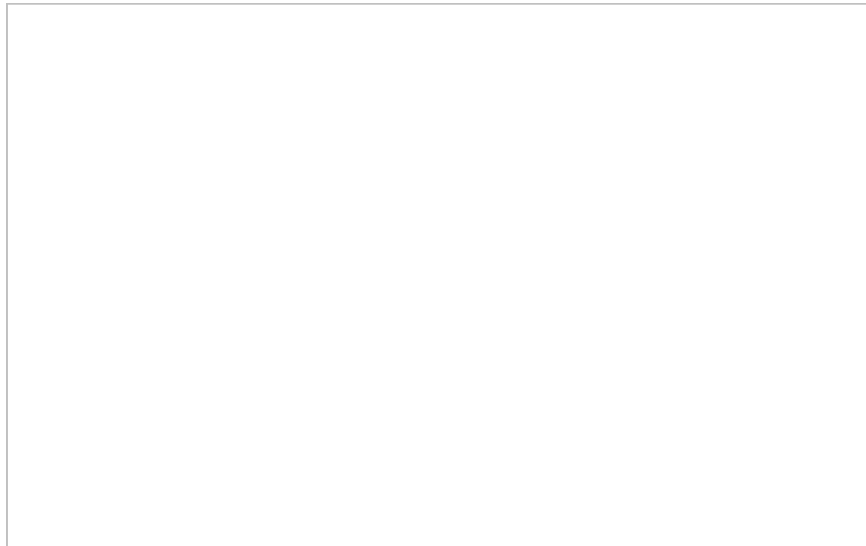
**... ( @ 1:54 "This is a food security problem..." @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccfaXnOF8ss> )**



<https://twitter.com/DouglasDeitch/status/1374672809163550720>



(Doug talks desal w/ MZ & “Dr. Nano” on KSCO 5/19/2012 Sat. Special @  
<http://ksco.com/saturday-special-2/29670-2012-05-19mz-talks-desalination...>



... & “Our Inconvenient Truths” @ [OurInconvenientTruth.com](http://OurInconvenientTruth.com) (2007) ,  
[OurInconvenientTruth.net](http://OurInconvenientTruth.net) (1999) , & [OurInconvenientTruth.org](http://OurInconvenientTruth.org) 2009)

**From:** [Ximena Waissbluth](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** DENY CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 2:21:33 PM

---

Dear CA Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,  
I'm a resident of Pacific Grove and I'm writing to urge you to deny the CalAm desalination project for several reasons:

1- IF we'll need more water than the current projects can or will provide once they are completed it won't be for at least another 20-30 years. By then technology will have evolved to make desal projects more efficient and less environmentally impactful. We have the room to wait, less us please do that.

2- Our water rates are already some of the highest in the country, it's difficult to believe they'll 'only' go up another \$50/month with a \$300 million project that will likely balloon to nearly \$500 million. Astronomical prices going to a private water purveyor, it's unconscionable.

3- The environmental injustice that will be foisted upon the City of Marina and its residents is also unconscionable.

Thank you for your time,  
Ximena Waissbluth



**From:** [bettina274@aol.com](mailto:bettina274@aol.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** DENY CalAM Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 2:20:11 PM

---

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

as a local resident residing in East Garrison CA I am deeply concerned about the Desalination project from CalAm Water.

My family and I moved here to Marina a few years ago because of the nature and to be near the Ocean and enjoy the beautiful scenery along with the abundant marine life. We also have many visitors coming to the area to enjoy the spectacular natural habitat.

If approved, Cal-Am Desalination Project threatens to contaminate and diminish our already limited water supply, destroy environmentally sensitive habitats and block public access for all of us residents along with visitors. We moved here because of the nature and now we are being threatened by CalAm not only harming our environment, but also will threaten our water supply from the Marina Coast Water District. The expansion of the recycled water project from Pure Water Monterey will meet the longterm goals for this area and therefore making CalAm's proposed plant not only completed unnecessary but very harmful to our future here in Marina.

**We urge you to make the right decision for not only our community but for many generations to come and DENY THE CAL AM DESALINATION PROJECT, none of us residents want to have CalAm taking over precious natural resources and damage habitats forever! Please listen to the residents and don't let money and greed take over.**

Respectfully

Bettina Babcock  
15527 Watkins Gate Road  
East Garrison CA 93933

**From:** [Suzanne Taunt](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 2:16:43 PM

---

California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. It is NOT a regional solution.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

Suzanne Taunt  
25987 Rii Vista Dr.  
Carmel, Ca 93923



**From:** [Nancy Selfridge](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 1:07:09 PM

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To whom it may concern,

Please don't allow to get a permit for something that most likely they will never build. They only want to keep charging us ratepayers as much as they possibly can. A desalination plant should be held by public ownership!

Sincerely,

Nancy Selfridge

Former Monterey City Council Member

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [nd\\_wright](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project -Application No 920-0603- Oppose  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 1:00:21 PM

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Just say No to Cal Am!

Nicole Wright  
Seaside

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9+, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

**From:** [Rebecca Bagatelas](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** DENY CalAms Desal Project in Marina  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:52:02 PM

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I oppose CalAm's proposal of building a desalination facility in Marina. The threat of contamination to Marina's water supply w/o Marina benefiting from one drop of water is unacceptable.

The three key local water agencies agree that this desal project is not needed and the threat of environmental damage is real.

Please vote No on CalAm's desal plant in Marina.

Thank you,

Rebecca Bagatelas

**From:** [Eric Fondriest](#)  
**To:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)  
**Subject:** Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:40:23 PM

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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,

Eric Fondriest  
Marina, CA

**From:** [Marjorie Brett](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** desal plant  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:40:04 PM

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No to desal plant. Enough is enough.



**From:** [Wes White](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:38:25 PM

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

My name is Wes White. I am a resident of Seaside, CA. I'm frustrated the buyout hasn't already been completed due to enough LAFCO commissioners choosing to vote to not follow the voter mandate of Measure J which passed in 2018. PUBLIC WATER NOW!

If Desal is to be a project along the Monterey Peninsula, it needs to be publicly owned before it starts. Look to Monterey One Water and the public buyout of CalAm for our water needs as so many residents have continuously spoken in favor of, over CalAm, for environmental and economic needs/reasons.

Please deny the Cal-Am desal project that will harm Marina, the snowy plover, the sensitive ecosystem of Monterey Bay, and customers' pocketbooks.

Thank you,

Wes White  
Community Enthusiast/ Videographer  
(510) 274-9275  
[communityenthusiastwes@gmail.com](mailto:communityenthusiastwes@gmail.com)

**From:** [Susan Morse](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Opposed to Desal  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:13:23 PM

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I am writing to oppose the Desal plant in any form by Cal Am.

Any research on desal approaches and effects will demonstrate that the methods introduce many unresolved questions on the effects of desal on the environment. Here in the Monterey Bay Sanctuary, where many endangered species are receiving some degree of protection, the last thing we need is a desal system which uses chlorine and other toxic ingredients to remove salt from water and then releases that remaining toxic brew of liquid of high concentration salt combined with other chemicals into the ocean, or into the water table.. Yes, the ocean is big, but we know that our bay is an important nursery for delicate ocean creatures, as well as microorganisms essential to the health of the oceans. Please do not experiment on our ocean's health or our water system.

Pure Water Now ( a public effort to solve the water shortage has developed effective and safe means to reuse our water without harming the water table, or the ocean. I ask you to research the pros and cons of desal, and refrain from approval of Cal Am's grab to victimize our community in the name of their profits.

I OPPOSE APPROVAL OF ANY CAL AM DESAL EFFORTS.

Susan Morse

Retired Professor, CSUMB, and administrator, Monterey County Office of Education  
Carmel, CA

*Susan C. Morse*

[smorse21st@gmail.com](mailto:smorse21st@gmail.com)

831 915-8691

**From:** [Katie](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:04:47 PM

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California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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 2050 we will need 943 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

-Katelynn Finnie  
Seaside, California

**From:** [Michael Warburton](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project - Application No. 9-20-0603 - Oppose  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 11:41:59 AM

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Dear CCC,

As a Californian, we are writing to protest the ill-advised California-American Water Company desalination boondoggle coming up for permitting on November 17. Contrary to financially supported commercial and industrial belief, a quasi-judiciary California Trust duty has continuously applied throughout the planning process for this unreasonable and unnecessary development. The reasonableness of the project was never demonstrated by the moving party, it was merely assumed by its paid advocates, and consented to by individual Public Utility Commissioners. Your own Commission has an independent public duty to consider the impacts of your actions on the designated beneficiaries of the California Trust, which has always included future generations of Californians.

To approve a “project” with no demonstrated net public benefits flies in the face of long-established Commission Powers and Duties. Collectively, you have a mandatory duty to deny this project, but have always held the discretionary authority to arrange your votes as politically expedient. We are deeply concerned about how you intend to balance your various obligations, so we feel it might be helpful to share our legal impression of our situation.

Thanks for your attention,  
Michael Warburton  
Executive Director  
Public Trust Alliance  
A Project of The Resource Renewal Institute



**From:** [Linda Szkoropad](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please...regarding your project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 11:31:22 AM

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To Whom it may concern,

Please do not go ahead with the de-sal project. This will certainly make our water bill go up, many of us are seniors and already pay a fortune for water in Marina. Please protect our coast and snowy plovers and leave our beautiful Marina the way it was meant to be.

Thank you for reading this,

Linda and Bo Szkoropad  
Seniors who live in Marina

**From:** [Mary Jane Dziedzic](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Oppose Desal  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 11:28:53 AM

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Please, stop your worst case scenario .

Review the Monterey Peninsula Water Management and Marina Coast Water Districts' supply and demand reports!

Expansion of Pure Water Monterey is an excellent choice.

Save Marina's beach from environmental damage, and it's citizens from green house gas.

Forget the governor's comments. It was an easy solution for him. Don't fall into the same trap. Put people and the environment first. We're good for 30 years with Pure Water Monterey Expansion.

One step at a time.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Dziedzic, Cal Am customer

Pebble Beach, CA

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Cheryl DeGier](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 11:27:36 AM

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To: CalAm coastal Commisioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff:

From: Cheryl & Joe deGier

My husband and I live have lived in Marina for the past six years. We relocated from San Jose to be near our pristine and beautiful coastline, which you are required to protect.

I am writing to you to ask that you deny the Cal Am Slant Well Project.

Cal Am has no water rights in Marina. Marina residents will have no benefit from this project, but all the harm. Pure Water Monterey will meet the long-term needs of the Peninsula and make Cal-Am's project unnecessary! Please don't take our coast which we will finally be able to use for open space recreation and species habitat now that the Cemex property will be gone. The Agreement with Cemex was that the property would be restored.

Why should Marina have all the industrial facilities? We have the region's sewage plant, garbage landfill, and contaminated former military sites. Please don't allow another industrial plant, which will damage Marina's our natural habitat, but serve all the wealthier communities on the Peninsula?

This is environmental injustice and social injustice. Please do not let money or political power or influence take away your sense of duty to the citizens of Marina and to our coastline. We do not need Cal-Am!

