

*Submitted at
1/28/2010 Board
Meeting
Item 20*

MONTEREY

PENINSULA

WATER

PLAN

**Peter M. Fallon
February 28, 2010**

The California–American Water Company (Cal-Am) is the water company authorized to provide water in the urban service area of Monterey County and is regulating the orderly connection of water service for new development. Since water supplies are limited, the County Water Resources Agency administers a water waiting list for additional connections beyond which can not be presently served. CHOPIN has not listed themselves on the County’s water waiting list.

The County’s approval of this permit would circumvent the County’s waiting list and then provide the land owner an opportunity to seek a “bail out” from Cal-Am in the likely event the well fails as set out in the discussion below. It should also be noted that Cal-Am will provide a backup to accommodate the sprinkler system now mandated under the building code, if not the property owner must provide a 4,999 gallon storage tank in a residential community either above ground, which would significantly impact the residential environment of the community or in the alternative, be buried underground, requiring the slating of granite subsurface material.

The development of private wells inside of the Cal-Am water service area could undermine the public utility’s ability to provide adequate water supply to existing service connections, such that the potential cumulative impact of allowing private wells in public service areas could include the failure of the public water supply system due to the “bail-out” of failed wells such as Granite Ridge, not to mention the potential health safety risks of families using untested water.

Additionally, drilling individual wells on such small lots as those found in the Carmel Woods area is not practical, given the density of development in this area and the limited ingress and egress access for well drilling rigs to drill, repair or replace failed wells.

For these reasons, we request that the County and the California Coastal Commission deny the CHOPIN and POWELL applications for a permanent water supply well, to serve previously approved residential development within the urban Carmel Woods area.

MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER ACTION PLAN ITEMS

Create Long Term Water Plan

Freeze New Water Connections

Save Underground Sources

New Sustainable Water Source

Cal Am Monitor all Wells

Test Wells for Health / Safety

Long Term Water Security

January 15, 2008

TO: The Monterey County Board of Supervisors

FM: Peter M. Fallon

SJ: Notice of Public Hearing – Chopin Enterprises, LLC

We are requesting that the approval for a Coastal Administrative Permit for construction of a domestic test well (Chopin Enterprises, LP/PLN060263 be denied for the following reasons:

1. The county has a set of water rules and a permit system that we all abide by has been used by all of us for years and we feel should be adhered to by the Chopin Group.
2. The subsurface water, if any is found, belongs to the citizens of Monterey County and not one landowner with a lot size of six thousand square feet.
3. The noise associated with the well on a day to day basis would be disruptive to the neighborhood.
4. The restrictions regarding a water well of this nature would affect several of the adjoining properties.

We respectfully request that the Board deny this request.

Signed by:

Peter M. Fallon – 24456 San Marcos Rd, Carmel
Hank and Patti Bennett, 244468, San Marcos Rd, Carmel
Bill and Kathleen Griffin, 24397 San Marcos Rd, Carmel
Virginia L. Rosecrans, 24466 San Marcos Rd, Carmel
Joyce M. Louis, 24447 San Marcos Rd, Carmel
Susan S. Mason, 24494 Pescadero Rd, Carmel
Anne McFarland, 24421 San Marcos Rd, Carmel
Eleanor Cetin, 24374 San Marcos Rd, Carmel