MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Supplement to 2/21/2019 MPWMD Board Packet

Attached are copies of letters received between January 15, 2019 and February 12, 2019. These letters are listed in the February 21, 2019 Board packet under Letters Received.

Author	Addressee	Date	Topic
David Beech	MPWMD Board	2/12/19	Towards the written plan
D Poston, M Addison, F Lunding, L Samuels, C Vetter	MPWMD Board	1/29/19	Rule 19.8 Feasibility Study
Dawn Posten	MPWMD Board	1/28/2019	Rule 19.8 Feasibility Study
John Tilley	MPWMD Board	1/25/2019	Measure J Feasibility Study Comments
Valerie Ralph	Arlene Tavani	1/24/2019	Monterey County City Selection Committee Appointment to the MPWMD
Mary Ann Carbone	MPWMD Board	1/24/2019	Going forward with the implementation of Measure J
David Beech	MPWMD Board	1/23/2019	Urgent suggestions for the written plan process
John Moore	MPWMD Board	1/23/2019	More on carcinogenic fire fighting foam
Melodie Chrislock	MPWMD Board	1/23/2019	Top ten most expensive water providers in the country
James Hicks	MPWMD Board	1/20/19	Points for presentation to a doubting business group
Rick Heuer	MPWMD Board	1/18/2019	MPTA Recommendations on Feasibility Study

U:\staff\Boardpacket\2019\20190221\LettersRecd\SuplPkt.docx

From:	David Beech
To:	alvinedwards420@gmail.com; rileyforwaterdistrict@gmail.com; Molly Evans; jcbarchfaia@att.net; gqhwd1000@gmail.com; dpotter@ci.carmel.ca.us; district5@co.monterey.ca.us; Dave Stoldt
Cc:	Arlene Tavani
Subject:	Towards the Written Plan
Date:	Tuesday, February 12, 2019 2:48:36 PM

Members of the Board, General Manager,

In preparing for the important 2/21/19 Board Meeting, please consider the following ratepayer submission.

1. Qualifications of Proposed Consultants

It is essential that at least the major consultants selected should have had prior experience of contributing to a successful public buyout of a private utility company. This is a matter of demonstrated competence in a contested environment, where the data and reasoning in support of the Written Plan have to be strong and comprehensive enough to withstand any challenge, likely in court eventually. That will call for the recommendations to be objective, otherwise they would collapse in the hostile environment.

Isn't that the minimum we would expect if we were choosing advisors for ourselves for a large personal project?

2. Avoidance of Premature Criteria

Only when the consultants have done a substantial amount of work will it make sense to begin to develop a sense of the feasibility of the draft Written Plan. In particular, it would be inappropriate to establish precise metrics in advance, while understanding so little of the complex factors involved.

Although Cal Am might like to see a high hurdle set for feasibility of the buyout, it is worth noting that this would be inconsistent with their approach in the much simpler Slant Well Test, which did not have any predetermined criteria for success or feasibility, even though it was positioned as a somewhat scientific experiment.

Respectfully submitted,

David Beech

Monterey

From: Molly Evans <water@mollyevans.org>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 9:31 AM
To: Dave Stoldt <dstoldt@mpwmd.net>
Subject: Fwd: Feasibility

Dave,

I received this today. Please forward to the Board. Thank you.

- Molly
Molly Evans
MPWMD Chair

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Dawn Poston <jumperdawn@aol.com>
> **Date:** January 28, 2019 at 9:21:35 AM PST
> **To:** water@mollyevans.org
> **Subject: Feasibility**
>
> January 29, 2019
>
> Dear Board of Directors,
>
> As you are involved with feasibility studies regarding the possible take over of Cal Am, we ask you to keep in mind the premise and promise on which Measure J passed. During the campaign virtually 100% of our neighbors, friends, and acquaintances who made the choice to support/vote for Measure J did so because they believed that, immediately upon a successful takeover, water would be ***cheaper***. Every public water sign said 'Want Affordable Water?' The inference was clear.
>
> Citizens who supported Measure J (and those who didn't) want the feasibility study to demonstrate that there will be **immediate and permanent reduction in water rates <u>now</u>.** Not five years from now, not twenty years from now, not sometime in the distant future, but **<u>now</u>.** The decision to move forward on takeover must be based on the premise and promise for which citizens made their vote. Without the certainty of that promise, the takeover is not feasible.
>
> We encourage you to make your decision based on immediate and permanent reduction in water rates.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> G16 Coalition Board of Directors
>
> Dawn Poston
>
> Michael Addison
>
> Frank Lunding
>
> Lawrence Samuels
>
> Carol Vetter

The G16 Coalition

Bringing Common Sense to Carmel Valley Issues

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FEB 01 2019
MPWMD

January 29, 2019

Water Peninsula Water Management District
P.O. Box 85
Monterey, CA 93942-005

Dear Board of Directors,

As you are involved with feasibility studies regarding the possible take over of Cal Am, we ask you to keep in mind the premise and promise on which Measure J passed. During the campaign virtually 100% of our neighbors, friends, and acquaintances who made the choice to support/vote for Measure J did so because they believed that, immediately upon a successful takeover, water would be ***cheaper***. Every public water sign said 'Want Affordable Water?' The inference was clear.

Citizens who supported Measure J (and those who didn't) want the feasibility study to demonstrate that there will be **immediate and permanent reduction in water rates now.** Not five years from now, not twenty years from now, not sometime in the distant future, but **now.** The decision to move forward on takeover must be based on the premise and promise for which citizens made their vote. Without the certainty of that promise, the takeover is not feasible.

We encourage you to make your decision based on immediate and permanent reduction in water rates.

Sincerely,

Dawn Poston

G16 Coalition Board of Directors
Dawn Poston
Michael Addison
Frank Lunding
Lawrence Samuels
Carol Vetter

From:	John Tilley
To:	Molly Evans; Arlene Tavani
Cc:	Comments; Mary Adams; alvinedwards420@gmail.com; rileyforwaterdistrict@gmail.com; jcbarchfaia@att.net; gqhwd1000@gmail.com
Subject:	RE: Measure J Feasibility Study Comments
Date:	Friday, January 25, 2019 4:07:13 PM

Hello Everyone,

May I please ask to have my e-mail below added to the listening session package which includes numerous other e-mails on the important topic?

Thank you,

John

From: Molly Evans [mailto:water@mollyevans.org]
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2018 11:37 AM
To: John Tilley <john.tilley@pinnacle.bank>
Cc: comments@mpwmd.net; Mary Adams <maryadams0712@gmail.com>; alvinedwards420@gmail.com; rileyforwaterdistrict@gmail.com; jcbarchfaia@att.net; gqhwd1000@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Measure J Feasibility Study Comments

John,

Than you for reaching out. The measure passed, and that directs the District to proceed with the acquisition. The first step is the study. If the study shows it is feasible, the next step is to show that it is in the public interest. Thus the reason we are asking that question. If the study shows it is infeasible to acquire the system, then the process stops, regardless of whether people feel it is in the best interests of the public. Asking only about the benefits of a publicly owned system does not call into question the District's impartiality. We are following the directive the voters have given the District.

I hope you have a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. I look forward to seeing you at a listening session.

- Molly
Molly Evans
MPWMD Chair

On Dec 24, 2018, at 8:14 AM, John Tilley <john.tilley@pinnacle.bank> wrote:

> Dear MPWMD,
>
> I see that the listening sessions all include the question "What do you see are the benefits of a publicly owned water system?" (See below please.) Obviously this is

skewed toward approval of a publicly owned water system; otherwise it would have read: “What do you see are the benefits or detractions of a publicly owned water system?

So that the district is appearing to be impartial in this process consider also asking for input that is not supportive of Measure J. The current questions make it seem that the district is gathering responses supporting public ownership rather than listening to the spectrum of opinions on public ownership.

Thank you,

John Tilley

Thank you for sharing your thoughts regarding the Water Management District’s Feasibility Study. Your participation in this exercise is critical for a thorough and comprehensive process.

We are asking you to please try to answer the following questions:

- *What does “feasible” mean to you?*
- *Which measure of “feasibility” is most important to you?*
- *What do you see are the benefits of a publicly owned water system?*

You may expand your thoughts of course, but we ask that you address these questions.

Thank you!

Water Management District Staff

MONTEREY COUNTY

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

168 West Alisal Street, 1st Floor
SALINAS, CA 93901
P.O. BOX 1728
SALINAS, CA 93902
(831) 755-5066
cob@co.monterey.ca.us

January 24, 2019

Arlene Tavani
5 Harris Court, Bldg. G
Monterey, CA 93942

Re: Monterey County City Selection Committee Appointment to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Dear Ms. Tavani,

On Friday, January 4, 2019, the Monterey County City Selection Committee appointed Mayor Dave Potter to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, for term ending at the pleasure of the City Selection Committee.

Contact information for Mayor Potter is as follows:

Mayor Dave Potter
City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
P.O. Box CC
Carmel, CA 93921
620-2000 city hall
915-3696 cell
dpotter@ci.carmel.ca.us

If you need further assistance, do not hesitate to contact me at (831) 755-5066.