Please perform your duty to protect the coast. **DENY THE CAL-AM DESAL PLANT PROJECT.**

Cheryl deGier

**From:** [mwchrislock@redshift.com](mailto:mwchrislock@redshift.com)  
**To:** [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](mailto:Brownsey_Donne@Coastal)  
**Cc:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal); [Schwartz, Noaki@Coastal](mailto:Schwartz_Noaki@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Please allow our public agencies adequate time  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 11:03:59 AM  
**Importance:** High

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Chair Brownsey,

I just received the Special Hearing Procedures for November 17. I believe there is an oversight here.

We have three public water agencies, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Marina Coast Water District and Monterey One Water, involved in our current and future water supply planning with Cal Am. They have been allotted only 4 minutes each. They cannot possibly present the facts commissioners need to hear to make an informed decision in that time. Their information is key to understanding if there is a need for this desal plant or not. They have worked tirelessly to solve our water issues. Why are they being given so little time?

Please consider modifying the hearing procedures to allow 10 minutes instead of 4 minutes for each of these three public agencies. That will add 18 minutes to the day. Since their Water Supply and Demand Reports were omitted from the staff report, this 18 minutes is critical to a unbiased hearing on this matter. The commissioners need to hear from these water experts. Please give them the time to inform the Commission and counter the misinformation Cal Am has submitted.

In the interest of a fair and unbiased hearing,

Melodie Chrislock

Melodie Chrislock  
Managing Director  
**PUBLIC WATER NOW**  
<http://www.publicwaternow.org>  
[mwchrislock@redshift.com](mailto:mwchrislock@redshift.com)  
831 624-2282



**From:** [vincent Alfait](mailto:vincent.Alfait@calamonterey.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 10:39:21 AM

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Dear California Coastal Commission Members,

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a more than feasible alternative for the community's present and foreseeable future (30 years) water needs.

The Coastal Commission staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management nor the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. Please review these reports thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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 2050 we will need 943 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.

Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project? Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Vincent Onorato Alfait (Resident of Pacific Grove)

**From:** [herman.stiphout](mailto:herman.stiphout)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Desalination plant  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 10:14:43 AM

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To whom it may concern.

We, my family and I, herewith want to express our strenuous opposition to the construction of a desalination plant in the Marina area.

Although we understand that something needs to be done to secure general water supply, the way this project is structured is definitely not the way it needs to be done.

The project, as structured, is a typical "Rob Peter to pay Paul" effort whereby the citizens of Marina are "robbed" of their water to supply others, and to add insult to injury, are not even offered adequate compensation.

In addition, it substantially increases the risk of Marina's groundwater to become more prone to intrusion of salt water from the ocean, which will create a future problem for our city

Respectfully,

Herman and Marijke Stiphout

**From:** [Jim Campbell](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Comments on Cal am desalination plant application to coastal commission  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 10:09:02 AM

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Ladies/gentlemen of the California Coastal Commission,

Please vote no for the CalAm desalination plant application being reviewed at your next meeting. CalAm has made it clear over the past decade or more that all of their business moves are geared towards making more money not providing the most cost effective water. Yes, they have provided water to the residences but at one of the highest costs in the nation for no good reason.

From what I read, their application does not address the environmental degradation to their proposed coastal site, the degradation of the water supply for the marina coast water district and they have not justified their extremely high cost water that would be produced compared to the water already being produced by the Water recycle plant. Their lack of cooperation with the water recycle plant is further evidence that they are not working with our community. Our community has voted to buy them out and all of their recent moves seem to be an effort to do nothing more than fleece the local population for as much as they can for as long as they can.

Tell them "NO" please.

Sincerely,

Jim Campbell

Customer in Carmel and Carmel Valley

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Patricia Marshall](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Opposed  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 9:53:42 AM

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As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. I urge you to review - thoroughly - the Monterey Peninsula Water Management and the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. They must not be ignored.

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

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. This is alarming. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our already extremely high Cal Am water bills.

I also oppose the siting of these desal slant wells in Marina, a neighboring water district which risks the environmental damage to its beaches and its aquifer from more seawater intrusion.

Please vote to deny Cal Am's coastal development permit for this desal project and instead proceed to pursue the Pure Water Monterey Expansion alternative.

Thank you. Patricia Marshall, Pacific Grove CA



**From:** [Dije Ndreu](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Don't approve Cal-Am's proposed desal plant permit  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 9:38:29 AM

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Please do not approve Cal-Am's proposed desal plant permit. With the Pure Water Monterey Expansion, this much more expensive, environmentally harmful desal plant is not needed.

As a Monterey Peninsula water customer, I already pay some of the highest water bills in the state and even country. If this desal plant is approved, Cal-Am, a private corporation, will pass the huge cost to its customers, which would raise our bills even more, increasing them by as much as 70%.

And the desal plant will add millions of gallons of harmful brine to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary every day and emit huge amounts of greenhouse gases.

You may get arguments that this desal plant is needed to fix problems with housing and school enrollment. While the Monterey peninsula has had a water shortage for decades, the Pure Water Monterey Expansion will solve this problem. The desal plant is not needed and will not solve this area's housing issues. And there are many reasons why the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District enrollment has declined over the years — it's not because of a lack of water leading to a lack of housing. It's much more complicated than that— the number of students declined significantly when Fort Ord was closed, and many families who start out in MPUSD boundaries move to other districts or send their kids to private school because of a perceived lack of quality; this is much more prevalent than families moving out of the area because they can't afford housing. Building more housing won't fix this. And the housing crisis can't be solved by water alone.

Sincerely,

Ms. Dije Ndreu, Esq.  
Monterey

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [jpt1060@gmail.com](mailto:jpt1060@gmail.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny Calam Desalination Project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 9:11:16 AM

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

As residents of Marina, California, we ask that you please DENY CalAm's Desalination Project.

Let's keep the California Coastline a beauty to be shared for generations and our watershed safe.

Sincerely,

Philip & Jean Taluban

**From:** [PAM ROLPH](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** opposition to desalination project  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 8:35:20 AM

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I am a retired, fixed-income Pacific Grove property owner. My homeowners' association is already paying CalAm a \$10,000 surcharge for water, despite our owners using multiple conservation methods to reduce water use. American Water Company, CalAm's parent, is a private company, whose ultimate corporate parent is overseas: In January 2003, **the German utility company RWE acquired the company for \$8.6 billion and renamed it American Water.** Why are we even thinking of a multi-million dollar desalination project that will enrich a non-US company, and not help provide local control of a local source for water??

We anticipate 11,468 acre-feet of available water supply in two years, from the expansion of the existing Pure Water Supply Project--I understand the Peninsula only currently uses 9,725 acre-feet a year. Before you saddle us with a multi-million dollar desalination plant, you should get \*proof\* that the Pure Water Project will not deliver the anticipated 11,468 acre-feet of available water supply in two years, which would more than meet our needs.

In addition to the multi-million dollar cost of the desalination facility, its construction and use risks significant environmental damage to the City of Marina. See details at <https://www.cityofmarina.org/935/Cal-Ams-Desal-Raises-Critical-Concerns-f>.

Please do not go forward with the desalination plant at this time; we have a Pure Water Supply Project that will more than meet our needs without a huge cost and environmental problems.

Pam Rolph  
1001 Brentwood Ct.  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

In January 2003, **the German utility company RWE acquired the company for \$8.6 billion and renamed it American Water.**

**From:** [Suzanne Taunt](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Water  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 8:12:54 AM

---

Nov. 11, 2022

To whom it may concern:

PLEASE do NOT approve the CalAm Desal project. Cal Am does not operate for the benefit of their customers....only their bottom line.

Respectfully,

Suzanne Taunt

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [studyofme@yahoo.com](mailto:studyofme@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny Cal-am Desalination Project in Marina!  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 7:24:01 AM

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Dear CA coastal commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff,

I was born in 1980 at the Silas B Hayes hospital in Fort Ord and have lived here in Marina my entire life. My parents bought their home back in 1972 before Marina became incorporated. My father was Puerto Rican and served in the army for 30 years after being drafted to fight in Korea. My mother is German and from what he used to say, she was the driving force to settle in Marina.

Currently, I work full time in a library serving the public.

I am asking you to not approve this CalAm Desalination project in Marina. It would not serve our residents and may cause harm to our water which would in turn harm my little city and our community. I know we are small with only 22,000 diverse residents, many who are former soldiers or the children of former soldiers, and many others that do hard work supporting the rest of the peninsula in jobs considered to be menial.

But please deny the CalAm Slant well project.

Thank you,

Nina Martínez

**From:** [Ronald San Chirico](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Desal  
**Date:** Friday, November 11, 2022 12:08:01 AM

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Please do not pass the desal project by Cal Am on central coast of California.  
Thank you,  
Ronald F SanChirico  
Carmel, Ca

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kim H](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please deny the Coastal Development Permit for the Proposed Desal Plant- the Costs are Too High!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:31:32 PM

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California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. We understand that the staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has already 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 2050 we will need 943 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 \$7,000 an acre-foot. The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

We can also not afford the environmental impacts with the siting of these desal slant wells in a neighboring water district and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. 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. Also where would the resulting salt go and how would the chemicals necessary for the process be disposed?

The significant power this plant would consume and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions produced add to the extreme costs of the proposed desal project. We can't afford the great impacts on our climate and environment nor can we as a community or a household afford the financial costs.

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

Respectfully submitted by,  
Kimberle Herring, a 38 year resident of Monterey

**From:** [Mark Bramman](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** California American Water application for Desalination Facility  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:26:15 PM

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We no longer need desalination for our water supply needs.  
Please deny the permit for construction of a desalination plant to serve  
the Monterey peninsula.  
Thank you.

Mark Bramman  
940 Via Verde  
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940



**From:** [Erin Ramirez](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:37:58 PM

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

My name is Dr. Erin Ramirez and I am a resident of Marina and a professor at CSUMB. I moved here in 2016 and have come to love and appreciate the natural beauty of Marina and it's surrounding areas. I've also come to learn that for-profit Cal-Am will stop at NOTHING to make money; all while robbing the earth of its most natural resource, water.

I vehemently oppose the Cal-Am Desalination project and strongly urge you to deny the request by the corporate thieves at Cal-Am. Keep Marina and it's water beautiful and unharmed and deny Cal-Am their request to steal our water with this hideous proposal.

Please don't give in to corporate greed, we will pay much more than what they are offering us, and the environmental impact will be devastating to this area. Do what you know is right, stand up for the citizens of Marina and say no to Cal-Am and their abusive ways.

Thank you for your time.

Best,  
Erin Ramirez

--

Erin M. Ramirez, PhD (she/her)  
Associate Professor  
Director Project POPPY  
CTEPP Improvement Coach  
Department of Education and Leadership  
California State University Monterey Bay  
831-582-5087

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you" --  
RBG

"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."--T.S. Eliot

**From:** [Natalie Kaufman](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Do not permit to build desal.  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:22:05 PM

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Hello there,

Dear members of the Coastal Commission,

**Please Do not give permission to build Cal Am's diesel plant.** If you do, we'll all be on the hook for a \$426 million project we don't need. And our water bill will increase by 50% or more. I am sure you know even better than I do that there are better alternatives to address our water supply here in California.

