

Agenda Item 13 - 11/19/18 Board Meeting

**Consider Selection of Appointee to Serve as Division 5
Director for a Term Ending November 2020**

**Communications received after 5 pm on 11/14/18
and before 10 am on 11/16/18**

One of 3 separate
comments submitted
@ original draft EIR
on MPWSP.
This piece demonstrates
my 8th grade science
teacher VOZ

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NOV 14 2018

MPWMD

September 25, 2015

California Public Utilities Commission
Public Comment on CalAM
Submitted by Michael Baer

Submitted for review
11/14/18 by Michael Baer -
Addition to Letter of
Interest

Comments on intake reliability and risks

Introduction

There are many complex factors which make up a successful desal plant. But it is safe to say that without a consistent, dependable, RELIABLE water intake source, the rest doesn't really matter, because without that, you got nothing. This project calls for source intake in excess of 8 billion gallons a year for decades. If the location cannot provide it, the project is a failure; a very, very expensive failure.

CalAM's intake system for the MPWSP can most accurately be described as questionable. The slant well technology is unproven, and is operating nowhere in the world. The water is drawn from an aquifer that is in an overdraft basin and seawater intruded. The hydro-stratigraphy models for the DEIR were developed by GeoSciences and its president Dennis Williams, now revealed to have serious conflicts of interest, with a keen interest in making slant wells work at this location, come hell and low water. Yet he remains on the HydroGeologic Working Group (HWG) apparently changing hats from representing the CPUC to representing CalAM. I find that situation unconscionable, but there it is. Later today we may learn from the California Coastal Commission what Weiss Associates and CCC staff think of the HWG analysis. The following piece was penned by me last month in an effort to clear up a common misperception. Parties to this project conflate groundwater and usable water, and/or misperceive "unusable water" as valueless water. It is critical that regulators do not make that same mistake.

Source Water Intake within Aquifer Regions

Conventional wisdom says that the California government agencies responsible for water desalination applications have determined that subsurface intake systems are the preferred and superior method of intake, such that they need to be proven infeasible before other source water intake systems, such as open ocean, can be entertained.

What I envision the intent of the subsurface preference to be, is that the policy makers are imagining that the water would be taken at a depth below a sandy stretch of seabed and that the water coming in would be 100% seawater. The substrate (particles of sand and mud making the seabed) would act as an effective and natural filter, keeping living organisms and detritus from being sucked into the intake pipe. This would offer a layer of protection for both the biome, and for the pipes, keeping living things living and separate from gumming up the works of the intake.

However all subsurface intake systems are not equal; far from it.

For the Monterey District, CalAM has chosen the Cemex site in Marina for its subsurface intake system using novel slant wells which nudge out towards the ocean. It is open to debate about whether the terminus of the current test slant well actually extends beyond the mean high tide line as the defining border of the ocean, but in practical terms it makes no difference. The

reason is that the slant well is pumping its source intake water from an aquifer, or a series of "unconfined" aquifers, known as the shallow Sand Dunes, the 180 foot and possibly impacting the 400 foot aquifer. These aquifers extend well beyond the mean high tide line under the seabed. These aquifers are defined as unconfined because they do not have a complete layer of impermeable clay between them (known as aquitards), and so the water flows between (and can be sucked out from) the loosely defined layers of aquifers.

Because this water is so near the ocean it is brackish, a mixing of freshwater from further inland and the seawater pushing in from the ocean. When the initial testing was done here, the salinity represented a value that was roughly 2-3 parts ocean to 1 part fresh. This is a level of salinity far from potable, and also too salty for agricultural purposes. For some involved in the debate, they conceive that the water is essentially useless, and hold little concern for what happens to it. The fact that it has a fresh component means that it will require less energy to desalt, so that is of some benefit. But it also comes with a legal caveat. Fresh water in the over-drafted Salinas Valley basin is protected by the Agency Act and so this "useless" resource has been, and will continue to be, a source of litigation between CalAm and senior water rights holders in the Basin.

But from an environmental standpoint this brackish water is far from useless; it is essential. You can imagine these aquifers which bring freshwater down to the sea as a large slow moving underground river. Where-ever it encounters the seawater it will mix with it. This is also true above land, where the freshwater meets the sea we call it an estuary or a slough. The mixing between salty and fresh will always occur when these two types of water meet. Together they create the third type, the brackish water.

The brackish water is a buffer between the seawater and the freshwater. It is a transitional zone. There are many factors which determine how large an area make up this transitional buffer zone, which is beyond the scope of this document.

The slant well intake system for the proposed MPWSP desal plant will be taking this brackish buffer zone water at a rate of roughly 23 million gallons per day which is over 8.4 billion gallons per year. As you remove this buffer zone, the sea will tend to move in faster than the fresh (even more so during a drought). Therefore the buffer zone will be re-created further inland and so this is the definition of seawater intrusion.