Best regards,

Valerie Ralph
Clerk of the Board
Secretary to the City Selection Committee
County of Monterey

Cc: Mayor Potter
CSC File

Submitted by Mary Ann Carbone at 1/23/2019 Board Meeting Item 15

January 24, 2019

Board Members
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
5 Harris Court, Building G
Monterey, CA 93940

RE: Going Forward with the Implementation of Measure J

Dear Mdm. Chairman and Board Members,

As you move forward with your implementation of Measure J, the City Council of Sand City requests that you take the following actions:

Number one	All factual data that the board plans to use when undertaking the feasibility study be publicly listed
Number two	The board publicly articulate their definition and boundaries for the determination of feasibility before data collection takes place and which California American Water assets are being considered for condemnation.
Number three	Every effort be made by the board to make all of their discussions, deliberations, directions to consultants, consultant scopes of work, etc. transparent and available to the public. The board should not hide behind the potential threat of litigation to discuss in closed session items that they would rather not discuss an open session. The feasibility component that is the first step in the condemnation process does not involve any negotiations whatsoever. When you get to the bench trial on public necessity it will be in open court with no secrets.
Number four	The board should make it clear what the costs and risks are associated with each stage of the process. For example, what is the range of estimated costs for the

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1 Pendergrass Way
Sand City, CA
93955

Administration
(831) 394-3054

Planning
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FAX
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Police
(831) 394-1451

FAX
(831) 394-1038

Incorporated
May 31, 1960

feasibility analysis, how much is budgeted to meet those costs, where will those dollars come from and what is the risk associated with that phase of the process. Assuming that the board finds acquisition feasible, what are the costs and risks associated going forward with the bench trial necessary to have the court find public necessity, which is necessary to actually condemn California American Water's assets? Assuming the bench trial is successful, what are the costs and risks associated with going forward with the jury trial to determine value of the California American Water assets?

Number five

Assuming a favorable bench trial and a jury trial that provides the adjudicated value of the California American Water assets, how will the purchase of those assets be financed? Sand City requests that the public have an opportunity to vote on the financing mechanism before the District moves forward with the actual condemnation of California American Water's assets.

Thank you for taking my community's questions and concerns into account. I ask that you publicly reply to these questions as I am sure that they are shared by almost every constituent of the Water Management District

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Carbone

Mary Ann Carbone
Mayor, City of Sand City

MC:sg

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1 Pendergrass Way
Sand City, CA
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May 31, 1960

Submitted by David Beech at 1/23/2019 Board Meeting

Item 15

Urgent Suggestions for the Written Plan process

David Beech

Monterey residential ratepayer

Public Comment to MPWMD Directors

January 23, 2019

WMD Board needs to be fully involved in the WP process

- WMD Staff
  - Execute well, but need guidance
  - Unilateral decisions so far have had problems:
    - Format of public outreach
    - Solicitation of consultants
- WMD Board
  - You are scheduled to approve staff-recommended consultants Feb 23 without any apparent prior involvement (not even in closed session so far)

Suggestion 1

- Schedule a WMD meeting early in February
  - i) To review RFQ job specifications (in open session, except where Brown Act allows closed session)
  - Ii) To consider the WP process after consultant selection, in preparation for a Feb 23 motion
  - Preferably conduct as a workshop, allowing dialog without “single 3-minutes at start” rule

Suggestion 2

- Please avoid premature decisions cf. Brexit!
  - Do not establish in advance a precise measure of feasibility (Cal Am never had one for the test slant well!)
  - Do not ask consultants (or WMD staff) to make recommendations on feasibility, but make a Board decision when the final WP gives you the factual basis for making this judgement.

Suggestion 3

- After long experience in producing documents like the WP, I would be happy, when given the time, to outline the most common successful process:
  - Focus from the start on a draft WP
  - Editor has control of changes, as directed
  - Establish the approval process for changes
  - Monthly distribution to, and review by, the Board

Sara Reyes

From: John Moore <jmoore052@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 4:41 PM
To: Jim Johnson; russell mcglothlin; Randy.Barnard@waterboards.ca.gov; robert.brownwood@waterboards.ca.gov; ramburke@yahoo.com; Ron Weitzman
Cc: Laura Dadiw; DDWrecycledwater@waterboards.ca.gov; Jane Parker; john moore; Joe Livernois; Felicia Marcus; mheditor@montereyherald.com; editor@cedarstreettimes.com; erickson@stamplaw.us; erica.burton@noaa.gov; Cynthia Garfield; Catherine.Stedman@amwater.com; paul@carmelpinecone.com; pam@mcweekly.com; Prescott J. Kendall
Subject: Fwd: More on carcinogenic fire fighting foam PFAS/PFOA contaminating groundwater of towns near military bases

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: John Moore <jmoore052@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 4:27 PM
Subject: Fwd: More on carcinogenic fire fighting foam PFAS/PFOA contaminating groundwater of towns near military bases
To: <Jan.Sweigert@waterboards.ca.gov>

I sent the above e-mails to you last Sep 16, 2018.
Three different Engineers at the Dept. of Drinking Water (DDW) have informed me that you have the authority to insist upon the required tests for the PWM project, the desalinization project and for the Seaside Basin.
In El Paso, Texas, there is a current drinking water contamination issue related to prior fire foam used to put out fires. As the PWM EIR for PWM showed, such foam had been used and was present in the soils of Area 39 of Ft. Ord, but the Super Fund engineers did not authorize funding to clean it up, as I discussed above. IMO, based on the Salinas basin history, the Seaside Basin is probably contaminated right now, but the few tests now used would not reveal PFAS/PFOA, other PFC's and Chemicals of Emerging Concern, because appropriate tests have not been required by you(admittedly there is pressure on you not to impose appropriate tests, or to determine the necessary tests).
All agree that because of your designated status as the person responsible for the safety of the water injected into and out of the Seaside basin for potable uses, when the failures occur, you will be the named Scapegoat. Named by Who? Everyone above you, plus the recycle boys, Sciuto, Stoldt and Barnhart(DWW engineer).
No employee with your historic record of exceptional performance should be put in your position, but it happens. I practiced law in Sacramento and did millions of contract work for state agencies, particularly the Dept. of Corrections, so I have first hand knowledge about how your superiors protect themselves. Not all of them, but in this case there are several clear cut hucksters, including the recycle boys.
All that I have asked is that DWW, The Seaside Watermaster, or the State Water Board hire a couple of recognized experts with medical and wastewater safety educations and experience(Mds.,Micro-biologsts, PHDs, Epidimologists,) et al to study the PWM project, including the quality of the Seaside basin to assure those of us that are scheduled to buy and use this water for potable purposes, that the water is safe for such purposes.
If I was in your spot I would order such an analysis. Let the promoters scream, but then explain two things: first why were medical experts excluded from the EIR process, and second, how can they reasonably object to such a safeguard?
John M. Moore, 836 n2d st.
Pacific Grove, Ca. 93950 831-655-4540

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: John Moore <jmoore052@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Sep 16, 2018 at 3:49 PM

Subject: Fwd: More on carcinogenic fire fighting foam PFAS/PFOA contaminating groundwater of towns near military bases
To: <Jan.Sweigert@waterboards.ca.gov>
Cc: <robert.brownwood@waterboards.ca.gov>

Ms.Sweigert:
Mr. Brownwood was diligent enough to call me a couple of weeks ago and we discussesd my concerns about the health safety of the Pure Water Monterey project. He suggested that I also discuss it with you, but I am so astounded by how the project was approved, not based on measurable science, but by the political expediency of declaring the experimental project a "done deal" based on proven precedents, that I have been reluctant to call you.

No expert toxicologist concerning the health safety of treated recycled waste waters like the PWM mix was consulted, in my view, because such an expert would not have approved it without tests for unknown CEC's, pathogens, protozoa, PSOA and PSOS. Currently, the labs negotiating with PWM are not even certified to perform such tests.

In addition, the proposed monitoring program, is not "real time," and as you are aware, source water changes minute to minute.
The e-mail above is from one of my researchers. It brings into question the health safety of the Seaside Basin, which sits under one of the Superfund base clean up sites listed in the govt. report, but ignored on the premise that the impaired water would not exit the base(untrue, one aquifer in the basin traverses to the sea.). It was also ignored based on the assumption that no local agency would use it for unsafe purposes.

As you may be aware, my concerns caught the ear of the judge in charge of the Seaside Basin Watermaster. He acknowledged that I had raised a bona fide issue about the safety of the PWM water for injection into the basin, but then recused himself. I had requested that the judge hire a panel of expert toxicologists to advise him about the safety of the PWM product.

A new judge will be appointed, but I am sure it will be a political appointment by a judge who will rubber stamp injection of the PWM brew into the basin.

I wonder if the recent PFOA and PFOS monitoring will be made a part of the testing program for the PWM project after it reposes in the basin I live in Pacific Grove where you are held in high regard, but if the PWM project is not subjected to safety tests based on the advice of trained toxicologist in the field, I am preparing to sell my home and move my son and his family from the district(with sales comm. and moving costs, about a $75,000 hit).
I realize that it would be difficult for you to impose the type of testing that I am suggesting. It is the old saw"how much is a life or disability worth?"

Please, do all that you can do to protect every man woman and child in the district. John M. Moore 655-4540

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Marcia Wright <marciawright@comcast.net>
Date: Mon, Aug 6, 2018 at 12:36 PM
Subject: More on carcinogenic fire fighting foam PFAS/PFOA contaminating groundwater of towns near military bases
To: John Moore <jmoore052@gmail.com>, Michael Weaver <michaelrweaver@mac.com>

More on military bases' fire fighting foam pollutants (PFOS/ PFAS), that are cancer causing and which persist in groundwater and soil. The breaking news is that Michigan was not an isolated case. Now these PFAS are being detected US wide, they have migrated into and contaminated groundwaters under military bases as well as other off base

locations. Fort Ord, anyone? Site 39, anyone? As usual the EPA, which is the fed agency responsible for the Safe Drinking Water Act, is in CYA mode. The EPA has quickly reduced their MCL limits to 70.
But the CDC (i.e. real physicians, not sanitation/enviro engineers pretending to be M.D.'s) disagrees with the EPA and says human health damage can occur at 10, not 70.

