
State Water Resources Control Board

April 3, 2013

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

DRAFT REVIEW OF CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER COMPANY'S MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept public comments on a draft report requested by the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on water right issues associated with California American Water Company's (Cal-Am) proposed Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (Project). The draft report and other information concerning this matter can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/hearings/caw_mpws/index.shtml

In a memo dated September 26, 2012, the Commission requested assistance from the State Water Board in reviewing water right issues associated with a pending application before the Commission from Cal-Am for the Project. As proposed, the Project would consist of a 9.6 million gallon per day desalination facility combined with planned groundwater replenishment or recharge and aquifer storage and recovery. Feedwater for the desalination facility would be extracted from subsurface slant wells extending offshore beneath Monterey Bay that would extract groundwater from one of two different aquifers (Dune Sand or 180-Foot Aquifer). The Commission requested an assessment from the State Water Board on whether Cal-Am has the legal right to extract groundwater for the Project. Water from this Project is intended to replace the portion of Cal-Am's water supply from the Carmel River that becomes unavailable in December 2016 under the State Water Board's October 20, 2009 Cease and Desist Order (WR-2009-0060 found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/board_decisions/adopted_orders/orders/wro2009.shtml).

In response to the request for review of the Project, the State Water Board completed and transmitted an initial draft report to the Commission on December 21, 2012. In a memo dated February 14, 2013, the Commission responded to the initial draft report and requested that the State Water Board prepare a final report that evaluates additional information and responds to additional questions provided by the Commission. State Water Board staff reviewed the additional information and prepared a revised draft report. This revised draft report is now available for public review and comment. Following public comment, the State Water Board will make any needed revisions to the report. That report will then be discussed at a State Water Board meeting to receive additional input from the public and Board members prior to

finalization. The State Water Board is tentatively scheduled to hold a Board Meeting in Monterey this summer to consider the report. A public notice for the meeting will be released in the near future.

In order to be fully considered, all written comments on the draft report must be received by the Board by **12 Noon on May 3, 2013**. Persons submitting comments are encouraged to submit their comments electronically. Documents submitted electronically should be in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). Electronic submittals to the State Water Board of documents less than 11 megabytes in total size (incoming mail server attachment limitation) may be sent via electronic mail to: Wr_Hearing.Unit@waterboards.ca.gov, with a subject of "Comments on MPWSP Draft Report."

Written comments may also be sent to:

Paul Murphey
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

You may also submit your comments to Mr. Murphey by hand delivery to the following address:

Paul Murphey
Division of Water Rights File Room
State Water Resources Control Board
Cal/EPA Headquarters
1001 "I" Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814-2828

Couriers delivering comments must check in with lobby security and have them contact the 2nd floor file room at 916-341-5300.

Please direct any questions about this notice to Paul Murphey, Engineering Geologist, at (916) 341-5435 or by email at Paul.Murphey@waterboards.ca.gov, or Nathan Jacobsen, Staff Counsel, at (916) 341.5181 or by email at Nathan.Jacobsen@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Michael Buckman, Chief
Hearings Unit
Division of Water Rights