I rely on your wisdom and competence. And Californians will be very grateful for your right decision!

Thank you for taking into account my humble but candid opinion.

Sincerely,  
Natalie Kaufman  
Phone # 831-293-9471

**From:** [Margaret Davis](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Do not let CAL-AM to destroy Marina's water  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:01:31 PM

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CAL-AM's arrogant intrusion into Marina's water supply is outrageous and completely needless.

Please use the authority invested in you to stop this travesty.

Respectfully,

Margaret Davis  
Marina, California

**From:** [Professor John Romel Uy](mailto:Professor.John.Romel.Uy)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:59:39 PM

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California Coastal Commission: As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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 2050 we will need 943 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project? Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills. 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,  
The Uy and Douglass Families  
916 Portola Dr  
Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940



**From:** [ingramgp](mailto:ingramgp)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Support for MPWSP Application:  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:42:47 PM

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To: Commissioners, California Coastal Commission  
455 Market Street, Suite 228  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Date: November 10, 2022 Via Email

RE: Support for Issuance of MPWSP Permit and Upholding/Supporting of Appeal  
Application 9-20-0603/Appeal A-3-MRA-19-0034

Dear Commissioners:

The only water resource with the ability to provide a truly SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION for this region is desal. All other projects are important components, however they are stop-gaps that are neither fully sustainable nor a sustainable solution.

Desal is the only project that actually provides the longer term solutions to protect our environment, address provision of housing at all cost levels, can help sustain a healthy regional economy, and has the ability to stop seawater intrusion in the entire county.

Ratepayers will pay costs for all projects regardless of types provided/implemented, including desal now or at some future date and in some future crisis.

A sustainable solution really is that simple. All other issues are political and/or decisions yet to be determined.

Please issue the Coastal Development desal permit and support/uphold the appeal.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Candace Ingram*

Candace Ingram  
441 Gibson Avenue  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

**From:** [Kasey Butler](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:41:53 PM

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Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. It is NOT a regional solution.

The Pure Water Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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,  
Kasey Butler  
Seaside, California

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"To forget how to dig the earth and tend the soil is to forget ourselves." - Mahatma Gandhi

From: [Larry Parrish](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Subject: CAW Desal?  
Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022 8:31:58 PM

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Dear Commissioners :

The latest I hear about the MPWSP by Cal\_Am is that the existing and working public agency called Monterey One, or Pure Water Monterey is not a feasible alternative. Are you serious? It's already delivering water to local residents, and the expansion will add a lot more fresh water to the supply - enough for 20-30 years. And how much new water is/has Cal-Am delivered to the mix? How about ZERO. In fact, since the State Water Board ordered Cal-Am to stop pumping so much water from the Carmel River, they have not delivered any new water from any project on their own. NONE! In fact, CAW has either opposed, or not initially supported ANY and EVERY project by the MPWMD or any other entity, other than their own failed misguided projects. And the truth is, they have manipulated the **supply & demand game** so cleverly (albeit dishonestly) that we, the ratepayers have been saddled with the highest water bills in the country.

You have read the email and letters from the public, and to tell it like it is, the only project that isn't feasible, is the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. To approve such a mindless debacle wouldn't necessarily be criminal, but it would be the most inept decision I have ever witnessed. I don't think you're that crazy, or lacking in smarts. Are you?

So, please do not approve this obvious boondoggle of a project.

Under any conditions.

Thank you,  
Larry Parrish  
Carmel Valley

**From:** [wayne kelly](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Opposing Cal Am Desal in Monterey  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 7:42:12 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

Please take a minute to read my email.

I grew up in Monterey County, and lived here for most of my life. My family has multiple generations of Kelly's here in Monterey, and we are very active in the community.

Since the early 1980's, I have followed Cal Ams exploits in Monterey closely. There have been many failed projects (including Desal) that have cost us ridiculous amounts of money.

Cal Am is known for failed promises, and selfish actions that don't represent the best interest of ratepayers or the community.

I'm not going to get into details, but Cal Am has no business pushing their expensive, unwanted Desal plant on us ratepayers. It has been proven that we will have enough water for at least 25+ years.

Most suspect is that the Monterey Water District doesn't want Cal Am Desal either! How can a company with selfish interests push their will on a government agency, representing the public?

It is ridiculous!

**WE DONT WANT DESAL!!!**

It doesn't make sense right now as we have a solution already. We also currently have the most expensive water in the United States! We don't need to get hosed by Cal Am any more.

Constituents within Cal Ams service area have already voted to BUYOUT Cal Am. It has already been decided. Cal Am is on the way out!

Why would we want Cal Am to build us a Desal Plant now, when we are breaking up with them? We don't want to be entrapped by Cal Am with their unwanted, not needed and controversial Desal Plant. This is entrapment.

The Desal Plant should not be built in the sand dunes of a sanctuary, potentially threatening the water table with experimental well drilling. It's not necessary right now.

We should not be building anything on the coast that is not absolutely needed. Respect the Snowy Plovers and Monterey Bay sanctuary!

Cal Ams actual goal is to entangle us in their Desal web. That's all they have. Please do not empower that. It is wrong.

Monterey Water District is perfectly capable of building us a Desal Plant if we need one down



the road. The technology will undoubtedly improve.

Currently, the Monterey Water District absolutely SAVED US from drawing too much water from the Carmel River (violating the cease and desist) by building the Monterey One recycle plant!

The Monterey Water District folks are heros!

Cal Am completely failed us on cutting down our use of the Carmel River. Why pass the abuse of one habitat on to another in the dunes of Marina. That's not cool!

To top the tank... Cal Am fought the Pure Water/ Monterey One recycle project at every turn. Even though it saved us from the Carmel Desist Order! They even fought the recent expansion!

That is not acting in the best interest of our local resources, the water district, or my family.

Please act in the best interest of Monterey citizens, and not in the special interest of Cal Am.

Thank you for your time!  
Wayne Kelly

**From:** [Carole Dawson](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Permit Application for Proposed Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 7:31:38 PM

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Dear Coastal Commissioners,

We urge you to vote "no" on California-American Water's proposal for a \$426 million desalination plant. This project is overly expensive to build, expensive to maintain and completely unnecessary. Adequate water supply can be obtained with a combination of Aquifer Storage and Recovery and Pure Water Monterey's water recycling. The project would put an undue financial burden on Cal-Am ratepayers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carole and Michael Dawson  
Monterey

**From:** [Sierra Hampton-Eng](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Desal Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 6:08:44 PM

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California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. It is NOT a regional solution.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

Sierra Hampton-Eng, Carmel





**From:** [David Dickins](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Re: Desal vs. PWM  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 5:07:42 PM

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I am strongly opposed to Cal Am receiving approval to proceed with a hugely expensive desalination plant when expanding Pure Water Monterey represents a much more economical and sustainable alternative that will meet the Peninsula's water needs well into the future. We cannot handle any significant increase in our existing (already sky high) water bills.

Mark me as a NO!

Heather Johnston  
306 Belladera Court  
Monterey, CA 93940  
Cell 858 344-9291

**From:** [David Dickins](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Desal vs. PWM  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 5:06:40 PM

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I am strongly opposed to Cal Am receiving approval to proceed with a hugely expensive desalination plant when expanding Pure Water Monterey represents a much more economical and sustainable alternative that will meet the Peninsula's water needs well into the future. We cannot handle any significant increase in our existing (already sky high) water bills.

Mark me as a NO!

David Dickins  
306 Belladera Court  
Monterey, CA 93940  
Cell 858 431-6064

**From:** [tinainmarina@redshift.com](mailto:tinainmarina@redshift.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Oppose Cal Am Slant Well proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:55:21 PM

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

My name is Tina Walsh and I am a senior citizen living in Marina, CA on a fixed income. I am a life-long resident of the coastal areas around Monterey Bay and have volunteered time planting natives on the dunes in Marina.

I oppose Cal Am's desal project for its harms to ESHA and environmental injustice to Marina citizens.

The Pure Water Monterey portion of the MPWSP has been providing water for over two years now, and it has already allowed Cal Am to stop over drafting the Carmel River.

There are other desal projects that have been brought forward that do not require being sited on protected ESHA. The Cal Am desal proposal that is the subject of this meeting should not be considered as the only option for future water supplies.

Additionally, 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.

Tina Walsh  
Marina, CA

**From:** [magaly](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Reject Cal-Am desalination project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:41:49 PM

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## Autumnal Wreath



**Dear CA Coastal Commissioners;**

**My name is Magaly Falberg and my husband and I have been living in Marina, CA for 4 years. We feel so lucky to be living in such an awesome place. We love walking on the beach, taking photos, watching the sea life and the snowy plover.**

**I'm concerned the desalination project proposed by Cal-Am will harm Marina's coastal environment and water supply, and Marina residents will not benefit from it. If this project is approved it will only benefit Monterey and Carmel residents, and we get stuck with hideous concrete structures that takes away the beauty of Marina.**



This desal project is unnecessary because Pure Water Monterey's recycling project should serve Peninsula water needs for years to come.

I ask the coastal commissioners to deny approval to Cal-Am for this desalination project. Marina should not be used as a dumping ground for the benefit of Carmel and Monterey—our families, friends and tourists deserve to have a beautiful place to enjoy, too. Why have Monterey and Carmel be the only destinations on Monterey Bay? I would like Marina to also be a destination city, and this desalination project makes it less likely. This is a Cinderella story, and we truly need a happy ending!

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

*Have a sunshine day.*  
*Cheers,*  
*Magaly Falberg*

Autumnal Wreath



Yahoo Mail Stationery

**From:** [John Rowe](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** CAL AM Desalination  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:41:21 PM

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To whom It concerns:

I extremely object to Cal Am going forward with any kind of desalination plant. This is not in the interest of the public which at this time is already extremely over charged for water. Cal Am is already getting 45 million dollars for water that they never delivered. I understand this was approved by your commission, to pay bonus money to the upper board members of this company. Cal Am, if granted any approvals for more water of any kind, would only use the sale of this water to the public to pad their pockets even greater than they are already padded. This is not a company that cares about the public or people at all. They only care how much they can over charge the public. When talking to any one, they are referred to as one of the most terrible water companies known to be in existence. Please deny any and all consideration for a desal plant for this company. Thank You for your consideration in this matter, John Rowe

John And Pamela Rowe

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [langmeadlarry@gmail.com](mailto:langmeadlarry@gmail.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:28:57 PM

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

My name is Larry Langmead; I am a resident of The Dunes on Monterey Bay. My wife, Sharon, and I bought our forever retirement home in December of 2019. After working for several decades in the Silicon Valley/South San Francisco Bay Area, we moved to our beloved Central Coast in May of 2020 during the state mandated Covid Shelter in Place. I had already retired from Lockheed Martin and Sharon was a semi-retired Ambulatory Surgery Center PACU Registered Nurse. We were joined by our two adult daughters who were forced to continue their educational endeavors online during the pandemic.