1. https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.militarytimes.com%2fnews%2fyour-military%2f2018%2f05%2f20%2fmore-reasons-to-be-worried-about-cancer-causing-chemicals-on-military-bases%2f&c=E,1,xjUqjhXDrZJF5W3M_UwkWGaXpyeb83aS0z7wqoygsyRAb6G5ldaSo4oH1u3ite276wN0-YKlhf2hC5nqZHwlcMj2VwXilh8rJCc8WfJOOU4S&typo=1
Good article to read!

snip

"Why would you put something out there like that, or have us use it … when you didn't do more research on it?" he said. "So you either knew about it, and put it in our hands anyway, or you didn't do enough to study it to see what its effects would be before you put it into use."

Doesn't that very sad quote by a soldier who got cancer from the cancer causing chemicals in fire fighting foam sound errily familiar to our discussions about PWM and SWB's push for potable recycle, when so little information about potable recycle's public health impacts is known? When physicians are not even being consulted by the SWB, or for that matter, the PWM project? This potable recycle march forward is being led by political appointees, enviro and engineering consultants, referred to as "experts". None of them are M.D.'s. They know zero about human health, and yet they want to put potable recycle into state wide use.

2. Here's the DOD report that was recently released about the 400 military bases stateside that used fire fighting foam with PFOS/PFAS.
Fort Ord was one of them - no surprise. Notice the superficial testing done by the Army - obviously the Army doesn't want MC BOS to shut down the PWM project and bounce back the cost of cleanup of Seaside Aquifer to the Army.

https://partner-mco-archive.s3.amazonaws.com/client_files/1524589484.pdf
See page 26 Fort Ord

PFOS/PFOA was sampled at OU1, results as indicated. The regulatory agencies agreed to close OU-1 and approved the demolition of all OU1 remaining GW wells and the Northwest Treatment System without any further action on PFOA/PFOS because the groundwater has existing restrictions and is not migrating off post. [? how do they know this is true?] The demolition activity was completed in July 2017.

1) The draft OU1 Closeout Report is currently under review by the regulatory agencies and waiting for approval

2) One additional sampling event is planned for the groundwater monitoring wells at OU2 to screen for PFOA/PFOS in FY18. Any future activities will be based on the sampling results

8 wells tested on base
2 wells over EPA limit
Range of Results above EPA LHAs (ppt): 120 - 334.

No off base wells tested.

3. http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5876611/Doctor-got-cancer-age-30-demands-investigation-possible-cluster.html

Summary of article above - it's great to read btw. An oncologist physician in Florida was diagnosed with bowel cancer in her early 30's. She noticed clusters of cancer cases in the same area where she attended high school, which was located near a military base. She's leading the charge to find out if groundwaters in towns near the military base have been contaminated by PFAS. EPA and local bureaucrats are in CYA mode. Water is safe, they say, meets [low bar antiquated] state and federal standards… I hope she doesn't give up.
I'll try to reach the oncologist and recommend she contact Professor John Edwards @ Virginia Tech, who exposed the gov't agency lies to residents at DC and Flint.

4. https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.seattletimes.com%2fseattle-news%2fenvironment%2feffort-to-clean-up-contaminated-groundwater-in-washington-may-get-federal-help%2f&c=E,1,Wwwhq2-TyU1oYhylgIFk6h71AS0AnXd3_fg4XiKpcvj2ijFqYo1JTpAK22DRfHQEQo7dtlKIKWWYzY3qJfVbv9rylv8nFmXLMC-Q0eVH3w4vU9bxyunFyIz1aQ,,&typo=1

This article shows what how little Fed politicians value the lives of US citizens. $70 Million to clean up gw contamination @ 400 military bases? Seriously?

"Effort to clean up contaminated groundwater in Washington may get federal help"

Seattle Times staffUpdated July 27, 2018 at 12:49 pm

Fairchild Air Force Base near Spokane and Naval Air Station Whidbey Island have conducted tests that showed levels of chemicals found in firefighting foam to be above federal guidelines. Elevated levels of the chemicals also were found at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

The U.S. Senate is expected to vote next week on a bill that helps pay for clean up of groundwater contamination linked to firefighting foams used at military installations, including three in Washington state.

The National Defense Authorization Act legislation, which was approved by the House on Thursday, includes $70 million in funding for the cleanup, said Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., in a statement. It's unclear how much of that amount would be allocated to Washington. The Defense Department has identified more than 400 military installations with a known or suspected release of the chemicals, sometimes spreading into wells used for drinking water in surrounding communities.

In Washington, Fairchild Air Force Base near Spokane and Naval Air Station Whidbey Island have conducted tests that showed levels of chemicals found in firefighting foam to be above federal guidelines.[which are set too high anyway]

Elevated levels of the chemicals also were found at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, but military officials have indicated the contamination has not spread outside of the base, according to Cantwell's statement.

"Clean drinking water is a must for every Washingtonian, and for families throughout our country," Cantwell said. "This funding will ensure we continue to clean up groundwater in communities affected by those chemicals."

5. This article talks about a firm that is trying to cleanup PFAS/PFOS using new technology. Bottomline - it costs $$$$$$$$$$ and it takes many years before the gw is safe to use for drinking water. Say Seaside Aquifer, anyone?

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nhpr.org%2fpost%2fnew-tech-scrubs-pfas-contamination-groundwater-

pease%23stream%2f0&c=E,1,HHkVUi61lVAatlfUOykbIHSJqUeFHgtjTmwyt5fOBlzikwOauo15RufBeufe1zTi8pQvYPhdknRurwn8DTDmBvYAjXJDG_Pi2qBRhIpEr_UmCd7iPEo1&typo=1

PFAS was common until the early 2000s in all kinds of products. It doesn't biodegrade and has been linked to cancers and other health issues. And it doesn't take much PFAS to cause those problems. The CDC says as little as 11 parts per trillion of some of the chemicals may put human health at risk. The EPA's suggested limit is 70 parts per trillion.

Compare that to levels found at Pease: the well that was shut down for contamination in 2014 contains up to 2,000 parts per trillion PFAS.
And the aquifer beneath this fire training area contains 50,000 parts per trillion. The Air Force says this treatment facility could be a model for long-term cleanup near other contaminated bases nationwide.
It'll pump the groundwater out of the aquifer, scrub it of PFAS, and put it back in the ground – over and over for years until the groundwater is safe to drink.

6. Colorado is finding the same PFAS/PFOS problems in gw. Oddly enough California's State Water Board has been mum on the subject, although CA. had/has several military bases.

https://www.denverpost.com/2018/07/12/north-metro-denver-contaminated-groundwater/

The Environmental Protection Agency's current health advisory limit for PFCs is 70 ppt because these are among the hardest-to-remove chemicals, linked to health problems from testicular cancer to low birth weights.

Top Ten Most Expensive Water Providers in the Country: 2017 Update

In 2015, Food & Water Watch surveyed the 500 largest community water systems in the United States to find out how much they charge a typical household using 60,000 gallons a year.[1] Since then, California American Water — a state arm of the nation's largest private water corporation[2] — has substantially increased its water rates on the Monterey Peninsula, California.[3] In April 2017, we reexamined the 10 most expensive providers to see how their rates have changed. Among these systems, California American Water charges typical Monterey households the highest water rates.

New Rank	Old Rank	Utility	State	Owner	2015 Bill	2017 Bill	Increase	% Increase
1	**9**	**California American Water - Monterey**	**CA**	**Private**	**$716.18**	**$1,202.59**	**$486.41**	**68%**
2	2	Padre Dam Municipal Water District	CA	Public	$826.94	$959.27	$132.33	16%
3	8	Goleta Water District	CA	Public	$736.62	$958.55	$221.94	30%
4	3	Pennsylvania American Water – West	PA	Private	$792.84	$847.59	$54.75	7%
5	4	Pennsylvania American Water – Pittsburgh	PA	Private	$792.84	$847.59	$54.75	7%
6	5	Pennsylvania American Water – Lake Scranton	PA	Private	$792.84	$847.59	$54.75	7%
7	6	Pennsylvania American Water – Norristown	PA	Private	$792.84	$847.59	$54.75	7%
8	10	West Virginia American Water – Kanawha Valley	WV	Private	$710.63	$827.37	$116.74	16%
9	7	Aqua Pennsylvania	PA	Private	$782.38	$782.38	$-	0%
10	1	Flint	MI	Public	$910.05	$710.83	$(199.22)	-22%

NOTES: Annual bills were calculated for households using 60,000 gallons a year, using rates inside the main service area, as of January 2015 and April 2017.

Endnotes

1 Food & Water Watch. "The State of Public Water in the United States." February 2016.

2 American Water Works Corporation, Inc. U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Form 10-K. February 21, 2017 at 3 and exhibit 21.1.

3 Johnson, Jim. "Cal Am water bills to rise as much as 79 percent by March; more increases pending." *Monterey County Herald.* January 21, 2017.

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THE STATE OF PUBLIC WATER
IN THE UNITED STATES

food&waterwatch

About Food & Water Watch

Food & Water Watch champions healthy food and clean water for all. We stand up to corporations that put profits before people, and advocate for a democracy that improves people's lives and protects our environment. We envision a healthy future for our families and for generations to come, a world where all people have the wholesome food, clean water and sustainable energy they need to thrive. We believe this will happen when people become involved in making democracy work and when people, not corporations, control the decisions that affect their lives and communities.

Food & Water Watch has state and regional offices across the country to help engage concerned citizens on the issues they care about. For the most up-to-date contact information for our field offices, visit *foodandwaterwatch.org*.

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THE STATE OF PUBLIC WATER
IN THE UNITED STATES

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Executive Summary

Nearly nine out of ten people in the United States receive their water service from a publicly owned utility. Although water privatization receives a great deal of attention from policy makers, the dominant trend is in the other direction — toward public ownership.

There are many good reasons for this trend. By owning and operating their water and sewer systems, local governments have control over the decisions that determine the cost and quality of services that are essential for public health and wellbeing as well as economic viability. This control allows governments to direct development, planning and growth and to better protect the environment and sustain their local economies.

