

EXHIBIT 26-A

Monterey Bay Air Resources District Clean Air Leader Award Nomination Packet - Technology Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Introduction:

Special Districts are often recognized for their efforts and accomplishments in their specific field or industry. Normally, they are the community's authority and are solely focused on fulfilling their mission statement and enabling legislation. In most cases, that mission is critical to the public health or well-being of the region leaving little time to devote to supporting other important initiatives outside of their scope and purview.

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, however, considers itself to be more than just "providing and protecting the region's water supply". This special district, located in Monterey, CA and responsible for the oversight of the Monterey Peninsula's existing water supply as well as the production of new supplies of water. Realizing that the environment is symbiotic, the District has made the conscious effort to look beyond its enabling legislation and commit to making the area a healthier and environmentally friendly place to live and work.

That commitment, is highlighted in this Clean Air Leader Award for Technology Nomination Packet. We hope you find the merits of our efforts as exciting as we do.

Background:

The Numbers Don't Lie:

As a special district with an elected Board of Directors and sources of funding generated through charges and fees, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District has always been cautious and pragmatic with its spending. As the need for a new source of water became a critical goal during the drought, the Water Management District began to invest more aggressively in identifying and developing those sources of new water. Increased investments led the District to realize that as stewards of the public's money, they needed to make sure that an equal effort was being made to control operational costs while not eliminating manpower. The Administrative and Finance Divisions reviewed the District's previous yearly audits and discovered that substantial savings could be achieved by implementing sustainable programs that would save them money, but also help mitigate carbon effects on the environment.



Phase 1

A Light Affair:

Following the audit review, staff identified electrical usage as one of the primary issues. Since their building required overnight outdoor lighting for safety reasons, energy consumption for the 36 outdoor lamps was high. Their calculations proved correct in that each of the lights, luminated from dusk till dawn at 25 to 30 watts per bulb, were utilizing approximately 900 watts a day! By replacing those bulbs with energy efficient LED options, the district lowered the per bulb wattage to 7 or 252 total daily watts. This resulted in a reduction of 70% a year.



Phase 2

Bright Ideas:

With such a substantial savings realized externally, the District turned its attention to their office's internal lighting. First, they converted 128 lights to LED bulbs decreasing the wattage from 135 to 53. That reduced the energy used by 60% per trough. That conversion was funded through a grant from PG&E which helped save Monterey Peninsula taxpayers \$42,000!



Next, the District sought to help improve the efficiency of use through an innovative pilot program offered by PG&E. The program provided control devices that were placed throughout the hallways, offices and common areas. The devices measured the ambient light throughout the day and the movement of staff. This data was then correlated with the amount of light each trough was emitting thereby determining the energy consumption compared with the physical need.



Once completed the program, would then be offered as a commercial building retrofit and would potentially be mandatory addition for new buildings. While the data is still incomplete, staff reports additional reduction in per trough wattage and a overall reduction in energy consumption and cost.



Out & About:

Water Conservation education and enforcement are some of the most important tasks the Water Management District undertakes. Whether teaching about the water cycle and rainfall to elementary school students or inspecting a property prior to sale, District staff are constantly traveling in the community.

The increasing cost of gas coupled with a doubling of public outreach due to the drought, necessitated a closer look at the fuel and transportation usage by the Water Management District. Initially, a hybrid was purchased, but as the need for multiple staff in the field increased, two additional, all-electric Chevy Bolts were purchased. The vehicles were acquired in part through a grant from the Monterey Bay Air Resources District and have helped to reduce carbon emissions and fossil fuel use immensely. The District also installed two charging stations to accommodate District owned vehicles as well as to encourage the ownership of electric vehicles by staff.



Collectively, the vehicles are driven over 20,000 miles per year over the course of approximately 1,300 separate field calls and are a source of pride for staff who routinely tout the acquisition of the vehicles through the Air District's grant and the Water Management District's commitment to protecting the environment.

On the Horizon:

The Water Management District continues to explore ways to reduce their carbon footprint and help decrease their operational cost. Projects such as their Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project, which takes excess winter flows from the Carmel River and stores them in the Seaside Basin is currently being evaluated as a candidate for solar panels while the innovative Pure Water Monterey Advanced Water Purification Facility will rely on power generated from methane gas produced by the Monterey Peninsula Waste Management District in Marina.



Conclusion

For many Special Districts, simply focusing on their core mission is enough to satisfy their Board of Directors. At the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, simply doing the minimum has never been enough. Through constant self-examination, and embracing the latest technological innovations, the District has substantially reduced its overall electricity use and thereby providing a significant savings to its constituents. Additionally, it has partnered with other local special districts to reduce its carbon footprint in everything from performing everyday tasks to powering complex water supply projects. Going green is not simply a saying for the employees of the Water Management District, but a way of life. That is why it is an honor to submit this nomination form for the Monterey Bay Air Resources District's Clean Air Leader Award in Technology. Thank you for your time and consideration.