

# Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project

before the

**California Public Utilities Commission**

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# CPUC Process

- California American Water requested authorization from the CPUC to build and operate a desalination plant.
- The CPUC opened a formal proceeding (A.12-04-019) in April 2012 to consider that request.
- The proceeding is before Administrative Law Judge Gary Weatherford.

# CPUC Process

- The CPUC held public participation hearings in Monterey.
- The CPUC conducted over 10 days of evidentiary hearings, with testimony from 40 witnesses.
- There are 19 parties in the proceeding.

# CPUC Process - Parties

- Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority
- Monterey County Farm Bureau
- Water Plus
- Coalition of Peninsula Businesses
- Salinas Valley Water Coalition
- Citizens for Public Water
- Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency
- City of Pacific Grove
- Latino Water-Use Coalition-Monterey Peninsula/Latino Seaside Merchants Assoc./Comunidad en Accion

# CPUC Process - Parties

- Surfrider Foundation
- Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
- California-American Water Company
- Division of Ratepayer Advocates
- Marina Coast Water District
- Landwatch Monterey County
- The Public Trust Alliance
- Sierra Club
- County of Monterey/Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Planning and Conservation League

# CPUC Process - CEQA

- CPUC staff and consultants are performing an environmental review of the proposed project and alternatives.
- The CPUC, as lead agency, is preparing a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

# CPUC Process - CEQA

- CPUC staff and consultants are coordinating with other state and federal agencies.
- The Subsequent EIR will include information on competing non-utility projects to the extent information is available.

# CPUC Process - CEQA

- Several parties to the CPUC proceeding, along with the draft report from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), recommend that the CPUC obtain additional hydrogeological data.

# CPUC Process - CEQA

- In order to incorporate the additional hydrogeological data, and to perform the related modeling and analysis of that data, the issuance of the Draft Subsequent EIR will be delayed.
- The Draft Subsequent EIR is now expected to be issued for public comment in February 2014 .

# CPUC Process

- Parties will be given the opportunity to make arguments in briefs that will be filed with the CPUC after the issuance of the Draft Subsequent EIR.
- The CPUC will consider the testimony and other evidence, briefs and other pleadings, and the Subsequent EIR in making a decision.

# CPUC Process

- Water rights issues have been raised in the CPUC proceeding.
- The CPUC has sought assistance from the SWRCB on these issues, due to its authority and expertise on water rights.
- The CPUC appreciates the SWRCB's expertise and support.

# Thank you!

