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www.montereycoastkeeper.org

475 Washington Street, Suite A
Monterey, CA 93940
831/646-8837
831/646-8843 FAX

November 17, 2008

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
5 Harris Court, Bldg G
Monterey, CA 93940
Via email

Monterey Bay Shores EcoResort: Agenda Item 11

Dear Board Members:

On behalf of Monterey Coastkeeper please accept the following comments regarding the Monterey Bay Shores EcoResort, Agenda Item 11.

- We request this item is continued to allow for greater public review and involvement.
 - Materials for this item appear to have been posted late on Friday. Given the complex nature of this approval and the materials required for complete review, more time is needed.
 - Many attachments are referenced but not included. The Seaside adjudication, order 95-10, the original and revised EIR all need to be reviewed. Not even links to these documents were provided.
- The project EIR is nearly 10 years old. Last month, project proponents submitted a revised EIR that has not been seen by the public. While it is questionable whether or not the new EIR requires public review, it is essential the public have the opportunity to digest the EIRs contents before commenting on this issue. More time is needed.
- This item, if properly noticed and the public engaged should have great interest. Lack of proper notice is essential and part of a transparent process.
- It is unclear exactly how much water is needed for the project. Exhibit 11-G shows water for swimming pools and irrigation yet the brochure claims no potable water will be used. It is unclear if the "new technologies" to be used to re-use storm and grey water will be effective. Will potable water need to be used?
- The Sand City Desalination Plant has not received a waste discharge permit. Sand City's permit was on the Regional Water Quality Control Board's October agenda. The item was continued when Board members questioned the relationship of the desal plant to State Order 95-10.

Sincerely,

Steve Shimek
Monterey Coastkeeper

received via e-mail
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