Our daughters thrived in the coastal environment and developed a strong affinity for the local flora and fauna. With the reopening of Cal State Campuses, our younger daughter graduated from Cabrillo College in May 2022 and joined her older sister at CSU East Bay in Hayward. They now consider Marina their home and continue to be greatly concerned for the fragility of the endangered species and threatened coastline in this community. We have all watched as the Cemex plant was successfully closed with promises of preserving local coastal access and protecting the threatened dunes habitats of endangered species such as the Snowy Plover.

The proposed CalAm Desalination Plant in Marina should be denied on several grounds. This is a case of a private company coming in to make money providing water that is not needed or wanted by the people of the region. As a retired structural engineer I'm concerned that the plant isn't drawing most of its water from under the ocean, but from under the land. This will degrade the local aquifer from which Marina draws its water to provide water to communities miles away. If there really was a need for water in Monterey and Carmel then a plant should be built in Monterey and Carmel, not in one of the poorer areas of the county. The local utilities have shown, however, that the water is not needed. Their plans for water reclamation will meet the needs of Monterey communities for decades to come. Even the communities that are expected to get the water don't want it. It's too expensive. CalAm has cherry picked and adjusted the water demand numbers to make it appear that their water is needed. It's not.

The project will also harm our beaches. This is especially egregious since there is already an agreement in place to return the land of the concrete plant to its nature state.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina while denying our community benefit.

Thank you,

Larry and Sharon Langmead  
City of Marina Residents  
[langmeadlarry@gmail.com](mailto:langmeadlarry@gmail.com)  
408-859-7010

“Keep the company of those who seek the truth,  
run from those who have found it.”

Vaclav Havel, the last president of Czechoslovakia



**From:** [Ainsworth, John@Coastal](mailto:Ainsworth_John@Coastal)  
**To:** [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:15:54 PM

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**From:** Bill Peake <bpeake@cityofpacificgrove.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** Brownsey, Donne@Coastal <donne.brownsey@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** CalAmMonterey@coastal <CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov>; Ainsworth, John@Coastal <John.Ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603

Chair Donne Brownsey and Members of the California Coastal Commission  
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105

*Reference:* Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Chair Brownsey and Commissioners:

Senator John Laird described Monterey Peninsula water in an editorial ‘Clock is ticking on our water problem’. He concludes “working together toward a larger framework is the only way out. It also means not everyone might get 100% of what they want, but each stakeholder can get much of what they need”. I couldn’t agree more.

In addition to local stakeholders, state agencies should also work together. Ultimately, regulation of Monterey Peninsula (& Bay) water supply and demand rests with state agencies, e.g., Coastal Commission, Public Utilities Commission, Water Resources Control Board and Housing and Community Development.

Agreement among state regulators to balance water supply with demand can prevent future conflicts and inaction. Consider housing, for example. Do state housing mandates make sense if the state blocks the necessary water supply? Cooperative state agency decisions can help chart a reasonable path forward.

I know you are considering water supply over the long-term. Water for housing is also a long-term issue.

To guarantee a diversified long-term supply is prudent. Therefore, a component of our supply should be independent of rainfall. Recycling and aquifer storage should be implemented to their fullest potential, but they depend on rainfall. Desalination provides a drought resistant water supply. For our water security, it makes sense to create a path forward for desalination.

Very truly yours,

Bill Peake, Mayor Pacific Grove

**From:** [Riley Lowell](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Stop Cal-Am Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:13:53 PM

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

My name is Riley Lowell; I am a resident of Marina. I am an Ethnic and Gender Studies Student at CSUMB and therefore I feel strongly about protecting our beaches from being taken over by big industrial facilities, especially if there will be no benefits to the citizens of Marina. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

-Riley Lowell

**From:** [Bill Peake](#)  
**To:** [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](#)  
**Cc:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](#); [Ainsworth, John@Coastal](#)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 4:00:42 PM

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Chair Donne Brownsey and Members of the California Coastal Commission  
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105

*Reference:* Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603

Dear Chair Brownsey and Commissioners:

Senator John Laird described Monterey Peninsula water in an editorial ‘Clock is ticking on our water problem’. He concludes “working together toward a larger framework is the only way out. It also means not everyone might get 100% of what they want, but each stakeholder can get much of what they need”. I couldn’t agree more.

In addition to local stakeholders, state agencies should also work together. Ultimately, regulation of Monterey Peninsula (& Bay) water supply and demand rests with state agencies, e.g., Coastal Commission, Public Utilities Commission, Water Resources Control Board and Housing and Community Development.

Agreement among state regulators to balance water supply with demand can prevent future conflicts and inaction. Consider housing, for example. Do state housing mandates make sense if the state blocks the necessary water supply? Cooperative state agency decisions can help chart a reasonable path forward.

I know you are considering water supply over the long-term. Water for housing is also a long-term issue.

To guarantee a diversified long-term supply is prudent. Therefore, a component of our supply should be independent of rainfall. Recycling and aquifer storage should be implemented to their fullest potential, but they depend on rainfall. Desalination provides a drought resistant water supply. For our water security, it makes sense to create a path forward for desalination.

Very truly yours,

Bill Peake, Mayor Pacific Grove

**From:** [mike.moeller](mailto:mike.moeller@calamonterey.coastal)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Michael Moeller Subject: Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:55:03 PM

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Dear California Coastal Commisioners,  
Executive John Ainsworth and staff:

My name is Michael Moeller and I recently moved to Marina.

Marina has often been the lesser known part of the Monterey coast due to its lack of landmarks attracting tourism like the southern cities are blessed with. We are a quiet working class bedroom community.

What we are known for is the former Fort Ord military base the has an EPA designation as a Superfund Site due to the contamination they left behind. We received a generous portion of the decommissioned property including the city dump. Lucky Us.

We are also known for the CEMEX sand mining company. You're well aware that site had eroded our coastline for 100 years. The damage has spread to our humble Marina State Beach threatening its future as well, rapidly eating away at our only real beach access.

In 2017, you made a landmark decision to close CEMEX. We, as a community, had hoped to begin the repair of that site as promised in the agreement and preserve the area.

Its baffling why the Coastal Commision, who is "**...committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations**" would now approve a power grid taxing desalination plant on that site to serve our wealthier neighbors.

There is nothing for us but likely damage to our own water system, the difficulty in achieving our plans to restore the site and another factory sure to expand and blight our shores.

This is another example of a multi billion dollar corporation taking the path of least resistance rather than take on their own NIMBY customers. This is THEIR water.

This decision doesnt fit your mission statement. What changed?

You denied the permit before. Again, what changed?

The city or Marina has worked hard to improve its disadvantaged community despite its many undesirable surroundings.

I urge you to look closer at this unjust decision and protect the shores of Marina and those who call home.

Stand up to Cal Am. WE NEED YOU!

Sincerley,  
Michael Moeller



**From:** [Scott Brown](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:48:32 PM

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California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion *is* a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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 2050 we will need 943 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

Scott Brown Seaside, Ca 93955

**From:** [Mary Wilson](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** please deny  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:45:12 PM

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Dear CA Coastal Commission,

I am writing to respectfully request that you deny Cal Am's permit to build a desalination plant. As a long-time local resident, I believe that this project is unnecessary and will only really benefit Cal Am—at our expense.

Sincerely,  
Mary Wilson  
Seaside, CA 93955

**From:** [Maryanne Jensen](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:44:06 PM

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

My name is Maryanne Jensen. I am a relatively new resident to Marina, having retired here from the SF Bay Area three years ago. I chose Marina for its location, access to pristine beaches and coastal flora and fauna and its small town feel.

I actually do not know why a desal plant at the proposed location is even under consideration as it ticks so many negative boxes! It will block and intrude into our free access to our beaches, cause harm and disruption to the many local endangered species, add another regional industrial facility unjustly burdening our city, intrude into and potentially diminish and contaminate our water source and we derive no benefit from any of it. Additionally, based on studies done on our current and future water needs, this desal plant is not even necessary!!! Thank you in advance for reading and considering my thoughts!

Please deny the CalAm Slant Well project!!!

Thank you,

Maryanne Jensen  
Concerned citizen of Marina

**From:** [Susan Franks](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Desalination Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:34:06 PM

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As a resident of Carmel Valley and a taxpayer, I want to register my strong opinion to not move forward with the Desalination project. It would be a very costly waste of money. We don't need it!!!

Thank you,  
Susan Franks



**From:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](mailto:ExecutiveStaff@Coastal)  
**To:** [Luster\\_Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)  
**Subject:** RE: Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 and Coastal Permit Application No. 9-20-0603  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:33:37 PM

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**From:** PETER LE <peter381@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 4:21 PM  
**To:** ExecutiveStaff@Coastal <ExecutiveStaff@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 and Coastal Permit Application No. 9-20-0603

November 8, 2022

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

ATTENTION: Mr. Tom Luster

Dear Commissioners:

**Regarding: Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project**

**Item 7a: Appeal No. A-3-MRA-19-0034 (California American Water Company)**

**Item 8a: Coastal Permit Application No. 9-20-0603 (California American Water Company)**

I would like to submit comments on Item 7a, Continued Appeals, California American Water Company, and Item 8a, Coastal Permit Application, California American Water Company, of the Commission Agenda of the meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2022.

My comments, shown in bold and underline, are as follows:

1. **As described in the Staff Report, shown below, Marina residents bears all the adverse impacts of this proposed project and receives no benefit whatsoever. The proposed mitigation measures suggested by Cal Am are totally inadequate. The Commission needs to apply its adopted Environmental Justice policies more effective and creates special conditions for this project that truly provide Environmental Justice to Marina residents.**

“The Project’s well field and some of its pipelines would be sited within the City of Marina, which is not in Cal-Am’s service area but would be burdened with many of the adverse coastal resource impacts discussed herein. Marina is already disproportionately affected by other industrial uses, including a regional landfill, regional composting facility, regional sewage plant, a municipal airport, a contaminated site listed on the U.S. EPA’s national priorities list, and the former CEMEX sand mining facility, which has ceased its operations.

This Project affects several environmental justice communities in the region. While the Project provides a benefit to the Monterey Peninsula by providing a secure water source and helps to avoid future over-withdrawal of water from Carmel River, it will disproportionately burden low-income ratepayers in the service area and residents in the City of Marina. Cal-Am proposed a number of measures to help offset costs to low-income ratepayers and provide community benefits for the City of Marina.”

2. “Cal-Am has also modified its proposed wells so they will extend as far as feasible seaward and thereby reduce any potential impacts to the City’s and District’s groundwater resources. Several recommended Special Conditions also address these concerns – for example, [Special Condition 11](#) would require Cal-Am to construct its wells to extend as far seaward as feasible to reduce their potential groundwater impacts.”

“**Special Condition 11: Groundwater Protection.** The Applicant shall install the Project’s slant wells to extend at least 1,000 feet seaward of the proposed well head locations and shall screen the wells so they extract from the 180-Foot Aquifer as far seaward as is feasible and without penetrating the 400-Foot Aquifer. Any proposed changes to this approved installation must be reported to the Executive Director for a determination as to whether those changes would require an amendment to this permit.”

