



EXHIBIT 12-A

MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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December 22, 2005

Joe Rosa
General Manager
Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District
136 San Juan Road
Watsonville, CA 95076

SUBJECT: Request for Information on Pajaro/Sunny Mesa's Monterey Bay Regional Desalination Project

Dear Mr. Rosa:

I am writing to request additional information regarding the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District's (P/SM) Monterey Bay Regional Desalination Project. Over the past two years, you and your consultants have provided us a significant amount of information on the project. For instance, in 2004 and earlier this year, you, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, and Marc Del Piero provided information we requested on your project to allow us to prepare the Comparative Matrix of projects that could supply water to the Monterey Peninsula (**copy enclosed**).

At its September 8, 2005 Strategic Planning Workshop, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) Board of Directors directed staff to conduct a number of activities, including a more detailed evaluation and comparison of three seawater desalination projects: the P/SM project, the Coastal Water Project proposed by California American Water (Cal-Am), and the 8.5 million-gallon-per-day seawater desal plant investigated by MPWMD as recently as early 2004. To this end, I am sending out today Requests for Proposals to engineering consultants to conduct a review of the three projects. (**A copy of the RFP is enclosed.**)

As you can see in the project schedule (**Attachment 2 to the enclosed RFP**), there is a very aggressive schedule for the consultant's review and report. We plan to recommend a consultant to the MPWMD Board at their January 26, 2006 meeting, and the final report is due May 10, 2006. In order for the consultant to have all available information in hand, I would appreciate it if you would send me whatever additional detail you have or can get regarding your project by mid-February 2006. To give you an idea of the level of detail we have on each of the three projects, I'm enclosing the information we provided to the consultants regarding the three desal project as part of the RFP. These documents (**copies enclosed**) are as follows:

- MPWMD Comparative Matrix of water supply projects – prepared for September 8, 2005 MPWMD Board workshop. Information for the matrix was supplied separately by each project proponent and was not independently reviewed or verified by MPWMD.
- Portions of Proponent's Environmental Assessment for the Coastal Water Project (July 14, 2005); and Draft Preliminary Project Description for the Coastal Water Project (September

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- 2004)
- Project Fact Sheet project map, and site map for the Monterey Bay Regional Desalination Project (undated); cost comparison of Cal-Am and P/SM projects (August 30, 2005); and North Monterey County Desalination Project, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Decision Matrix, prepared for P/SM (September 10, 2004)
 - Portions of Board Review Draft, Draft EIR for the MPWMD Water Supply Project (December 2003); and Final Phase 1 Technical Memorandum, MPWMD, Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project Alternatives (March 2003)

As you can see, there is a large amount of information on Cal-Am's Coastal Water Project, and somewhat less on the MPWMD Sand City desal project. Information I consider lacking in what we have on the P/SM project is as follows:

- Project description, including description of the project facilities and a map depicting areas proposed to be served by water from the project.
- Conceptual design drawings and maps showing plant layout, intake and outfall facilities, pre-treatment and post-treatment facilities, storage tanks, pipeline sizes and routes, pump station sizes and locations, and source(s) of energy for the plant.
- More detail on the estimated capital and O&M costs to allow an evaluation of the project costs and comparison with costs of the other two projects. This should be in sufficient detail to be able to determine whether all aspects of the project are included in the cost estimates and whether the estimated costs are reasonable. For instance, the cost estimates we were provided by Kennedy/Jenks do not indicate the costs for project rights-of-way.
- A description of the necessary permits that are anticipated for the project. For instance, I understand there is an active NPDES permit for the National Refractories site intake and outfall. If that is correct, a copy of that document would be appreciated.

Please advise me whether you will be able to provide the information I'm requesting above by mid-February. If you have any questions regarding my request, you may contact me at (831) 658-5620.

Sincerely,



Andrew M. Bell
District Engineer

Enclosures: **As noted above**

cc (without enclosures): David A. Berger, MPWMD General Manager