

# PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

## Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project State Clearinghouse No. 2006101004



The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have prepared a joint Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIR/EIS) consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for consideration of the California American Water Company (CalAm) application to develop a replacement water supply for CalAm's Monterey District service area. CalAm has filed an application with the CPUC (A.12-04-019) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) and with NOAA for an authorization of activities that are otherwise prohibited within Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). The release of the Draft EIR/EIS on January 13, 2017 starts the 45-day review and comment period.

**Written comments are due by February 27, 2017.**

The Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP) Draft EIR/EIS is available online at:

[http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/esa/mpwsp/comms\\_n\\_docs.html](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/esa/mpwsp/comms_n_docs.html)

The MPWSP Draft EIR/EIS is available for review during normal business hours at the following places:

- **California Public Utilities Commission**, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco
- **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**, 99 Pacific Avenue, Building 455a, Monterey
- **Castroville Public Library**, 11160 Speegle Street
- **Marina Public Library**, 188 Seaside Avenue
- **CSU Monterey Bay Library**, 100 Campus Center, Seaside
- **Seaside Public Library**, 550 Harcourt Avenue
- **Carmel Valley Public Library**, 65 W. Carmel Valley Road
- **City of Marina Community Development Department**, 209 Cypress Avenue
- **City of Seaside Community Development Division**, 440 Harcourt Avenue
- **MCWRA**, 890 Blanco Circle, Salinas
- **MPWMD**, 5 Harris Court, Monterey
- **MRWPCA**, 5 Harris Court, Monterey

CDs of the MPWSP Draft EIR/EIS are available upon request and will be available at the public meetings. Documents referenced in the DEIR/EIS are available for public review at the CPUC and MBNMS during normal business hours, with prior arrangements.

## Project Description

The proposed MPWSP is designed primarily to replace existing water supplies that are constrained by legal decisions affecting the Carmel River and Seaside Groundwater Basin: State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 95-10 (Order 95-10) and Order 2009-0060 (also referred to as the Cease and Desist Order, or CDO) and; the Monterey County Superior Court's adjudication of the Seaside Groundwater Basin, respectively.

The proposed MPWSP would include: a subsurface seawater intake system located at the CEMEX property in Marina; a 9.6 million gallons per day (mgd) desalination plant located on Charles Benson Road adjacent to the Monterey County Environmental Park; approximately 21 miles of water conveyance (pipelines) and storage facilities; and improvements to the existing Seaside Groundwater Basin Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) facilities along General Jim Moore Boulevard in Seaside.

The MPWSP Draft EIR/EIS details the proposed project facilities, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed project, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures which, if adopted by the CPUC and MBNMS or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft EIR/EIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposed project, including the "No Project Alternative," two alternatives with different intake locations and configurations, the DeepWater Desalination Project, the People's Project and two alternatives with a reduced-capacity (6.4-mgd) desalination plant plus an agreement to purchase 3,500 acre feet/year from the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment (GWR) project to serve CalAm's existing service area. Note: The Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency prepared a separate, certified, Final EIR and approved the GWR Project in October, 2015.

The Draft EIR/EIS identified potentially significant impacts on: geology, soils and seismicity; surface water hydrology and water quality; groundwater resources; marine biological resources; terrestrial biological resources; hazards and hazardous materials; land use, land use planning and recreation; traffic and transportation; air quality; greenhouse gases; noise and vibration; public services and utilities; aesthetics; cultural and paleontological resources; agricultural resources; and energy resources. Most impacts would be reduced to less-than-significant levels through the implementation of mitigation measures. Further, the proposed project may result in significant cumulative impacts when viewed in combination with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects.

## Written Public Comments

In reviewing this Draft EIR/EIS, persons and public agencies should focus on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing the possible impacts on the environment and ways in which the significant effects of the proposed project might be avoided or mitigated.

**Written comments should be addressed to:**

CPUC/MBNMS

c/o Environmental Science Associates

550 Kearny Street, Suite 800, San Francisco, CA 94108

**Written comments can be sent by fax to:**

415-896-0332, or by email to: MPWSP-EIR@esassoc.com

Comment forms will be available at ALL public meetings and reviewers are encouraged to submit written comments at anytime during the Draft EIR/EIS review period, but no later than **February 27, 2017**. All written comments received by **February 27, 2017**, will be responded to in a comments-and-response document.

## Public Meetings

The CPUC and MBNMS will host two (2) open house/public meetings and one (1) public hearing to facilitate your review of the Draft EIR/EIS. The open house/public meetings will include a brief presentation on the contents and conclusions of the Draft EIR/EIS and interested parties will be provided an opportunity to interact with technical staff and preparers of the Draft EIR/EIS. The public hearing will focus on receiving oral public comments on the Draft EIR/EIS.