Food & Water Watch reviewed eight years of data from the Federal Safe Drinking Water Information System to document the ongoing annual shift toward public ownership.

Food & Water Watch also conducted a comprehensive survey of the water rates of the 500 largest U.S. community water systems and found that large for-profit, privately owned systems charged 59 percent more than large publicly owned systems. This is the largest water rate survey of its kind in the country.

Key Findings

Public water prevails across the country. The vast majority of people receive tap water from a publicly owned utility.

- Publicly owned utilities served 87 percent of people that have piped water service.
- For-profit water companies own only about 10 percent of water systems, most of which serve small communities.

There is an ongoing nationwide trend toward public ownership of water systems. More and more people each year receive their water service from a public utility.

- From 2007 to 2014, the portion of people with water service from publicly owned systems increased from 83 percent to 87 percent.
- Over that period, the number of private systems dropped 7 percent (a loss of nearly 1,700 privately

owned systems), while the number of people served by privately owned systems fell 18 percent (8 million people).

- At the same time, the number of publicly owned systems remained fairly constant, but these public systems saw their service population grow by 10 percent, adding 24 million people to their networks.
- Public water utilities are taking over and consolidating private systems.

Public service is the most affordable option. A survey of the 500 largest community water systems reveals:

- On average, private for-profit utilities charged households 59 percent more than local governments charged for drinking water service — an extra $185 a year.
- The average government utility charged $315.56 for 60,000 gallons a year, while the average for-profit company charged $500.96 (59 percent more) for the same amount of water.
- In New York and Illinois, private systems charged about twice as much as their public counterparts.
- In Pennsylvania, private systems charged 84 percent more than public systems, adding $323 onto the typical household's annual water bill.
- In New Jersey, private systems charged 79 percent more than public systems, adding $230 onto the typical household's annual water bill.

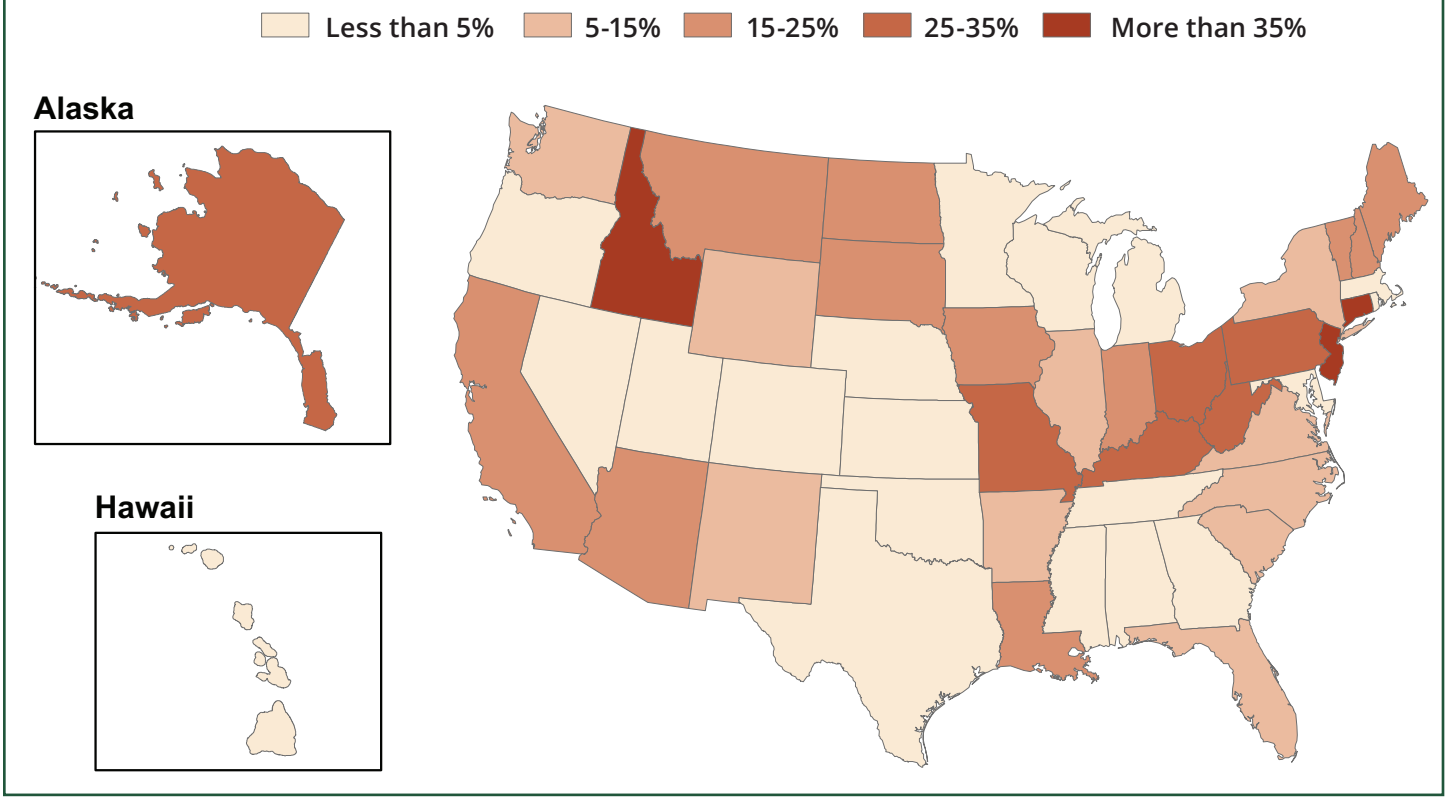
Background: The Progressive Era's Turn to Public Ownership of Water Systems

Historically, public provision of water services has led to better quality, less-expensive and more-equitable service, and substantial improvements in public health.

Private water companies had served many of the nation's largest cities until the turn of the twentieth century, when cholera outbreaks and destructive fires inspired a surge of cities to take over water provision for health and public safety reasons. From about 1880 to about 1920, thousands of cities — including Los Angeles and San Francisco — assumed public control of their water systems. This wave drew inspiration from earlier movements toward public water in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Chicago.[1]

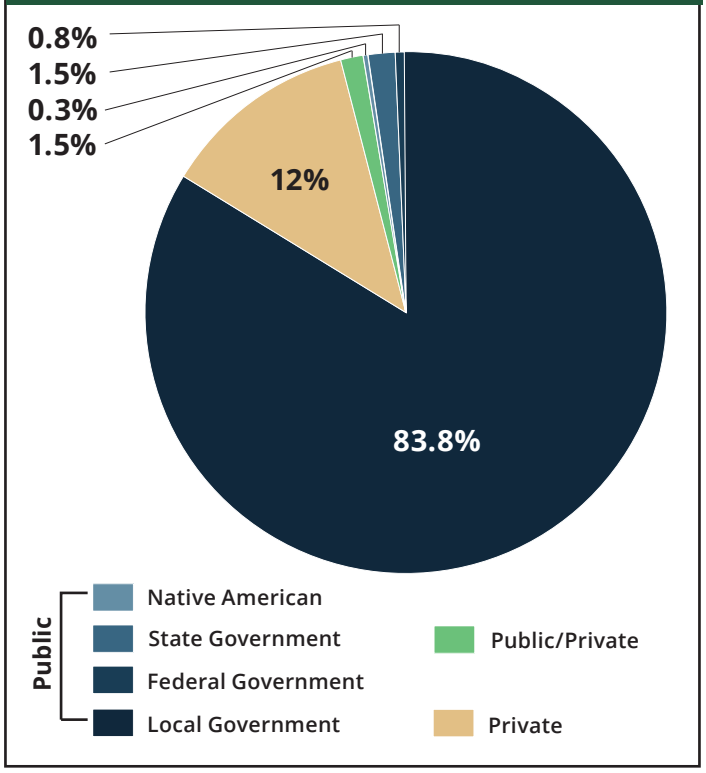
In the 1800s, New York City took over responsibility for providing drinking water services, creating a new system apart from the one privately held by the Manhattan

Figure 1: Private Ownership of Community Water Systems by Service Population (2014)



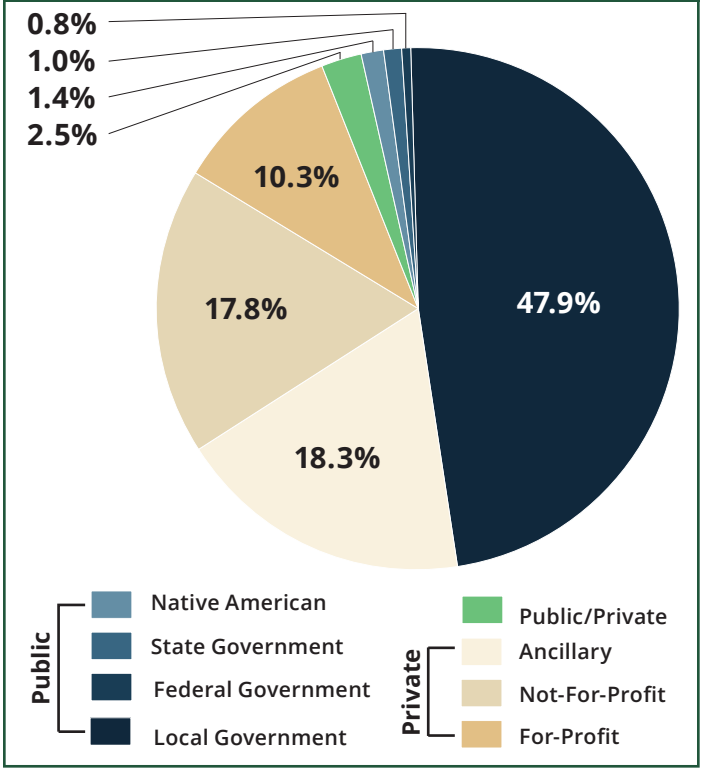
SOURCE: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Safe Drinking Water Federal Information System. FY2014 Inventory Data.