**This Special Condition 11 appears unrealistic since the existing test well experienced failures and could not extend beyond 900 feet during its construction several years ago.**

**Assuming that Cal Am can extend the new slant wells at least 1,000 feet seaward, it does not make any financial sense since Cal Am stated that it**

will relocate these slant wells in 20 to 25 years which is the end of life of these slant wells. And Cal Am does not know where the location of the replacement slant wells is and what environmental and financial impacts of the new slant wells are.

Cal Am did not propose and the Staff Report did not discuss the construction of new slant well heads beyond the 2040 or 2050 sea-level rise like the CCC approved Doheny desalination plant. Why not constructing the new slant wells similar to the Doheny project so that Cal Am does not have to address the relocation of its proposed slant wells and environmental impacts? The Coastal Commission can require Cal Am to construct a new slant well intake system similar to the Doheny intake system that the Commission approved a few months ago.

3. “Special Condition 12 would require Cal-Am to develop a comprehensive monitoring and reporting program to detect any potential groundwater impacts its Project would cause and identify measures it would implement before those impacts occur.”

But It appears there is no special condition and details that require the Applicant to continuously monitor and measure the actual percentage of potable water that Cal Am pumps from the slant wells and needs to be returned to users of Monterey County Water Resources Zone 2 and cannot be delivered to consumers of Cal Am. And there is no condition that requires Cal Am to post these potable water percentage or content measurements on its website for public review.

4. “The Project will have adverse effects on ESHA. Its construction and operation would directly or indirectly result in several dozen acres of both temporary and permanent impacts to terrestrial ESHA, most of it consisting of relatively rare coastal dune habitat.

However, even with these Special Conditions, the Project would not be fully consistent with several Coastal Act and LCP policies that do not allow the type of disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from Cal-Am’s Project.”

Again, Marina residents suffered environmental injustice when the California Coastal Commission does not apply relevant Coastal Act and LCP policies on this project.

5. The Staff Report did not address the existing slant test well that was constructed near existing shore line several years ago and will be used for this project. This slant well is expected to fail before other new slant wells or in-operable before the 20-year time frame due to erosion and sea-level rise.

6. **How can the public review and provide comments of various monitoring data that are required and described in the Special Conditions? Will the Commission require California American Water Company to post all monitoring data and information on its website and on the Commission website so that the public can review?**
7. **How can the public review documents, biological surveys, habitat monitoring and mitigation plans, construction plans, mitigation measures and other materials as specified in the project conditions and Special Conditions and provide comments?**

I do hope you will consider my comments seriously and thoroughly. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the Cal Am Appeal and Coastal Permit Application.

Sincerely,

Peter Le and Family

Sent by email to [CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)

This electronic mail (including any attachments) may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and/or otherwise protected from disclosure to anyone other than its intended recipient(s). Any dissemination or use of this electronic email or its contents (including any attachments) by persons other than the intended recipient(s) is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by reply email so that we may correct our internal records. Please then delete the original message (including any attachments) in its entirety. Thank you.

**From:** [Sarina Deitschman](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Sarina Deitschman: Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:13:31 PM

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

My name is Sarina Deitschman; I am a resident of seaside and currently attend school at Cal State Monterey Bay. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina, thank you.



**From:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](mailto:ExecutiveStaff@Coastal)  
**To:** [Luster, Tom@Coastal](mailto:Luster_Tom@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Monterrey desalination  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 3:12:32 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: r burke <[jalanti@gmail.com](mailto:jalanti@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 6:10 AM  
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal <[ExecutiveStaff@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:ExecutiveStaff@coastal.ca.gov)>  
Subject: Support for Monterrey desalination

This email is in support for the application (9-20-0603) dor the Monterrey Desalination project.

While it seems easier and preferable to hope it rains and snows enough to provide water for California, hope is a whim, a whisper to yourself. Reality is a 5 year drought, asking people to leave the state, telling farmers they cant plant. Reality is the Sierras with no snow. Reality is parts east parched, hopeless.

Lets face this with eyes wide open and if we do, permit this project and get it powered renewably, push the science on the brine. But say yes to this and all the others cause we have no choice if we are honest with ourselves and the people who live here.

Thanks for reading this,  
Robert Burke  
San Diego

**From:** [Robert Evans](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:54:13 PM

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Members of the California Coastal Commission,

As a Monterey resident I oppose the Cal Am desal project.

Back in 2017 the Coastal Commission reached an agreement with Cemex to stop mining sand in the area where Cal Am wants to build a desal plant. As a part of that agreement the area was to be used for public access, conservation, habit protection and public education.

A desal plant would not appear to meet that requirement/goal.

The 2017 agreement also states that the site was to sold at below market value to a nonprofit or governmental agency.

Cemex has not concluded any sale. Cal Am is a for profit corporation. The City of Marina has a suite pending in court over a breach of contract between Marina and Cemex putting ownership and use in limbo.

It is premature to approve an industrial use for an area that was intended to provide public access to the coastline. Approving Cal Am's desal project will preclude public access, conservation, habitat protection and public education.

The Snowy Plover is an endangered species that will be further impacted if Cal Am is allowed to build a desal plant on the Cemex site. There will be further loss of habitat.

Cal Am's desal plant will inject the brine from desalination back into the Marine Sanctuary. Changing the salinity of a marine sanctuary is contrary to the goals of conservation and habitat protection.

Cal Am's desal project is counter to the objectives of the Coastal Commission: "The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations."

I urge that you deny the project.

Bob

Robert Evans  
781 Terry Street  
Monterey, CA 93940  
831-595-5351

**From:** [Delia Jimenez](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:46:38 PM

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

Hello. My name is Delia Jimenez. I am a resident of Marina and an undergraduate student pursuing her degree in Communication Studies at California State University, Monterey Bay. I chose to attend CSUMB because of its beautiful environment and vibrant community. I am a Mexican American woman who has lived and grown up in the cities of Southern & Northern Central California, my time living in this city has been a unique and rewarding experience. I am grateful that I moved to Marina and I am grateful to live in an area that is clean, has a strong and supportive community, and near accessible nature and beaches.

My campus is surrounded by breathtaking scenery, CSUMB has given me the opportunity to experience an environment I have never seen before. CSUMB encourages inclusive sustainability that seeks to support the natural environment and all of the people living within it. I love this area! When my family visits me, we explore and have adventures, I always try to expose them to the lush environment that surrounds us. I appreciate the experiences and memories that I have made here in this area, I ask that you make the right decision for Marina.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

--

**Delia C. Jimenez (DJ)**

*She | Her | Hers | Ella*



**California State University, Monterey Bay**

Humanities & Communication - Major | Communications Concentration

SHRL **Residential Advisor** | North Quad, Global Perspectives

TRIO SSS **Peer Mentor** | TRIO Student Support Services

Email: [deljimenez@csumb.edu](mailto:deljimenez@csumb.edu)

*[TRIO FAM / Click Here to Make an Appointment <3](#)*



**From:** [Boryana & Jason Griffin](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Re: Call to Action for Desal Plant  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:36:29 PM

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I have been receiving your emails for some time and have not responded until now.

As someone who grew up on the Monterey Peninsula, I remember very well the hot summer of 1977 which spurred the creation of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District in 1978. Your entire creation was for the purpose of finding and maintaining a reliable water source to the Peninsula. In the almost 45 years since that time, your solution is what I call Poo Poo water, reclaimed water...which I am not in favor of.

Every single solution the voters voted for since 1978 has been litigated and overturned—against the will of the voters. I am NOT in favor of public water solutions (my family escaped from a communist country when I was 5—no thanks to public utilities). So you know what? I am interested in hearing about the Desal solutions, since that seems like a better option than Poo Poo water. And since you have no intention of collecting water from the Carmel River and are happy for pure clean water to run into the ocean without using it for the residents of the area, Desal maybe our only solution.

You should be ashamed of yourselves after 45 years of inefficiency, bureaucracy and politics, you have come up with S#!@. That's it!



**From:** [Paul F Flavell](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Permit Application  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:33:25 PM

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I am a Monterey Peninsula resident and home owner. I do not support the CalAm application for a desalination plant in Marina or anywhere else along our bay. Please deny the permit. Thank you.

**From:** [Sasha Ehrler](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal-Am project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:26:40 PM

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

My name is Sasha Ehrler; I am a resident of Marina. I am Business Student at CSUMB and therefore I feel strongly about protecting our beaches from being taken over by big industrial facilities, especially if there will be no benefits to the citizens of Marina. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

**From:** [Jessica De Mott](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:25:50 PM

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

My name is Jessie de Mott; I am a resident of Marina. I am a Liberal Studies Student at CSUMB and therefore I feel strongly about protecting our beaches from being taken over by big industrial facilities, especially if there will be no benefits to the citizens of Marina. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

**From:** [Tanya Amaro](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:21:16 PM

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

My name is Tanya Amaro. I am a resident of Marina and a California State University Monterey Bay Alumni coming from a working class hispanic family. I am just starting to get my career started working as an environmental outreach coordinator at the nearby trash company, GreenWaste. My family has always struggled financially and it would worsen our situation if we had to pay more for our water. Not only that, but we value our oceans and wildlife around us and don't want Cal-Am to interfere with the wildlife in the Carmel River.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thanks,

Tanya Amaro

**From:** [Valeria Silva](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:19:57 PM

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

My name is Valeria Silva; I am a resident of Marina. I am Marine Science Student at CSUMB and therefore I feel strongly about protecting our beaches from being taken over by big industrial facilities, especially if there will be no benefits to the citizens of Marina. Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

Valeria Silva



**From:** [Victoria Roberson](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 2:06:22 PM

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

My name is Victoria Roberson and I am a resident of Marina.

I moved here 4 years ago and my partner and I own a family home here in Marina. I am a student who is passionate about our community. Like many people here, we live paycheck to paycheck and are very concerned about the social and economic future of Marina, especially in the context of rapid climate change. It is important that we deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina. Thank you.

**From:** [Cyndi Perry](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desal Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 1:30:25 PM

---

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

I oppose of the Cal Am slant wells project in Marina.

It is not making any sense to many of us why slant wells will be put on an environmentally sensitive habitat area when there is a viable source of water available: Pure Water Monterey

The mission of the Coastal Commission is to protect and enhance the California coastline for the enjoyment of current and future generations. Please support us to keep our portion of the coast as pristine as possible.

Please deny the Cal Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you,

Cyndi Perry  
Marina, CA

**From:** [Leland R Smith](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please don't approve the desal plant  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 12:43:21 PM

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## California Coastal Commission:

I have been a Carmel Valley resident since 1984 when, I believe, we paid our water bill every 2 months and it was about \$40.00. I mention that because I have always been careful about use. I have 9 drip systems and all the toilets and appliances are energy/water efficient. Now my bills are approaching \$200 per month on the 2 1/2 acre lot. This proposal is only going to help CAL AM and its stock holders make money. It will make it more difficult for water users to purchase the company. Where are the protections by the public utilities company for the customer. We see waste all around CAL AM. They send out mailers, emails and other media constantly informing us of what we already know, i.e. stop your leaks. Really!! Who pays for it. The consumer.

