

**Latino Water Coalition**

1048 Broadway Avenue - Obama Way | Seaside, CA 93955

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Board meeting  
Item 0  
Oral Communications

August 15, 2011

To: Board of Directors of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Fr: Carlos Ramos, Member - *Latino Water Coalition* Steering Committee

Re: The *Latino Water Coalition* of the Monterey Peninsula

On behalf of the *Latino Water Coalition*, I am pleased to introduce the coalition to you by way of our recent formation. The *Latino Water Coalition* consists of the following community groups serving the Monterey Peninsula:

- *comite comunidad en accion de Seaside* (Community In Action)
- Latino Seaside Merchants Association
- Latino Voting Rights Coalition
- LEJA | Latino Environmental Justice Advocates, District II (Monterey Peninsula)

As you know, the mission statement of this water agency reads:

**THE MISSION OF THE MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT IS TO MANAGE, AUGMENT AND PROTECT WATER RESOURCES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT.**

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As such, we look forward to providing the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District with constructive and productive input in order to assist you in meeting your commitment to the management, augmentation and protection of water resources for the community and the environment.

However, we will positively and proactively provide said input within the critical context of social justice issues that directly impact the community, and thus, your successful accomplishment of your mission for the benefit of all of your constituents.

The *Latino Water Coalition* strongly believes that any decision without the complete input of the entire community within your jurisdiction is incomplete because of an ineffective outreach into the Latino community and communities of color within your jurisdiction.

As such, we look forward to engaging this agency, and its staff, in finding more effective ways of reaching out to the communities of color – especially the growing Latino community on the Monterey Peninsula.

In closing, the *Latino Water Coalition* strongly believes that in addition to technological solutions to our water issues on the Monterey Peninsula, *common sense*, coupled with effective input by all segments in the community, will enhance your effectiveness as an agency and as individual board members. After all, we believe that water means jobs; water means affordable housing; and, water means the effective utilization of economic opportunities in the community in an environmental and socially responsible manner.