

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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**MAY 01 2009**

Mr. Andrew M. Bell, District Engineer
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
Post Office Box 85
Monterey, California 93942-0085

Los Padres Dam, No. 642-4
Monterey County

Dear Mr. Bell:

This is in reply to your letter dated April 8, 2009 requesting our comments for the three proposed alternatives to increase the storage capacity of Los Padres Dam. All three alternatives are acceptable conceptually, subject to the following general requirements:

Alternative 1) – “Remove Accumulated Sediment”:

Removing the sediments from the reservoir will not require an application from this Division, as long as the dredging operation does not encroach into the dam embankment or the outlet works.

Alternative 2) – “Install Facilities to Seasonally Raise the Reservoir Level”:

Altering the spillway to increase the storage capacity will require updated hydrology and stability studies, plans and specifications, submitted with an enlargement application and appropriate filing fee for our review and approval. The hydrology study must show adequate residual freeboard during spillway operation. The safety and stability of the dam and appurtenances must not be compromised.

Alternative 3) – “Increase the Height of the Dam by Adding to Existing Embankment or Removing the Existing Dam and Building a New Dam”:

Enlarging the existing dam or building a new dam will require filing an “Application for Approval of Plans and Specifications for the Construction or Enlargement of a Dam and Reservoir,” including a complete set of drawings, an engineering evaluation of the enlarged or new dam, and a filing fee. Building a new dam will require extensive geotechnical, hydrologic, and stability evaluations and will likely require more work compared to the other aforementioned alternatives.

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If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Area Engineer Aspet Ordoubigian at (916) 227-4625 or Regional Engineer Mike Zumot at (916) 227-4631.

Sincerely,

Michael Wagon FW

David A. Gutierrez, Chief
Division of Safety of Dams

cc: Mr. Craig Anthony, General Manager
California American Water Company
Monterey Division
Post Office Box 951
Monterey, California 93942-0951