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. It is NOT a regional solution.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

Very sincerely,

Leland Smith

From: [Vicki Pearse](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Cc: [Energy@Coastal](mailto:Energy@Coastal)  
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022 12:13:01 PM

---

California Coastal Commission:

Please decline Cal-Am's permit to proceed with a desalination plant.

Beyond the environmental impacts on the coast and ocean, desal demands several times as much energy as does recycling water. Hence, the high cost.

In addition, it creates a pernicious positive feedback loop:

**More energy used > more GHG emissions > more climate impact >  
more drought & more water deficit >  
more supplemental water needed > more energy used!**

Approving Cal-Am's desal would be in direct conflict with the CCC's mission: The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.

Approving a project with 20 conditions is an enormous red flag and appears to demonstrate an alarming inconsistency.

How can Staff recommend approval while simultaneously noting these barriers?

"The proposed Project raises extremely difficult and complex coastal resource issues, particularly regarding the Project's substantial impacts to environmentally sensitive habitat areas ("ESHA"), potential impacts to area wetlands, and potential groundwater impacts to aquifers that are a source of drinking water for the City of Marina and the Marina Coast Water District. The Project also involves the most significant environmental justice concerns the Commission has considered since it adopted an Environmental Justice Policy in 2019. "

Or, under Terrestrial ESHA:

"... even with these Special Conditions, the Project would not be fully



consistent with several Coastal Act and LCP policies that do not allow the type of disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from Cal-Am's Project. As described in Section IV.E of the Findings, staff recommends that the Commission find the proposed Project does not conform to those policies but that it apply the "override" provisions of Coastal Act Section 30260 to address these nonconformities."

In another example, condition no.19. Energy Minimization and Greenhouse Gas Reduction asks for "reports" and offers the possibility of purchasing offsets and credits but requires no substantive Minimization and Reduction of energy or greenhouse gases.

The very nature of desal is contrary to energy conservation.

Cal-Am's proposal to phase-in its project, building a slightly smaller plant first to be enlarged later, does nothing to reduce energy use, only delays it a little and will likely increase the cost per gallon.

Desal greatly *increases* energy use compared to the recycling project of Pure Water Monterey, which is estimated to provide all of our water needs for 3 decades.

This desal project is not only completely unnecessary, it is damaging in many ways that you have already heard much from the public about. Exorbitantly expensive. Socially unjust and environmentally unsustainable. And what happened to the important law that desalination must be publicly owned? It was mysteriously set aside while the voter-approved buy-out of Cal-Am was blocked by a few powerful individuals (members of LAFCO) ---- which seems another instance of the current widespread weakening of our democracy.

I can only interpret Staff's conditional approval as trying to show that Cal-Am got fair, thorough consideration -- while signaling the Commissioners to override and vote No.

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

Vicki Pearse  
Pacific Grove

From: [Vicki Pearse](#)  
To: [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
Cc: [Energy@Coastal](mailto:Energy@Coastal)  
Subject: Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
Date: Thursday, November 10, 2022 12:13:01 PM

---

California Coastal Commission:

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Or, under Terrestrial ESHA:

"... even with these Special Conditions, the Project would not be fully

consistent with several Coastal Act and LCP policies that do not allow the type of disturbance and loss of ESHA that would result from Cal-Am's Project. As described in Section IV.E of the Findings, staff recommends that the Commission find the proposed Project does not conform to those policies but that it apply the "override" provisions of Coastal Act Section 30260 to address these nonconformities."

In another example, condition no.19. Energy Minimization and Greenhouse Gas Reduction asks for "reports" and offers the possibility of purchasing offsets and credits but requires no substantive Minimization and Reduction of energy or greenhouse gases.

The very nature of desal is contrary to energy conservation.

Cal-Am's proposal to phase-in its project, building a slightly smaller plant first to be enlarged later, does nothing to reduce energy use, only delays it a little and will likely increase the cost per gallon.

Desal greatly *increases* energy use compared to the recycling project of Pure Water Monterey, which is estimated to provide all of our water needs for 3 decades.

This desal project is not only completely unnecessary, it is damaging in many ways that you have already heard much from the public about. Exorbitantly expensive. Socially unjust and environmentally unsustainable. And what happened to the important law that desalination must be publicly owned? It was mysteriously set aside while the voter-approved buy-out of Cal-Am was blocked by a few powerful individuals (members of LAFCO) ---- which seems another instance of the current widespread weakening of our democracy.

I can only interpret Staff's conditional approval as trying to show that Cal-Am got fair, thorough consideration -- while signaling the Commissioners to override and vote No.

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

Vicki Pearse  
Pacific Grove

**From:** [Sam Norris](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny Cal Am Desalination Plant, Please!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 12:11:12 PM

---

Greetings, Commissioners:

I live in Carmel, California and am a Cal-Am customer. I am not against desal projects where they are necessary to alleviate drought situations and provide long term water supplies, but that is not the case with the proposed desal project in Marina. A desal plant is simply not necessary due to the extension of Pure One Monterey. Projections from the water district indicate Pure One and our allowed draw from the Carmel River, will provide adequate water for Cal Am users for decades, at a much cheaper price than desal water. We should not build a desal plant could cost \$426 million dollars, and ultimately be owned by Cal-Am. Those costs will be passed on to ratepayers in a variety of ways. Additionally, this desal project would negatively impact the people of Marina: It will diminish and contaminate their water supply, and damage dunes and beaches. There is the question of water rights, which has not been resolved.

Please deny the Cal-Am Desal Project in Marina, California. It is unnecessary for Cal Am users, and an injustice to the residents of Marina!

Thank you for your service,

Colette Erreca-Norris  
40 Del Mesa Carmel  
Carmel, California 93923

**From:** [Steven Parkes](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Marina desal plant  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 12:09:22 PM

---

Please don't destroy our marine sanctuary! This plan will not only cause beach erosion but will put tons of silt back into the ocean killing fish and other marine life.  
It will also effect the quantity and quality of the water here in Marina.  
This project was rejected in the past. Nothing has changed!  
Please reconsider and please deny this project

Steve Parkes  
Marina

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



**From:** [Ivette Acevedo](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Fw: Deny CalAm's Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 12:02:47 PM

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

**From:** Ivette Acevedo <bive00@yahoo.com>  
**To:** alAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov <alammonterey@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 10, 2022, 11:59:33 AM PST  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm's Desalination Project

**To: CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov**

From: Ivette Hanchera

**Subject: Deny CalAm's Desalination Project**

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

My name is Ivette Hanchera. I am a resident of the city of Northridge in Los Angeles County but I visit Marina multiple times per year to enjoy the enchanting natural treasures Marina has to offer.

About ten years ago, my family and I visited the Monterey aquarium and we came across the mesmerizing Marina Dunes and the long stretch of the beach North of the Dunes Preserve. Since then we have made Marina our favorite vacation spot. We love everything about this natural wonder to the point that we do not mind the five hours drive to get there. We travel to Marina whenever we have a four day weekend, during winter break, Summer break, or simply whenever we need peace of mind. Whenever we go there we spend our days taking walks along the stretch of beach north of Marina Dunes Preserve. We have built many unforgettable memories with quality family time and bonding experiences. The best part is that we even take our dog and he also is very happy there. Last year my son was struggling with mental health challenges, taking the walks along that area and having family picnics there helped him pull through and may have even saved his life from the black whole of depression because he witnessed that nature has

amazing wonders to live for.

We always talk about how blessed Marina residents are to have such beautiful natural wonders. The ocean access, the wildlife, and the amazing sunsets are a great gift to the community there and to the visitors who feel blessed to have access to it.

Please deny the proposed CalAm's Desalination Project and protect so many threatened species. Most importantly, consider the Marina community who has been blessed with such a natural wonder for life. Specially consider the underprivileged community that lives there and the visitors who can enjoy the dunes and that beautiful stretch of beach. This is a free access natural wonder who brings joy and mental health benefits to many without causing financial hardship.

Furthermore, consider how many other environmental burdens that have already been imposed in this community like the harmful regional landfill and the health hazards created by the sewer plant, both terribly impacting the air quality and overall quality of living standards for the residents in the region.

It is a fact that this is a community that is predominantly multiethnic, most of whom with humble economic means but as leaders representing everyone is is your moral and ethical responsibility to make fair decisions not just for the benefit of more affluent communities who obtain their comfortable and safe lifestyle at the expenses of those less fortunate or less likely to speak up but to ensure equity and environmental justice.

I have faith you will do the right thing and I can assure you that Marina residents will thank you but also those of us who travel there to enjoy the magnificent dunes and stretch of beach north of Marina Dunes Preserve thank you so much. The reality is that to some people is just a gold mine real state to be exploited but to Marina residents and endangered species, it is priceless because it is place, so majestic which inspires and foster family love and harmony.

California Coastal Commissioners, Executive Director John Ainsworth and staff do the right thing and ensure environmental justice. Say no to CalAm's Desalination Project



**From:** [Tina Empol](#)  
**To:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)  
**Subject:** Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:59:44 AM

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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,  
Tina Empol  
Carmel Valley

**From:** [Emma Riley](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:45:09 AM

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

My name is Emma Riley; I am a resident of Monterey and a student at CSUMB in Marina. As a Marine Science student on a college campus in Marina, I strongly oppose the Cal-Am project that will cause damage to our coastline and the endangered species such as Snowy Plovers that will be affected by the Cal-Am project.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina - preserve these species for my generation and future generations!

Thank you,

Emma Riley



**From:** [Robyn](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please have pity  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:31:53 AM

---

Cal Am's bid to build a desal plant will cost us dearly and we don't need it.  
We just can't afford it. Someone has to control them.  
Please deny their bid.  
Desperately concerned citizen,  
Robyn Farmer  
725 Taylor St  
Monterey, CA 93940

**From:** [Ben Reneker](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 11:20:02 AM

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California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. It is NOT a regional solution.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider.

Pure Water Monterey has been providing us with water for over two years now, and it has already 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.

Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents.

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.

Ben Reneker

Carmel Valley, CA

**From:** [Bettina Navarro](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal); [Bettina Navarro](#)  
**Subject:** DENY CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:59:03 AM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners  
Executive Director John Ainsworth and Staff:

My name is Bettina Navarro,  
I have been a resident of Marina since 1987, two of my grown children still live in Marina.  
I am a retired registered nurse.  
I am Hispanic and so is my husband. I have 2 grandchildren that attend Marina schools.  
Over the years I had seen Marina being the "Pilot program" of many changes in education,  
school calenders, etc. I always thought that it was unfair. We already have the Waste  
Management facility and Sewage treatment plant.

The Desalination project is not just unfair, it is a huge environmental injustice. I am so tired of  
Marina being discriminated against it's citizens by using our city to fullfill the needs of the  
peninsula.

We need to protect our beaches, our water and stop companies using our city to benefit other  
wealthy cities around us. Enough is enough.

