

**EXHIBIT 34-A**

**Seaside Basin Watermaster  
P.O. Box 51502, Pacific Grove, CA 93950  
(831) 595-0996**

May 13, 2021

Alvin Edwards, Chair  
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
5 Harris Court, Building G  
Monterey, CA 93940

**Subject:** Importance of maintaining a Paso Robles shallow aquifer monitoring well at the FO-09 site and seeking three-party funding of a replacement well at that location.

Dear Mr. Edwards:

The Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster (WM) seeks a three-party arrangement between MPWMD, Marina Coast Water District, and WM to fund replacement of monitoring well FO-09 Shallow that MPWMD intends to destroy with a new shallow monitoring well in the same general location.

Once FO-09S is destroyed there will be no source of water level or water quality data obtainable for the Paso Robles aquifer in that area of the Seaside Basin. The data obtained from the recent induction logging of FO-09S indicates that the dune sand deposits overlying the Paso Robles aquifer may have already been seawater intruded this far inland. If so, this means that there is a risk for intrusion into the Paso Robles aquifer to occur throughout this area, either by openings (gaps) in the clay layer that separates the dune sands from the Paso Robles, or through other wells that might have leaks. A properly operating shallow monitoring well at the location of FO-09 could provide an early alert to such an occurrence.

MPWMD asserts that FO-09 is not needed for its monitoring purposes. However, Table 2 in the contract between the Watermaster and MPWMD to perform monitoring work lists the wells to be monitored, and identifies which wells are part of which party's monitoring network. Table 2, and Footnote 1 in that table, shows FO-09 Shallow to be a well that is in MPWMD's Monitoring Well Network, and is a well that MPWMD monitors monthly for water level as part of its own monitoring program. That information was provided by MPWMD when Table 2 was created some years ago, and that assignment of monitoring responsibilities has not changed over the years.

Marina Coast Water District may be including FO-09S in official monitoring plans for its developing GSP so most likely will want it replaced – WM also seeks that agency's participation in a cost share arrangement.

In view of the potential seawater intrusion from dunes sands to the Paso Robles aquifer occurring in the FO-09S well, the Watermaster agrees that MPWMD should have the well destroyed using proper procedures. At the same time, Watermaster requests that MPWMD participate in a cost-share arrangement to install a new shallow monitoring well to replace the destroyed well. Mr. Stoldt has mentioned there could be cost savings to MPWMD by having the FO-09S well destroyed at the same time a new monitoring well at that location is constructed.

Thank you for MPWMD's consideration of cooperating in the proposed endeavor.

Sincerely,



Paul Bruno  
Chair, Watermaster Board of Directors

cc: Mr. David Stoldt, General Manager