Figure 2: Community Water System Ownership By Number of People Served (2014)



SOURCE: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Safe Drinking Water Federal Information System. FY2014 Inventory Data. June 30, 2014.

Figure 3: Community Water System Ownership By Number of Systems (2014)



SOURCES: Food & Water Watch calculations based on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Safe Drinking Water Federal Information System. FY2014 Inventory Data; U.S. EPA. "2006 Community Water System Survey: Volume 1." February 2009 at 9.

Company.[2] The city did this after the Manhattan Company, the predecessor of JPMorgan Chase,[3] was blamed for an outbreak of cholera that killed 3,500 people and for inadequate water infrastructure to fight fires.[4] Similarly, by 1900, concerns about water supply, high prices and poor service had led both Los Angeles and San Francisco to take public control of their water systems from private entities.[5]

For customers, public ownership meant lower water prices. An 1899 federal survey found that public water utilities were charging rates that were 24 percent less than those of private water companies at the time.[6]

Public ownership also significantly expanded access and improved water quality, helping to prevent diseases.[7] Many cities made large improvements to their water supplies and built new treatment facilities.[8]

For example, after Billings, Mont., bought the Billings Water Company in 1915, the city built a purification plant and extended water lines to serve the whole city.[9] After New Orleans took over the local private water system in 1908, the city made investments that cut waterborne disease rates dramatically. The private water company that had served the city distributed unfiltered water from the Mississippi River, which was contaminated by sewage dumped upriver. After residents successfully organized to strip the company of its charter, the city purchased the system and, over the next 15 years, undertook massive improvement projects to expand service and install a filtration system.[10]

Public ownership reaped great public health outcomes in large part because it allowed for more-equitable service. Local governments extended water lines to low-income and black communities that had been neglected by private companies.[11] One analysis found that public ownership of water systems cut typhoid rates in black populations in the South by as much as 42 percent, yet public ownership had no statistically significant impact on typhoid rates among white populations.[12]

Public ownership remains the most affordable and equitable option today.

The State of the Industry Today

Publicly owned utilities provide most water and sewer services in the United States.[13] In 2014, public entities served about 87 percent of people with piped water service (see Figure 2).[14] Private water service is concen-

trated in a few states. In 25 states, private water companies serve less than 10 percent of the population, while 4 states have private water companies serving more than 35 percent of their population (see Figure 1).[15]

While most people in the United States have public tap water, only about half of U.S. water systems are publicly owned (see Figure 3). The reason is that there are many small private systems serving subdivisions and other small communities, while nearly every large city owns its own water system and serves a much larger population.

According to survey data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), less than a quarter (22.3 percent) of the privately owned systems are for-profit water businesses.[16] The rest are non-profit entities or ancillary systems, which are systems that are owned by entities whose primary function is not water provision (for example, manufactured home parks).[17]

Overall, for-profit water companies own only about 10 percent of U.S. community water systems.[18] The vast majority of the water systems owned by for-profit companies are small, with about 90 percent serving fewer than 3,300 people.[19]

Trends

Nationally, there has been an ongoing shift to public ownership of drinking water services. Between 2007 and 2014, the portion of the population with public water increased from 83 percent to 87 percent (see Table 1).

Over this period, the total number of people served by public systems increased by 10 percent, as public systems added 24 million people to their customer base. Meanwhile, the number of people served by privately owned systems fell by 18 percent, as private companies served 8 million fewer people in 2014 than in 2007 (see Table 1).[20]

One reason for the trend is that the number of private systems decreased 7 percent (see Table 2). There were nearly 1,700 fewer privately owned systems in 2014 than in 2007. The much larger number of public systems remained fairly stable over this period, increasing by just 99 systems.[21] Migration from rural to urban settings and different rates of population growth also could contribute to this trend.

Reports by the U.S. EPA identified earlier declines in private water systems. One EPA report noted a decrease

Table 1. People Served by Public, Private and Mixed Ownership of Community Water Systems, 2007 and 2014

Ownership Type	People Served (Portion of Total)		Increase or Decrease	% Increase (Decrease)
	2007	2014		
Public	237,634,535 (83.0%)	261,745,966 (87%)	24,111,431	10%
Private	44,459,100 (15.5%)	36,338,067 (12%)	-8,121,033	-18%
Public/Private	4,357,569 (1.5%)	4,511,784 (1%)	154,215	4%
Total	**286,451,204**	**302,595,817**	**16,144,613**	**6%**

Table 2. Number of Public, Private and Mixed-Ownership Community Water Systems, 2007 and 2014

Ownership Type	Number of Systems (Portion of Total)		Increase or Decrease	% Increase (Decrease)
	2007	2014		
Public	25,671 (49%)	25,770 (51%)	99	0%
Private	25,081 (48%)	23,395 (46%)	-1,686	-7%
Public/Private	1,358 (3%)	1,266 (3%)	-92	-7%
Total	**52,110**	**50,431**	**-1,679**	**-3%**

in private provision between 2006 and 2008 of about 11 percent.[22] Also, the EPA's 2006 Community Water System Survey found a 9 percent decrease in private ownership of water systems from 2000 to 2006, with the biggest drop, percentagewise, coming from larger systems.[23]

Municipalization — when local governments buy private systems — is a major reason for the decrease in the number of private systems. Local governments frequently purchase small private systems and combine them with their existing networks.

Accountable Service

Accountability is a major reason why many communities seek public ownership of their water and sewer services. Safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation services are essential, and governments have a basic responsibility to provide these services to protect public health and wellbeing. This entails safeguarding water supplies from pollution and other threats, providing sufficient amounts of safe water and charging water service fees that are affordable.[24]

When local governments operate water and sewer systems, elected officials make the major policy decisions that determine the cost, availability and quality of these services. They set rates and decide the type and timing of system improvements to address the needs of their constituents.[25] If residents object to their service, they can exercise their power at the ballot box by electing officials that are more responsive to their concerns.

Private water companies, in contrast, have no responsibility to promote public health and wellbeing.[26] They are accountable first and foremost to their owners and make their investment decisions based on profitability.[27] Because water service is a natural and often legal monopoly,[28] if a private water company charges high rates or provides bad service, customers cannot simply switch to another provider. Rather, they are stuck with the company unless they are able to move to another community, which is neither realistic nor desirable for most people.

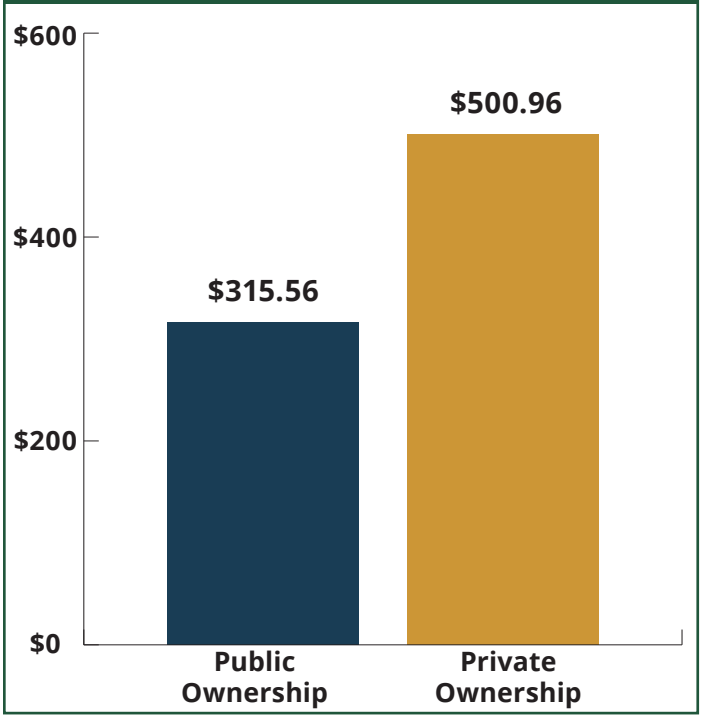
Affordable Service

In order to protect public health and wellbeing, local governments must ensure that water service is affordable for every household in a community. With federal support dwindling, water systems aging and the climate changing, achieving universal access to safe water is an increasingly difficult and crucial task for local governments.

Water itself is a priceless common resource, but there is a cost to treating and distributing water to household taps, as well as to collecting and treating the resulting wastewater. With local control over water and wastewater services, a governing body in the local community is able to decide how to allocate the burden of those costs among different users.[29] Local governments may subsidize water provision to ensure affordable service for their entire population.[30] They could also decide to keep household rates low while charging higher connection fees as a way to promote affordability and discourage sprawling development.[31]

Affordability and accountability go hand in hand. For example, residents can apply political pressure on public officials to keep water rates affordable[32] and to implement affordability programs to assist struggling households. With private ownership, residents have little recourse.

Figure 4: Annual Savings With Public Water
Average Annual Water Bills of Households Using 60,000 Gallons a Year From the 500 Largest Water Systems in the Country, 2015



Water Charges of the 500 Largest Water Systems

An analysis of the 500 largest water systems shows that publicly owned water utilities charge considerably lower rates than their private peers.

Food & Water Watch compiled the rates of the 500 largest community water systems and found that, on average, private, for-profit utilities charged typical households 59 percent more than local governments charged for drinking water service. A typical household, using 60,000 gallons a year, paid $316 for water service from a local government and $501 for service from a private company. That is, private ownership corresponds to about $185 extra each year for the average household (see Figure 4).

Water prices vary across the country, with utilities in the South charging less on average; however, uniformly, private companies had higher prices than government systems (see Figure 5 on page 8). The biggest disparity occurs in the Northeast, where the largest investor-owned utilities are based.

