



MONTEREY COMMERCIAL PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Dear Staff of the State Water Resources Control Board,

This letter is written as a follow-up to my letter to you of January 19, 2017 (attached). I write to ask that under Condition 2 you allow the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) to regulate any changes of water usage on specific properties.

The area served by California American Water Company and MPWMD is breathtakingly beautiful. The simple act of moving about on one's daily business provides constant reminders to all of us that this is a special place that requires our devotion. Daily discourse about wildfires, flooding, the impact of rain on agriculture, how to help people affected by landslides and such are typical of the community. This community has taken a serious approach to reducing water usage with notable success. We have drastically reduced our water usage while still changing properties to better serve the community. Previously vacant buildings are now places where people live and many jobs are held. Boisterous bars have been converted to affordable and market-rate housing where people can lead car-free lifestyles.

We conserve water through these changes and also seek to replace the use of the Carmel River with a portfolio of water projects. A desal plant, water purification and aquifer storage among others are under way and fully supported by MCPOA.

There are people who will write to you to oppose allowing MPWMD to regulate water usage under Condition 2. Sadly there are some citizens here who do not comprehend the need to stop over-pumping the Carmel River and rail against the cost of doing so. There are others who want to buy the Cal-Am water structure in this area and want to diminish the value of Cal-Am to make that purchase less expensive. Some of those same people support water projects other than Cal-Am's project.

The interest of MCPOA is to protect the natural environment by providing an end to the over-pumping of the Carmel River in a manner that does not damage the civil environment. With this in mind I ask that you allow MPWMD under Condition 2 to regulate the use of water on specific properties with the belief that the overall goal of not just adhering to the agreed upon water usage levels but actually using less is where we are headed as a community. This region has demonstrated its ability to control water usage and we are finally headed toward a water supply that greatly reduces a reliance on the Carmel River.

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With regards,

John Tilley
President, Monterey Commercial Property Owners Association