



Submitted at  
2/12/13 Board Meeting  
Item 3

February 12, 2013

Mr. David Pendergrass, Chair  
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
5 Harris Court  
Monterey, California 93940

Dear Chair Pendergrass:

The Monterey County Hospitality Association strongly recommends that the District decide tonight to support Cal Am's Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project and at a size that will provide adequate water for vacant lots of record and build out of the local general plans.

The three desalination proposals have been thoroughly and publicly vetted by the Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority and their TAC. Mr. Stoldt is a member of that TAC. The MPRWA has voted to support the Cal Am project.

Much has been written and discussed in a myriad of venues throughout the Peninsula. This is clear:

- Cal Am's proposal is the only project application currently before the California Public Utilities Commission.
- Cal Am's proposal is the only project currently having an environmental impact report prepared.
- Cal Am is the only project proponent with the demonstrated technical, managerial and financial capabilities to build and operate a desalination facility.
- Cal Am, per the MPRWA commissioned SPI report, is the only project that has any possibility of being completed close to the Cease and Desist Order deadline.
- Neither Aquifer Storage and Recovery nor Groundwater Recharge should be part of this water supply project. The studies for those proposals are not complete and there are substantial challenges for both that, at this time, question their ability to provide a reliable, long term source of water.
- An adequately sized Project will not be a "green light" to large development. Each city and the county will have to continue to publicly review projects under their plans and ordinances and through their processes. Project impacts will have to be mitigated.

Support for the Cal Am project is essential if the Peninsula's residents and businesses are to have a realistic opportunity to avoid the dire consequences of a drastically reduced water supply and to have an opportunity to grow.

Please, act tonight to support the Cal Am water supply project.

Sincerely,

  
Steve McNally, Chair  
Monterey County Hospitality Association