At the state level, the disparities are particularly dramatic in four of the five states with the largest number of private systems (see Figure 6 on page 9).

The survey found that:

- In California, private systems charged 17 percent more than public systems, or an extra $67 a year.
- In Illinois, private systems charged 95 percent more than public systems, or an extra $286 a year.
- In New Jersey, private systems charged 79 percent more than public systems, or an extra $230 a year.
- In New York, private systems charged more than twice as much as public systems, or an extra $260 a year.
- In Pennsylvania, private systems charged 84 percent more than public systems, or an extra $323 a year.

Other surveys of water rates and ownership have had similar findings. An analysis of water rates in California cities in 2003 found that private companies charged about 20 percent more on average.[33] A 2010 survey of the largest utilities in the Great Lakes region indicated that private water utilities charged typical households more than twice as much as municipal utilities did.[34] A survey of water rates in Delaware and surrounding states showed that, in 2011, investor-owned utilities charged 69 percent more than public utilities.[35]

U.S. EPA survey data also suggest that privately owned systems charged households higher rates than publicly owned systems, overall and across size categories.[36] Indeed, it is widely accepted that private ownership of water systems is associated with higher prices.[37]

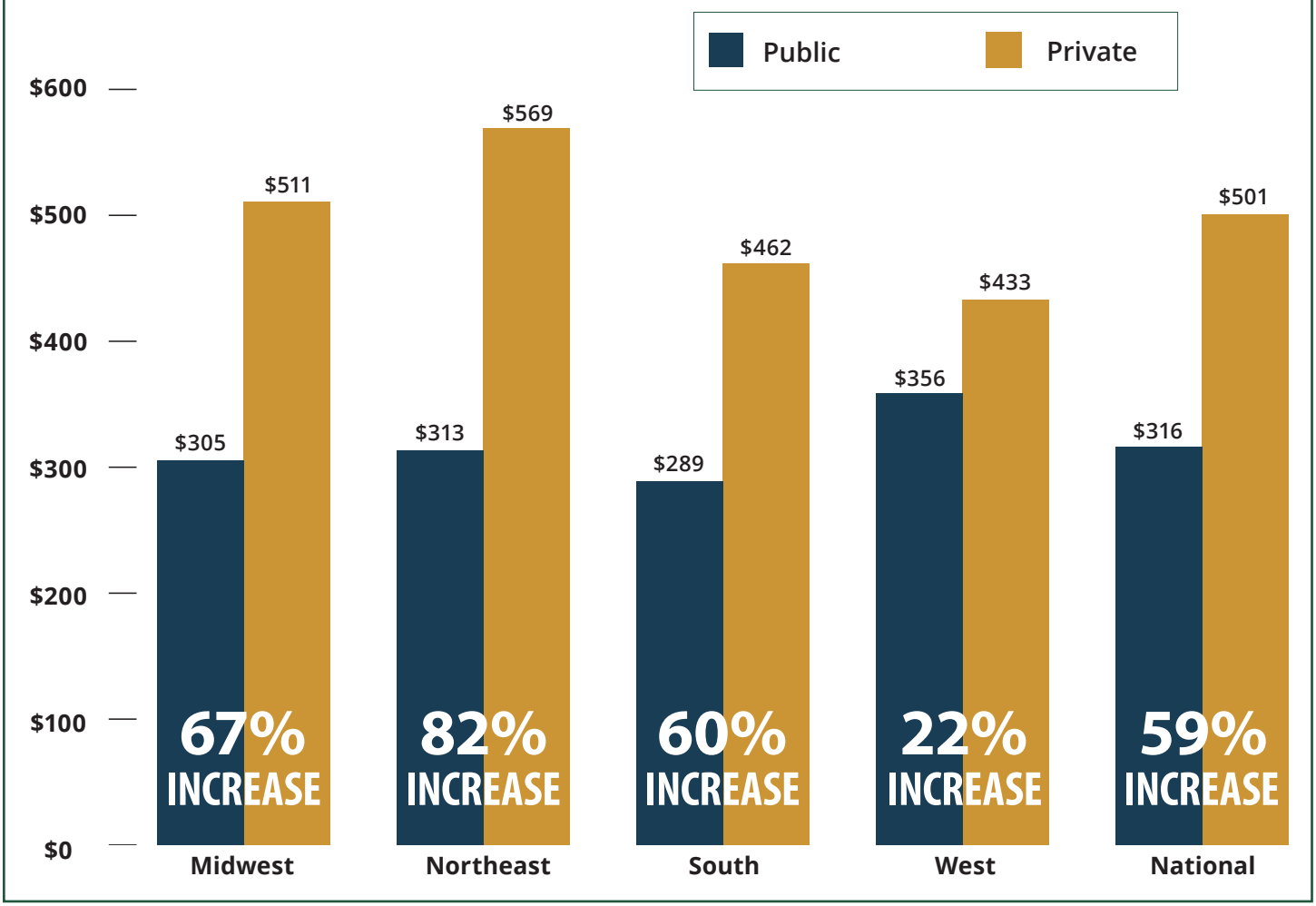
There are a variety of reasons why public water offers customer savings. Most importantly, public entities normally collect only the revenue necessary to improve and run their water systems. Privately owned utilities, however, generate profit by increasing rates. Other factors that make private water more costly for customers include: executive compensation, corporate overhead, subsidies, financing costs, rights of way, and differences in rate-making and financing practices.[38]

Equitable Service

Because they are directly accountable to their residents, publicly owned utilities generally are more concerned than private entities about issues of social equity.[40] Public ownership also is more equitable because it provides customers with clearer legal protections from discrimination, given that the Equal Protection Clause applies only to "state action."[41]

Private companies often steer clear of economically depressed and struggling areas that are less profitable. As

Figure 5: Average Annual Water Bill 2015
For Households Using 60,000 Gallons a Year Based on the 500 Largest Community Water Systems



NOTE: See Appendix for methodology and details.

a result, they generally avoid small and rural communities where household income is low or where water quality problems are significant. They typically target a small system only if it is near their existing infrastructure network and they can take advantage of economies of scale.[42]

Environmentally Responsible Service

A public entity also can be more responsive to its customers — its voters — when it comes to environmental concerns and goals.[43]

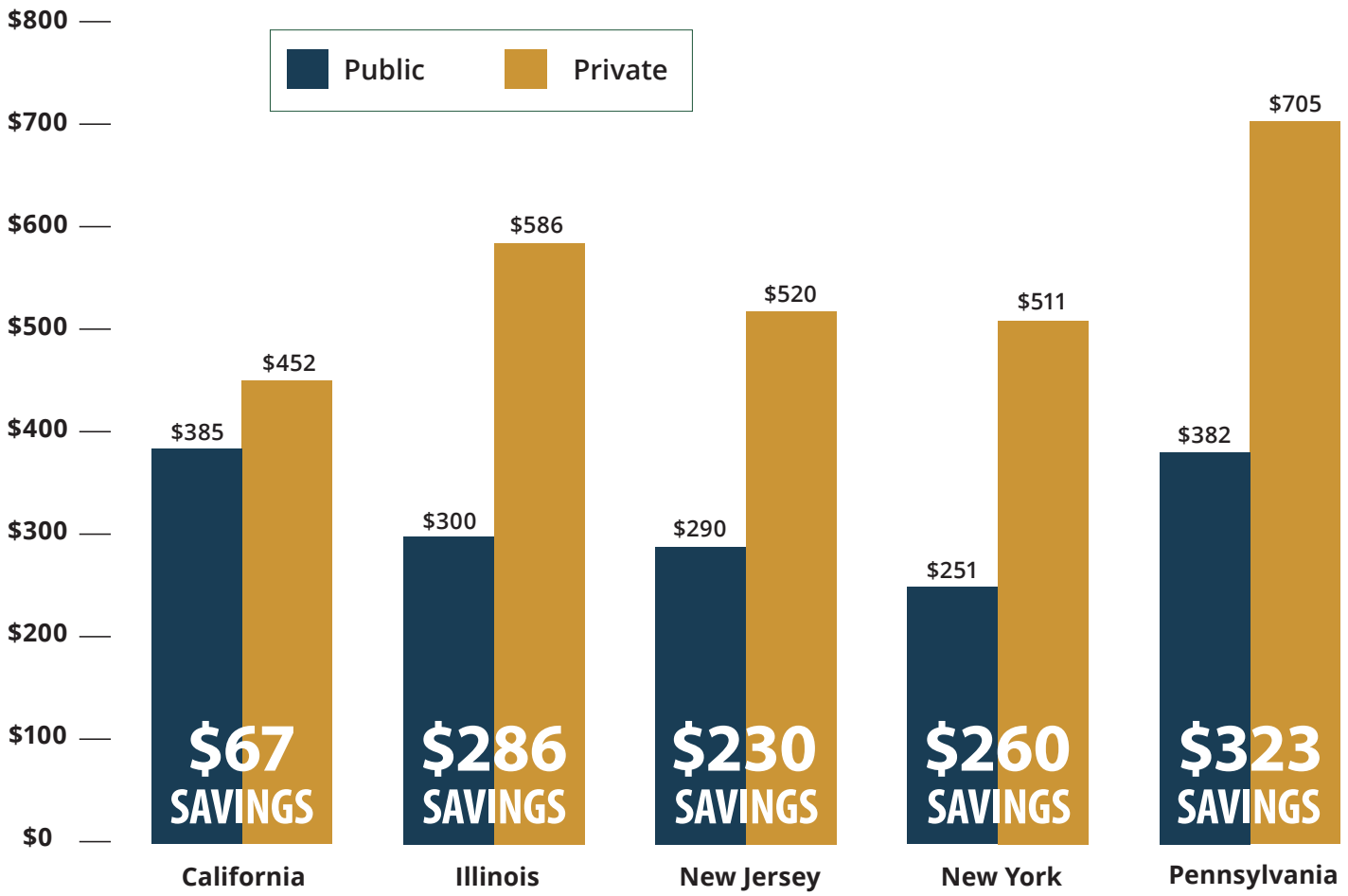
Watershed Protection

Water utilities must work to safeguard their watershed and water supplies from drilling, fracking and coal mining, pipeline spills and oil train accidents, irresponsible logging practices and other disruptive impacts.[44] Because they are a natural buffer from pollution, forests and open lands protect water supplies, improve water quality and reduce drinking water treatment costs in manifest ways.[45] Public sector utilities that have strong citizen engagement tend to have stronger watershed protections.[46]