Please deny the CalAm project that will harm Marina and its citizens.

Thank you.

Bettina  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Marian M. Cote](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:51:52 AM

---

Dear California Coastal Commission:

Some of my neighbors in Marina are very knowledgeable, and they have asked very cogent questions that need to be answered BEFORE you consider the CalAm Desal Project. I am forwarding this appeal in hopes that you DENY CalAm's application.

Thank you,  
Marian Mastro Cote

From my neighborhood: [https://nextdoor.com/p/zzzwBLs48ZZz?utm\\_source=share&extras=NDYwNTU4MTE%3D](https://nextdoor.com/p/zzzwBLs48ZZz?utm_source=share&extras=NDYwNTU4MTE%3D)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Therese Sugiura](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMontrose@coastal](mailto:CalAmMontrose@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:47:32 AM

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

My name is Therese Sugiura. My husband (Edward Wustenhoff) and I recently became residents of Marina in 2019. We moved to this beautiful city of Marina to get away from the craziness of the Bay Area - Wonderful choice! The dunes, weather and people make it the perfect place to be.

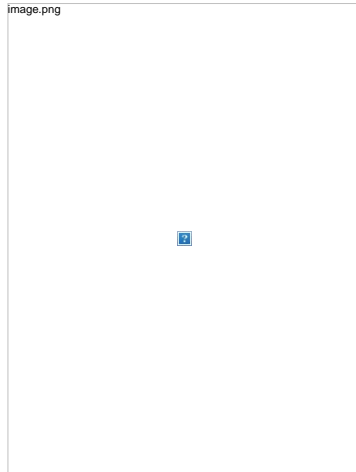
It is disheartening to hear of the potential damage this proposal will bring upon Marina when it already has a sewage plant, garbage landfill and contaminated military sites. Cal-Am's proposal will also negatively impact our environment and endangered species.

We cannot speak at the November meeting, but I hope you will make the right decision for Marina.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina!

Thank you,  
Therese Sugiura & Edward Wustenhoff

image.png





**From:** [Kelley Peters](#)  
**To:** [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Luster, Tom@Coastal](#); [Moore, Elizabeth@Coastal](#); [landwatch@landwatch.org](#)  
**Subject:** Delay or Deny the CalAm CDP  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:41:28 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,

Kelley Peters  
Carmel Valley

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [mike hartter](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please Do Not Approve the proposed desal plant  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:37:27 AM

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**From:** [Nancy Farrell](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** The Cal Am Monterey Desal Project- Application No. 9-20-0603- Oppose  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:28:43 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Cal Am customer living in Monterey, & I am totally opposed to the proposed Desal project because it is not needed and is not the best regional solution to our water situation.

It is critical to consider the reports prepared by both the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and the Marina Coast Water District which estimates the amount of water needed by 2045 (786 acre feet a year more than currently used), because that amount can easily be provided by an expansion of Pure Water Monterey. Pure Water Monterey has already been successful in the past two years, without Cal Am over drafting the Carmel River, and expanding it can provide an additional 2,250 acre-feet per year.

The Cal Am investor-owned Desal plant would produce water that is exorbitantly expensive, especially for low income residents, and place the burden of the environmental damage in Marina, whose residents won't even derive any benefit. Ratepayers can not afford any increase to our already expensive Cal Am bills, and certainly not the 50% estimated increase.

In addition to the steep monetary costs, the environmental costs from the extensive greenhouse gases emissions released and power needed to run it are too high, and would be unnecessarily destructive to our important, fragile coastal ecosystem. The Cal Am Desal project is not reasonable or equitable or safe, and I urge you to deny their coastal developmental permit for this Desal project.

Sincerely,

Nan Farrell  
Monterey

**From:** [peggy strong](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** de-sal project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:28:01 AM

---

I vote no on this project.

Peggy Strong

**From:** [Jerry Azevedo](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Comments on CalAm Desalination Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:06:46 AM

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California Coastal Commission

I am writing to ask you to DENY the permit for the CalAm Desalination Project in Monterey.

When CalAm first submitted the permit request for a desalination project near Marina, the argument might have been made that the scarcity of a reliable water source for the Monterey area justified such an expensive and disruptive project. But that is no longer the case. We now have a reliable source of recycled water, which is less expensive and has less impact on the California coast.

The proposed CalAm desalination project makes no sense. I urge you to deny the permit.

Thank you.  
Jerry Azevedo  
Monterey resident and taxpayer



**From:** [JONATHAN LORD](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 10:01:36 AM

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

My name is Jonathan Lord; I am a resident of Carmel.

Unfortunately, in recent years I've seen a dramatic increase in agricultural groundwater pumping in the Marina area. I ask that you deny the pumping of any additional sea water, brackish water, surface water, or groundwater in the Marina area. There is a need to protect the existing water sources for the local residents of Castroville and Marina.

Please deny the Cal-Am project that will harm Marina.

Thank you.

Jonathan Lord

**From:** [Jeff O'Neal](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Opposed to the Desalinization Plant on Monterey Bay  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:49:46 AM

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California Coastal Commission,

I am a resident of Pacific Grove in Monterey County.

I am opposed to the proposed Desalination Plant proposed by CalAm. It is not needed. It is not the right solution and I do not trust CalAm to deliver a cost effective water solution for my area.

Please vote down this unneeded project.

Sincerely,  
Jeff O'Neal

**From:** [Elisabeth Bertrand Russell](#)  
**To:** [justwater93933@gmail.com](mailto:justwater93933@gmail.com); [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Defer Action on CalAm CDP Application #9-20-0603 - Need your help to get this to the CCC!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:36:56 AM

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Hi!

I sent this letter to the California Coastal Commission on November 8<sup>th</sup>, using the email I found on the Just Water website. I wanted to ask you if you would forward it for me please to the California Coastal Commission.

I ask this because they did not send an email to confirm they received my letter, (as your site had told me they would do.) So, I am guessing that for some reason they did not receive it.

Thank you,  
Elisabeth Bertrand

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**From:** [Elisabeth Bertrand Russell](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 2:50 PM  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)  
**Cc:** [dstoldt@mpwmd.net](mailto:dstoldt@mpwmd.net); [llong@cityofmarina.org](mailto:llong@cityofmarina.org); [dkellogg@montereyherold.com](mailto:dkellogg@montereyherold.com)  
**Subject:** Defer Action on CalAm CDP Application #9-20-0603

November 8, 2022

John Ainsworth, Executive Director  
California Coastal Commission  
455 Market Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[John.ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:John.ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov)

Re: Public Hearing on the California American Water Company's (CalAM) CDP Application  
#9-20-0603

Dear Mr. Ainsworth and Commissioners:

I write as the former Director of the Association of Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) Energy Watch program; a program that reduced GHG levels, effectively meeting state targets, across the AMBAG region and supported climate action planning and sustainability for all 21 jurisdictions from 2006 – 2020. Our offices were located in Marina for many years and I had the pleasure of being a part of the Marina community. As an anecdote, I hosted staff from the California Coastal Commission to make presentations to staff from our 21 jurisdictions, in the

old airport building of the former Fort Ord airport, now a part of the City of Marina.

As a professional working for regional government with state government, I know how important and how critical it is to the State of California that we effectively implement social justice in our climate action motivated decisions. I have had the pleasure of hearing staff from the California Coastal Commission speak at state conferences on this very topic. I ask you now, Mr. Ainsworth and Commissioners to put action behind your words, behind the Governor's words, and value social justice for the citizens of Marina, and for all of the citizens of Marina Coast Water District whose water source will be put at risk. Value their social justice, not the abstract concept of social justice, but social justice the in the moment now where you can make an actionable difference for social justice with your vote now to **defer any action** on the CDP permit until the pending adjudications of supply and demand and water rights are completed.

**For the California Coastal Commission to rush ahead with a decision, using an "override" determination requested by CalAm, instead of following its normal course of a considered evaluation, following a defined protocol, is such a public slap in the face to social justice for the citizens of Marina and for the citizens who get their water from Marina Coast Water District. It will be a defining decision and set the legacy for identifying what value, if any, the California Coastal Commission really puts on social justice.** Please treat the citizens with the respect they deserve and defer this decision until the issues that would significantly impact a sound decision in this CDP Application have been resolved. There is no need for you to rush this decision through at this time.

There are at least nine unresolved or incomplete regulatory issues as identified by Monterey Peninsula's Water Management District's General Manager, David J. Stolt, in a letter submitted to California Coastal Commission, dated November 1, 2022, that need resolving prior to the California Coastal Commission taking a vote on this CDP Application.

How, when there are nine major regulatory issues or permit issues not in compliance, can the California Coastal Commissioners look the citizens of Marina in the eye and say "We are truly doing everything we can to look out for your very real social justice issues?" How can the Commission say it is behaving in an equitable way when it has rushed to a vote and trampled the social justice of the citizens in this rush to vote on incomplete information, not caring for them enough to wait until all the regulatory issues are resolved and in place?

**The California Coastal Commission cannot say it values social justice unless it defers its decisions until these nine very critical regulatory issues are resolved.** (These issues are listed in the November 1, 2022, Monterey Peninsula's Water Management District letter authored by David Stolt, General Manager submitted to the California Coastal Commission.)

- CalAm's Monterey County permits were revoked subject to additional environmental review. This issue is in Superior Court and many months from resolution;
- CalAm's exclusive negotiating agreement with Monterey One for use of their outfall has expired, an additional party has expressed desire to also utilize this outfall, and no agreement is in place with either party;
- The State Lands Commission has not agreed to a lease for the project's intake well;
- On October 3, 2022 the State Water Board removed CalAm's Intended Use Plan for state revolving loan funding of \$279.2 million due to a "lack of progress";
- CalAm has not applied for an amendment to its Water Distribution System permit through the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District;
- Marina Coast Water District contends that CalAm has no rights to take water from the CEMEX site and water extractions there are limited by an agreement with CEMEX's predecessor, Lonestar Cement. That case is currently being heard in Superior Court.
- The CPUC has on-going proceedings regarding supply and demand for additional water supplies that are expected to continue into March 2023;
- The CPUC has previously approved only a 6.4 MGD plant and specifically discouraged the 4.8MGD plant as little to no ratepayer savings, less water, no contingency, increased environmental impacts, as so on. CalAm would likely need to revisit its CPUC permission to build the plant to pursue a phased approach;
- The CPUC's cost cap for the project is \$279.1 million. To expend funds that CalAm intends to recover from taxpayers beyond the capital cost cap, CalAm must file a petition to modify the CPUC decision. The Construction Cost Index since the last estimate would imply costs for the project far in excess of the CPUC cost cap.

The citizens of Marina and the citizens who get their water from Marina Coast Water District deserve social justice considerations from the California Coastal Commission. Please defer action on this CDP Application #9-20-0603, until these many unresolved regulatory issues have been resolved. Please give the citizens of Marina a fair process complete with the full protocols and levels of evaluation associated with most other California Coastal Commission decisions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Bertrand

831-588-1694

[ebertrandrussell@hotmail.com](mailto:ebertrandrussell@hotmail.com)



cc: Layne Long, City of Marina  
David Kellogg, Monterey Herald  
David Stoldt, Monterey Peninsula Water District

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Elisabeth Bertrand Russell](#)  
**To:** [justwater90933@gmail.com](mailto:justwater90933@gmail.com); [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Defer Action on CalAm CDP Application #9-20-0603 - Need your help to get this to the CCC!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:35:15 AM

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Hi!