1. **Open House: Wednesday, February 15, 11:00am-1:00pm**, Marina Public Library Community Meeting Room, 188 Seaside Ave. Marina
2. **Open House: Wednesday, February 15, 6:00-8:00pm**, Oldemeyer Center, 986 Hilby Ave. Seaside
3. **Public Hearing: Thursday, February 16, 4:00-8:00pm**, Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall, San Carlos Street, Carmel

## **Aviso de disponibilidad del reporte preliminar de Impacto Ambiental para el Proyecto de Abastecimiento de Agua en la Península de Monterey.**

Por este medio se hace del conocimiento público que la comisión de California Public Utilities (CPUC) y la Agencia federal National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) han publicado un reporte preliminar conjunto del Estudio de Impacto Ambiental (EIA) para el proyecto de abastecimiento de agua en la península de Monterey (MPWSP). El proyecto plantea reemplazar el suministro de agua para el distrito de CalAm' Monterey. El reporte se publicará en enero 13 del 2017 y tendrá un periodo de revisión de 45 días para comentarios y preguntas. La fecha límite para preguntas escritas es febrero 27 del 2017. El reporte preliminar del EIA para el proyecto de MPWSP se encuentra disponible en internet aquí: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Environment/Current+Projects/esa/mpwsp/index.html>

Descripción del Proyecto: El proyecto MPWSP propone reemplazar los suministros de agua existentes que se encuentran por el momento limitados por las decisiones legales que afectan al río Carmel y el acuífero costero: Orden del State Water Resources Control Board y la sentencia de la corte superior del condado de Monterey con respecto al acuífero costero.

El proyecto de MPWSP propone incluir varias instalaciones y mejoras al sistema, las cuales incluyen una toma de agua de mar submarina, una planta desalinizadora de agua de mar adyacente al parque ambiental del condado de Monterey, la cual produciría 9.6 millones de galones por día (mgd), instalación de aproximadamente 21 millas de tuberías para el transporte de agua e instalaciones de almacenamiento. También se propone mejorar las instalaciones existentes del sistema de almacenamiento y recuperación del agua proveniente del acuífero costero.

EL EIA para el proyecto de MPWSP describe las instalaciones propuestas y evalúa los posibles impactos ambientales relacionados a la construcción, operación y mantenimiento del proyecto. El reporte determina los impactos significativos y propone medidas de atenuación las cuales si son adoptadas podrían evitar o minimizar estos impactos. El EIA también evalúa otras alternativas al proyecto propuesto los cuales incluyen la "no realización del proyecto", dos alternativas con diferente ubicación y configuración, el proyecto de desalinización "DeepWater", "the People's Project" y dos alternativas con una reducción en la capacidad de producción de la planta desalinizadora de 9.6 mgd a 6.4 mgd junto con un acuerdo de comprar 3.500 acres-pie/año para el proyecto de reabastecimiento del acuífero costero.

Copias del reporte también se encuentran disponibles para consideración del público en general en los siguientes lugares; California Public Utilities Commission, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, en las bibliotecas públicas: Castroville, Marina, CSU, Seaside y Carmel Valley. City of Marina Community Development Department, City of Seaside Community Development Division, MCWRA and MRWPCA. CD's del EIA se encuentran disponibles previa solicitud y también se encontrarán disponibles en las reuniones públicas. El CPUC también llevara a cabo reuniones y presentaciones abiertas al público en general para facilitar la discusión y revisión del Estudio de Impacto Ambiental el miércoles, 15 de febrero del 2017 a las 11:00 am en la Marina Public Library Community Meeting Room, 188 Seaside Ave. Marina; miércoles 15 de febrero a las 6:00 pm en el Oldemeyer Center, 986 Hilby Ave. Seaside y el jueves 16 de febrero a las 4:00 pm en el Sunset Center, Carpenter Hall, San Carlos Street, Carmel.

Observaciones y comentarios acerca del EIA pueden ser presentados en las reuniones públicas o por escrito, pero no más tarde de febrero 27, 2017. Favor de enviar sus observaciones y comentarios a la CPUC/MBNMS; c/o Environmental Science Associates; 550 Kearny St., Suite 800; San Francisco, CA 94108. fax: 415.896.0332; email: MPWSP-EIR@esassoc.com.



**California Public Utilities Commission**  
c/o Environmental Science Associates  
550 Kearny Street, Suite 800  
San Francisco, CA 94108

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