Some private companies have sold land protecting water supplies to developers.[47] In the 1980s, United Water transferred about 600 acres of land, originally acquired to protect the water supply in Bergen County, New Jersey, to its real estate development subsidiary, which planned to resell the land to developers for substantial profits.[48]

Local governments also have paid the costs of private mismanagement. The city of Willits, California bought its water utility and watershed lands from a private firm in 1984, only to find that the company had failed to make required investments in the water system when it logged the valuable old timber from the land. The city's water

Figure 6: Public Savings Vary by State
Average Annual Water Bills in 2015 for Households Using 60,000 Gallons/Year



system was failing, had many water quality problems and needed a new treatment plant, in large part because of the private company's financial neglect and logging activities.[49]

Water Conservation

Research from California shows that, compared to private water utility companies, publicly owned water utilities more actively encourage and promote water conservation.[50] Private water systems in California have typically waited for the state to mandate conservation before taking action during droughts.[51]

Local Planning and Smart Growth

Public ownership of water and sewer systems allows local governments to direct and plan economic growth and development.[52] A local governing body decides on capital improvements and extensions to new areas.[53] It can coordinate the extension of water and sewer lines to reduce costs or to serve areas with contaminated private wells or that lack adequate fire service.[54]

Public ownership of water systems is necessary to promote smart growth. Sprawling development can harm the water supply because it changes the natural landscape. When rain hits hard pavement, less of it filters naturally into the ground to recharge the underground aquifers that supply water to wells and often connect to rivers, lakes and streams. Instead, the rainwater can be diverted into storm drains and discharged into surface waters.[55] Overall, this can strain local drinking water sources that rely on groundwater, and it can lead to sewer overflows when stormwater overwhelms wastewater collection systems.[56]

Private water companies make money on costly sprawling systems, and real estate developers frequently partner with them to serve new satellite developments.[57] Munic-

ipal systems can also have policies that protect residents from paying to extend service outside the municipal limits to new developments, while private companies often force their customers to subsidize new development.[58]

More broadly, local public control of water utilities is often necessary for successful planning that protects natural resources in that region.[59] Private ownership of water utilities can complicate and interfere with planning activities. There is no built-in incentive to cooperate with neighboring municipalities and government agencies in protecting water resources, managing watersheds, or working on affordability, equity and sustainability.[60]

Effective Service

Local government water and sewer departments typically work together to reduce costs and share resources. Cities may use wastewater trucks to remove snow or conduct other government tasks, and water department employees may help with emergency preparations for intense storms. Private contractors and utilities, in contrast, have no incentive to share equipment and worker hours.[61]

In addition to pooling resources, water and sewer utilities often coordinate with other city departments around transportation projects, urban planning efforts and fire safety, all to more effectively and efficiently protect public

Top Ten Most and Least Expensive Water Systems

Top Ten Most Expensive Water Providers as of January 2015

Rank	Entity	State	Service Population	Ownership	Annual Bill
1	Flint[a]	MI	124,943	Public	$910.05
2	Padre Dam Municipal Water District	CA	96,589	Public	$826.94
3	American Water – West	PA	93,368	Private	$792.84
4	American Water – Pittsburgh	PA	516,411	Private	$792.84
5	American Water – Lake Scranton	PA	134,570	Private	$792.84
6	American Water – Norristown	PA	94,724	Private	$792.84
7	Aqua America – Main	PA	784,939	Private	$782.38
8	Goleta Water District	CA	87,000	Public	$736.62
9	American Water – Monterey	CA	94,700	Private	$716.18
10	American Water - Kanawha Valley	WV	217,959	Private	$710.63

Top Ten Least Expensive Water Providers as of January 2015

Rank	Entity	State	Service Population	Ownership	Annual Bill
491	Toho Water Authority	FL	110,102	Public	$123.96
492	Memphis	TN	671,450	Public	$120.71
493	Medford Water Commission	OR	90,932	Public	$117.84
494	Hagerstown	MD	88,000	Public	$116.48
495	Miami-Dade	FL	2,100,000	Public	$116.46
496	Jefferson Parish – District 1	LA	308,362	Public	$104.40
497	Jefferson Parish – District 2	LA	209,972	Public	$104.40
498	Hempstead	NY	110,000	Public	$101.74
499	Clovis	CA	102,499	Public	$100.80
500	Phoenix	AZ	1,500,000	Public	$84.24

a When the survey was conducted in January 2015, Flint, Michigan had the most expensive water service in the country, but during August 2015, a judge ruled that certain rate increases were unlawful and ordered the city to reduce its rates by 35 percent and to end a service fee.[39]

Note: Annual bills were calculated for households using 60,000 gallons of water a year.

health, safety and welfare.[62] For example, cities can time water main repairs before road repairs to avoid having to repave roads again after digging up water lines.

In recent years, cities such as Kyle, Texas and Fort Worth, Indiana have sought local public control of water systems to improve water quality and supplies. Expensive, low-quality water and bad service can scare away new businesses and hurt economic development,[63] while insufficient water supplies and pressure can put public safety at risk.[64]

Ways Forward

Publicly owned water systems provide the most affordable and equitable service. Government utilities are directly accountable to the people they serve, and they have a fundamental responsibility to promote and protect public health and safety. They are generally more responsive to their community's specific needs and environmental goals, and can best coordinate among different government divisions to achieve gains in public health and welfare.

Public water utilities can further improve their services by:

- Enhancing public input through open and transparent procedures that encourage stakeholder involvement;
- Boosting in-house expertise through targeted hiring, reducing contracting and investing in job training for current staff;
- Implementing water affordability programs that provide credits to low-income households, adjusting their water bills to a level that they can afford to pay;
- Working to ensure source water protection locally and regionally;
- Maximizing services and reducing costs through greater coordination among their departments; and
- Sharing resources and expertise through public-public partnerships with other public sector, labor and non-profit entities.

Our local water systems should not have to go it alone. The federal government has a responsibility to ensure that our local public water and sewer systems receive the support they need. Communities across the country need a dedicated source of federal funding for our water systems to improve water quality, protect the environment, create good jobs and ensure safe, reliable water for generations to come.

With a renewed federal investment in our water resources, robust, responsive and responsible public utilities can best meet the needs of communities and ensure safe and affordable water for all.

Appendix A: Rate Survey State Details

Average Annual Household Water Bills, as of January 2015
Based on the 500 Largest Community Water Systems in the United States and Assuming 60,000 Gallons a Year per Household

Region and State	System Ownership		Increase Under Private	
	Public	Private	Amount	Percent
Midwest	**$305.48**	**$511.05**	**$205.57**	**67%**
Illinois	$300.31	$586.33	$286.02	95%
Indiana	$267.04	$407.67	$140.63	53%
Iowa	$270.87	$468.75	$197.88	73%
Kansas	$364.50			
Michigan	$324.10			
Minnesota	$236.49			
Missouri	$357.76	$422.41	$64.65	18%
Nebraska	$224.32			
North Dakota	$255.00			
Ohio	$302.81	$519.52	$216.71	72%
South Dakota	$320.34			
Wisconsin	$246.45			
Northeast	**$313.12**	**$569.35**	**$256.23**	**82%**
Connecticut	$343.02	$459.27	$116.25	34%
Maine	$246.12			
Massachusetts	$297.28			
New Hampshire	$358.59			
New Jersey	$290.01	$519.92	$229.91	79%
New York	$251.05	$510.56	$259.51	103%
Pennsylvania	$382.31	$705.00	$322.69	84%
Rhode Island	$371.78			
South	**$288.89**	**$461.71**	**$172.82**	**60%**
Alabama	$284.87			
Arkansas	$265.70			
Delaware	$375.42	$542.85	$167.43	45%
District of Columbia	$420.12			
Florida	$292.44			
Georgia	$306.27			
Kentucky	$365.06	$478.71	$113.65	31%
Louisiana	$187.39	$277.85	$90.45	48%
Maryland	$228.73			
Mississippi	$257.47			
North Carolina	$287.71			

Average Annual Household Water Bills, as of January 2015 *(continued)*				
Region and State	System Ownership		Increase Under Private	
	Public	Private	Amount	Percent
South	**$288.89**	**$461.71**	**$172.82**	**60%**
Oklahoma	$296.94			
South Carolina	$203.16			
Tennessee	$303.65	$316.57	$12.92	4%
Texas	$290.04			
Virginia	$317.89	$297.48	-$20.41	-6%
West Virginia		$710.63		
West	**$356.25**	**$433.06**	**$76.81**	**22%**
Alaska	$606.48			
Arizona	$247.45	$285.23	$37.78	15%
California	$385.50	$452.25	$66.75	17%
Colorado	$301.41			
Hawaii	$343.08			
Idaho		$254.78		
Montana	$273.26			
Nevada	$428.22			
New Mexico	$261.94			
Oregon	$298.15			
Utah	$231.50			
Washington	$380.45			
Grand Total	**$315.56**	**$500.96**	**$185.40**	**59%**

Note: None of the 500 largest community water systems was located in Vermont or Wyoming.