I sent this letter to the California Coastal Commission on November 8<sup>th</sup>, using the email I found on the Just Water website. I wanted to ask you if you would forward it for me please to the California Coastal Commission.

I ask this because they did not send an email to confirm they received my letter, (as your site had told me they would do.) So, I am guessing that for some reason they did not receive it.

Thank you,  
Elisabeth Bertrand

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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**From:** [Elisabeth Bertrand Russell](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 8, 2022 2:50 PM  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal.ca.gov)  
**Cc:** [dstoldt@mpwmd.net](mailto:dstoldt@mpwmd.net); [llong@cityofmarina.org](mailto:llong@cityofmarina.org); [dkellogg@montereyherold.com](mailto:dkellogg@montereyherold.com)  
**Subject:** Defer Action on CalAm CDP Application #9-20-0603

November 8, 2022

John Ainsworth, Executive Director  
California Coastal Commission  
455 Market Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
[John.ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:John.ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov)

Re: Public Hearing on the California American Water Company's (CalAM) CDP Application  
#9-20-0603

Dear Mr. Ainsworth and Commissioners:

I write as the former Director of the Association of Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) Energy Watch program; a program that reduced GHG levels, effectively meeting state targets, across the AMBAG region and supported climate action planning and sustainability for all 21 jurisdictions from 2006 – 2020. Our offices were located in Marina for many years and I had the pleasure of being a part of the Marina community. As an anecdote, I hosted staff from the California Coastal Commission to make presentations to staff from our 21 jurisdictions, in the

old airport building of the former Fort Ord airport, now a part of the City of Marina.

As a professional working for regional government with state government, I know how important and how critical it is to the State of California that we effectively implement social justice in our climate action motivated decisions. I have had the pleasure of hearing staff from the California Coastal Commission speak at state conferences on this very topic. I ask you now, Mr. Ainsworth and Commissioners to put action behind your words, behind the Governor's words, and value social justice for the citizens of Marina, and for all of the citizens of Marina Coast Water District whose water source will be put at risk. Value their social justice, not the abstract concept of social justice, but social justice the in the moment now where you can make an actionable difference for social justice with your vote now to **defer any action** on the CDP permit until the pending adjudications of supply and demand and water rights are completed.

**For the California Coastal Commission to rush ahead with a decision, using an "override" determination requested by CalAm, instead of following its normal course of a considered evaluation, following a defined protocol, is such a public slap in the face to social justice for the citizens of Marina and for the citizens who get their water from Marina Coast Water District. It will be a defining decision and set the legacy for identifying what value, if any, the California Coastal Commission really puts on social justice.** Please treat the citizens with the respect they deserve and defer this decision until the issues that would significantly impact a sound decision in this CDP Application have been resolved. There is no need for you to rush this decision through at this time.

There are at least nine unresolved or incomplete regulatory issues as identified by Monterey Peninsula's Water Management District's General Manager, David J. Stolt, in a letter submitted to California Coastal Commission, dated November 1, 2022, that need resolving prior to the California Coastal Commission taking a vote on this CDP Application.

How, when there are nine major regulatory issues or permit issues not in compliance, can the California Coastal Commissioners look the citizens of Marina in the eye and say "We are truly doing everything we can to look out for your very real social justice issues?" How can the Commission say it is behaving in an equitable way when it has rushed to a vote and trampled the social justice of the citizens in this rush to vote on incomplete information, not caring for them enough to wait until all the regulatory issues are resolved and in place?

**The California Coastal Commission cannot say it values social justice unless it defers its decisions until these nine very critical regulatory issues are resolved.** (These issues are listed in the November 1, 2022, Monterey Peninsula's Water Management District letter authored by David Stolt, General Manager submitted to the California Coastal Commission.)

- CalAm's Monterey County permits were revoked subject to additional environmental review. This issue is in Superior Court and many months from resolution;
- CalAm's exclusive negotiating agreement with Monterey One for use of their outfall has expired, an additional party has expressed desire to also utilize this outfall, and no agreement is in place with either party;
- The State Lands Commission has not agreed to a lease for the project's intake well;
- On October 3, 2022 the State Water Board removed CalAm's Intended Use Plan for state revolving loan funding of \$279.2 million due to a "lack of progress";
- CalAm has not applied for an amendment to its Water Distribution System permit through the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District;
- Marina Coast Water District contends that CalAm has no rights to take water from the CEMEX site and water extractions there are limited by an agreement with CEMEX's predecessor, Lonestar Cement. That case is currently being heard in Superior Court.
- The CPUC has on-going proceedings regarding supply and demand for additional water supplies that are expected to continue into March 2023;
- The CPUC has previously approved only a 6.4 MGD plant and specifically discouraged the 4.8MGD plant as little to no ratepayer savings, less water, no contingency, increased environmental impacts, as so on. CalAm would likely need to revisit its CPUC permission to build the plant to pursue a phased approach;
- The CPUC's cost cap for the project is \$279.1 million. To expend funds that CalAm intends to recover from taxpayers beyond the capital cost cap, CalAm must file a petition to modify the CPUC decision. The Construction Cost Index since the last estimate would imply costs for the project far in excess of the CPUC cost cap.

The citizens of Marina and the citizens who get their water from Marina Coast Water District deserve social justice considerations from the California Coastal Commission. Please defer action on this CDP Application #9-20-0603, until these many unresolved regulatory issues have been resolved. Please give the citizens of Marina a fair process complete with the full protocols and levels of evaluation associated with most other California Coastal Commission decisions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Bertrand

831-588-1694

[ebertrandrussell@hotmail.com](mailto:ebertrandrussell@hotmail.com)

cc: Layne Long, City of Marina  
David Kellogg, Monterey Herald  
David Stoldt, Monterey Peninsula Water District

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



**From:** [markmahady@aol.com](mailto:markmahady@aol.com)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Please Deny the Permit!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:33:47 AM

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Dear Sir and/or Madam:

Please deny Cal-Am their desal permit!!

Cal-Am is a profit based company that has been taking advantage of Monterey Peninsula water users for more than 30 years! Cal-Am's business model does not represent the best interests of water users in this area.

Do you think they are going to change? Eh,gads....no!!!! They are who they are....at least they are consistent in that manner.

Why in God's name would one want to work with a company that has dragged their feet on compliance and financially shafted the local community for more than a generation. They only care about money and profits!

Show them the door and give other groups a chance. Start today!

Thank you!

Kind Regards,

Mark M. Mahady, M.S., CPAg, PCA, QAL  
President, Mark M. Mahady & Associates, Inc.

Cell: (831) 236-2929  
Email: [markmahady@aol.com](mailto:markmahady@aol.com)

**Mailing Address:**

**Mark M. Mahady, President**  
**Mark M. Mahady & Associates, Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 1290**  
**Carmel Valley, CA 93924-1290**

**From:** [Gregory Falberg](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Reject Cal-Am desal project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:32:54 AM

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Dear CA Coastal Commissioners;

My name is Gregory Falberg and I am a 4-year resident of Marina CA. My wife and I love living here and frequently walk the local sand dunes.

I am very concerned that the desalination project proposed by Cal-Am will harm Marina's coastal environment and water supply, and provide no benefit whatsoever to Marina residents.

Moreover, this slant well project is both costly and unnecessary, as Pure Water Monterey's recycling project should serve Peninsula water needs for years to come.

I respectfully ask the coastal commissioners to fully reject the Cal-Am desalination project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Gregory Falberg

**From:** [will\\_chesebro](mailto:will_chesebro)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal Am Monterey Desal Project – Application No. 9-20-0603 – Oppose  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:28:29 AM

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California Coastal Commission:

As a Cal Am customer on the Monterey Peninsula, I oppose Cal Am's desal project. It is NOT a regional solution.

The Pure Water Monterey Expansion is a feasible alternative that the Coastal Commission must consider. The staff report is in error. It did not consider either the Monterey Peninsula Water Management or the Marina Coast Water District supply and demand reports. These reports cannot be ignored. Please review them thoroughly. They both show 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 already 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. Where is the proof that we need another 5,000 to 6,000 acre-feet from Cal Am's desal project?

Cal Am's investor-owned desal plant would produce water costing more than \$7,000 an acre-foot. Why is this desal water so expensive? The extreme cost of this water is an environmental injustice issue for low-income residents. It would raise water bills by at least 50%. No one on the Peninsula can afford to add the cost of this desal water to our extremely high Cal Am water bills.

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.

William Mitchel-Chesebro

Seaside resident and homeowner.

**From:** [Marian Cote](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Deny CalAm Desalination Project  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:24:16 AM

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

### A FRACTURED FAIRY TALE

Once upon a time Princess Marian was able to vacation at the smaller castle once owned by her parents, King Pat and Queen Viola, at the Pacific Coast near Cambria, California. She and her husband, Prince Jean-Clément marveled at the pristine condition of the coastline. They were told that the area, especially the lands previously owned by Baron Hearst, were preserved in that way thanks to the California Coastal Commission.

Many years later, after the passing of the King, Queen, and Prince, Princess Marian was able to move from the San Joaquin Valley to the lovely small town of Marina, California.

Princess Marian hopes to spend her Golden Years residing in Marina. She hopes that you, the California Coastal Commission, will distinguish itself as it has done in the past. For the sake of the unique species, the coastal lands to be restored, the Marina drinking water and aquifer, and for all generations of Californians to come:

PLEASE DENY the CalAm Slant Well project!

Sincerely,  
Marian M. Coté

**From:** [Opentracker Racing Products](#)  
**To:** [CalAmMonterey@coastal](mailto:CalAmMonterey@coastal)  
**Subject:** Cal-Am Desal plant - NO! From The Dinkel Family  
**Date:** Thursday, November 10, 2022 9:19:34 AM

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Dear Coastal Commission,

It seems very evident to our family (native residents!) that a desal plant by Cal-Am is the WRONG solution for this community. The ecological and fiscal impacts that Cal-Am have subjected this area to over the last three-plus decades have been harmful and expensive - this is the last straw.

We are fully backing the plan for water purification that will supply this community well into the future. We're tired of Cal-am trying to explain away and point fingers with NO IMPROVEMENT and shady practices.

It's time for a different solution, please DO NOT approve an unwanted desal plant that will just cause further damage and expense to this community.

We SUPPORT:

Pure Water Monterey  
[purewatermonterey.org](http://purewatermonterey.org)  
Advanced Water Purification  
[purewatermonterey.org](http://purewatermonterey.org)

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
[mpwmd.net](http://mpwmd.net)

Monterey One Water  
[montereyonewater.org](http://montereyonewater.org)

Sincerely,

Shari, John, Ermalyn & JD Dinkel Family

P.O. Box 252  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924  
Ph - (831) 659-0688