Appendix B: Rate Survey Methodology

The survey compared the residential water prices of investor-owned utilities and local government-owned utilities.

Identifying the Largest Systems. Using the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Federal Information System, frozen in October 2013, the 500 largest community water systems were identified as the systems serving the largest number of people.

Exclusions. Systems were excluded if they were primarily bulk water sellers (systems serving large populations but fewer than 100 customers), if they were Federal or Native American-owned systems and if they were not located in U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Three systems were private, non-profit entities, and, although their rates were collected, they were excluded from the rate analysis.

Data Collection. During January 2015, system water rates were compiled from utility websites and local government ordinances, if available. In three cases, the rates were not found online, and they were found by calling the utility's customer service line. All source documents are on file with Food & Water Watch.

Household Bill Calculations. Annual water bills were calculated assuming that a typical household uses about 60,000 gallons or 80.2083 hundred cubic feet a year of indoor water. For systems with water budgets, all water use was assumed to be indoor usage. Seasonal rates were weighted to arrive at an annual average. Rates were calculated for the main service division or inside jurisdiction. The annual bill includes special water-related fees and surcharges, and public fire protection charges if those fees were charged to all households (excluding private fire service protection lines and hydrants).

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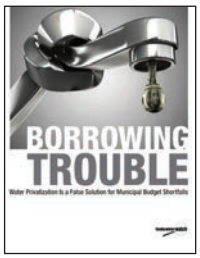
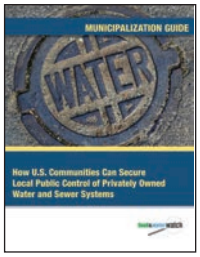
More Food & Water Watch Research on Water



Borrowing Trouble: Water Privatization Is a False Solution for Municipal Budget Shortfalls

The 2008 global financial crisis left many governments around the world with serious fiscal challenges, and a number of public officials across the globe sought to lease or sell public water and sewer systems to fund ongoing government functions or to pay down liabilities. The government's primary objective in these privatization arrangements is to obtain a sizable upfront payment from the company or consortium that takes over the water or sewer system, often as a desperate response to a fiscal crisis. But this money is not free; rather, it should be thought of as a loan. Residents and local businesses will have to repay it, with interest, through their water bills.



Water Municipalization Guide

Many communities across the country want local public control of their water and sewer services. Municipalization — the purchase of a privately owned system by a local government — is a fairly common occurrence, but for communities unfamiliar with it, the process could appear daunting. This guide provides an overview of the process and a number of logistical considerations involved in government purchases of privately owned water and sewer systems. Although the general procedure is similar, the specifics will vary by situation, partly because every state has its own legal and regulatory framework.

Aqua America: A Corporate Profile

Aqua America focuses on buying water systems and hiking water prices. It typically purchases small water and sewer systems in areas near its existing network. In addition to owning systems, the company operates a handful of local government-owned systems, but it uses those deals as a way to build its reputation and to get a foot in the door on a possible acquisition of the systems. After taking over and building out its systems, the company seeks to increase water rates. The ability to hike consumer bills is the key to its earnings.

American Water: a Corporate Profile

American Water Works Company is the largest publicly traded U.S. water utility company, serving approximately 14 million people in more than 30 states and two Canadian provinces. American Water has come under fire from communities across the country for charging high rates, providing poor service, endangering public safety and lacking public accountability. From Birmingham, Alabama, in the 1950s to Felton, California, in 2008, communities across the country have wrested local control of their water systems from American Water.

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f word pr points for presentation to a doubting business group

2 messages

james hicks <hixjas55@gmail.com>
To: comments@mpwmd.net

Sun, Jan 20, 2019 at 1:30 PM

1 no puc involvement in any and all rate decisions-no bribes
2 no state politicians influence & socialistic policies – as in PGE
3 limit court jurisdiction to so cal state courts-no 9th circuit
4 no-rate discrimination among business, labor & residents- based on gallonage
5 long term financial outlook & transparency-like chinese
rate increase limits-10% year 1, 5% year 2, 0% year 3, then vote
vote on all compensation above $30,000
6 ASSET CA PAYRATE MINIMUM - NOT diesel plant & expenses
7 PRIOR PGE record evidence of CORRUPTION

support@mpwmd.net <support@mpwmd.net>
To: hixjas55@gmail.com

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Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:

comments@mpwmd.net – what does

Your message can't be delivered because delivery to this address is restricted.

Diagnostic information for administrators:

Generating server: mpwmd.net

comments@mpwmd.net
#550 5.7.1 RESOLVER.RST.NotAuthorized; not authorized ##

Original message headers:

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Received: from mail20.ess.barracuda.com (209.222.83.71) by
 cas1h2o.h2ocorp.mpwmd.dst.ca.us (192.168.7.21) with Microsoft SMTP Server
 (TLS) id 14.3.408.0; Sun, 20 Jan 2019 13:30:21 -0800
Received: from mail-pl1-f180.google.com (mail-pl1-f180.google.com
 [209.85.214.180]) by mx2004.ess.tym.cudaops.com (version=TLSv1.2
 cipher=ECDHE-RSA-AES128-GCM-SHA256 bits=128 verify=NO); Sun, 20 Jan 2019
 21:30:19 +0000
Received: by mail-pl1-f180.google.com with SMTP id u6so8759369plm.8        for
 <comments@mpwmd.net>; Sun, 20 Jan 2019 13:30:19 -0800 (PST)
DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed;
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        h=mime-version:from:date:message-id:subject:to;
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PG&E failures demand audit of PUC's oversight

In the wake of California's deadly wildfires and the impending PG&E bankruptcy, it's time for California leaders once again to question whether the state's utilities regulator is up to the task.

The California Public Utilities Commission's ability to provide adequate oversight of PG&E has been in doubt since the 2010 San Bruno explosion that killed eight people, injured 66 and destroyed 38 homes.

An independent audit in 2016 found that "frequent management changes, shifting priorities and reactive responses to internal and external recommendations post-San Bruno has led to a loss of focus, lack of clear direction, loss of trust in leadership and unacceptable work backlogs."

The PUC shortcomings also included a "lack of consistency, focus, organization, depth and rigor, adequate record keeping, clear expectations and follow-through in utility inspection practices."

The audit offered few assurances that the PUC understood the extent of its problems or took sufficient action to remedy them.

And little seems to have changed since then.

PG&E's failure to adequately maintain its power transmission lines and its role in the 2017 and 2018 deadly Northern California wildfires strongly suggests that the PUC still isn't doing its job.

Gov. Gavin Newsom should insist that the state conduct another independent audit of the PUC's performance to determine what reforms are necessary to ensure proper oversight of the state's utilities.

The commission has a troubled history of cozying up to the industry it's supposed to be regulating, especially under the past leadership of former President Michael Peevey.

Under Peevey, the PUC allowed PG&E to divert ratepayer funds that should have gone to maintaining gas pipelines for shareholder dividends and executive bonuses, leading to the San Bruno tragedy and PG&E's subsequent felony conviction.

Back then, we called on Gov. Jerry Brown to ensure the PUC carried out its regulatory role transparently and in the public interest rather than facilitating higher utility profits at the expense of public safety. It's essential that Newsom succeed where Brown failed.

The new governor last week nominated Genevieve Shiroma to a vacancy on the PUC. Shiroma, who served five terms as a director of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, faces an immense challenge.

She succeeds Carla Peterman, a highly respected commissioner and former board member of the watchdog group The Utility Reform Network. If Peterman couldn't whip the PUC into shape, it might be because the current structure makes the job impossible.

PG&E's future will be in the spotlight as the governor and Legislature determine how to deal with the utility's potential bankruptcy and how best to ensure a reliable source of energy for the customers it serves. They also must seek a full review of the PUC's role in the crisis and determine how best to transform it into an effective regulator.

Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association
PO Box 15
Monterey, CA 93942

January 18, 2019

Board of Directors
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Delivered by Hand

RE: MPTA Recommendations on Feasibility Study

Dear Members of the Board:

The Monterey Peninsula Taxpayers Association was formed over 30 years ago when the first buyout of our private water provider was proposed. We actively educated ratepayers & taxpayers during the Measure J campaign. The campaign for Measure J drove home three points:

1) We have the most expensive water in the country.
2) A vote for Measure J will lower your water bill
3) It is "just a feasibility study."

That campaign resonated with voters and the measure passed.

The campaign was very clear on the definition of feasible, a lower water bill **today**. The feasibility analysis must include:

- The current CAW water bill needs to be compared to what the water bill will be after take over.
- People view their water cost based on what they pay on the bill, they do not differentiate between rates and surcharges. Any surcharges which remain need to be shown as well as being calculated into the total cost.
- The cost needs to include everything; new billing systems, new water testing costs, fully funded pensions, as well as debt service.
- Projected litigation costs need to be included in the feasibility calculations.

There has been debate on whether to buy the desalination plant, this is a red herring. By buying Cal-Am you are buying the Cease and Desist Order as well.

- The desalination plant is the only one of the three legs of the water stool that would be 100% under your control.
- ASR is subject to the whims of nature.
- GWR is dependent on source water, currently that is proposed to come from outside the District with no guarantee of its long term availability. There is no

agreement in place for feed water for expansion of that project.

- If you do not buy the desalination plant you need, another source of water. You could buy water from the desalination plant, but you would be at the mercy of what Cal-Am wants to charge and that would need to be figured into the feasibility study.

MPTA believes that the Voters have sent a clear signal in passing Measure J: They want a reduction in the water bills today, not 30 years from now. And it is impossible to forecast what CAW rates will be 30 years from now. Similarly, accurately predicting future MPWMD water rates (after a buy-out) three decades from now is also impossible. No one has a crystal ball!

Sincerely,

Rick Heuer
President