No one knows exactly how this will play out, but generally you can count on unanticipated negative consequences beyond the anticipated ones, what a former Secretary of Defense referred to as the unknown unknowns.

For these reasons, the test slant well should be terminated, and the intake system declared infeasible, and the legislation or policies broadened to prohibit any intake system that draws its water from California aquifers for a desal plant of a regional scope.

**Letters of Recommendation
Received after 5 pm on 11/14/18 and
before 10 am on 11/16/18**

NAME	Page
Michael Baer	7
Kate Daniels	9
Judi Lehman	13
John Shupe	17
Letters that express support for two or more candidates without preference for one	21

November 16, 2018

Michael Baer

Arlene Tavani

From: David Beech <dbee@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: Letter re Filling of Division 5 Vacancy

To: MPWMD Board of Directors November 12, 2018

Ladies and Gentlemen,

With the passage of Measure J last week, MPWMD has been given a great responsibility --- and, at the same time, the greatest opportunity in its history --- to provide its constituents with affordable and sustainable water.

I should like to offer just two suggestions on the filling of the vacancy created by the untimely health problems of Mr. Bob Brower.

First, it would seem appropriate to appoint someone committed to the direction chosen by the majority of the electorate, especially as there is no evidence that Division 5 voters were less supportive than the 55% average across all divisions, and I believe they may even have been more supportive.

Second, among the seven volunteers for the seat, there is one who is probably unrivaled in his qualifications. For the last several years, I have had the privilege of working with Michael Baer on a variety of technical investigations to establish the truth of assertions about the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, and the Monterey Pipeline, and other related issues. I can vouch for the clarity of Mr. Baer's reasoning and exposition, for example, in presenting to the California Coastal Commission and to the Monterey City Council, and in extensive written analyses. As a Stanford alumnus with a background of science teaching, he would bring to the Board not only his technical ability, but also imagination and personal sensitivity as a member of a team, and remarkable energy and work ethic.

Respectfully submitted,

David Beech

Kate Daniels

Arlene Tavani

From: Lesley Nall <lesleynall@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 7:57 PM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: Endorsement

As a home owner in District 5, I endorse the appointment of Kate Daniels to the water board.

Lesley Nall
8900 Carmel Valley Rd.
Carmel, Ca 93923

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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NOV 15 2018

MPWMD

15 Woodside Place
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
November 13, 2018

To the MPWMD Board of Directors,

I am writing in strong support of the appointment of Kate Daniels Kurz to the vacancy on your Board.

She knows Division 5 very well, having been born and raised there and now raising her own family along the Carmel River.

She has notably served the people of this Division and the Monterey Peninsula in her most recent job with Supervisor Adams and has amply proven her skills to involve the public--from which the District and Board will benefit.

Kate has the skillset that will complement the current board in its challenging task ahead, following the recent election.

She has a full understanding of the history of the District and the accomplishments of the Board, and a detailed understanding of the Board's work over the past two years. And she is eminently prepared for the hard work ahead.

The Board will appreciate also that Kate is easy to work with, having a strong collaborative spirit and a devotion to public service.

Respectfully, Karin Strasser Kauffman
Former long-term MPWMD Director and County Supervisor

Arlene Tavani

From: kathy west <tasker928@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 12:00 PM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: water board selection

Hi Arlene

My first choice is Kate. She has experience and would represent us well. Please only select someone who is strongly in favor of Measure J as everyone worked too hard to get this passed and we all hope a takeover will be feasible. We know water rates will likely go up for a period but are hopeful we can have affordable water in our area down the road. Thank you!

Karen Wood
Carmel Valley resident

Judi Lehman

Arlene Tavani

From: Lorraine Yglesias <lorraineyglesias@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 11:20 PM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: Judy Lehman

Please accept this as my notice of support for Ms Lehman for District 5.

Thank you for your consideration

Lorraine Yglesias Rice
28065 Heron ct
Carmel 93923
Sent from my iPhone

Arlene Tavani

From: Bev Kreps <bkreps1017@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 7:38 AM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: Water board

Hi Arlene,

I would like to recommend Judi Lehman for a position with the MPWMD.

I have worked with her on community projects and as last year's League of Women Voters president. She is thorough, efficient and works hard at gathering material and analyzing content. We worked together at the League organizing programs and speakers for our meetings.

She is good at getting to the heart of what needs to be done and knowing how best to do it.

She also has had previous experience in water issues and has worked with the water board. She knows the history of water on the Monterey peninsula and will be a wonderful addition.

My phone number is 831/224-3192 if you need further information.

Sincerely yours,
Bev Kreps

John Shupe

RECEIVED

All James Goodacre, search your mailbox

Home James

14 2018

MPWMD

CC/BCC x

To
John Shupe for 5th District

To Board of Directors: I understand John Shupe is applying to fill the vacant seat in the 5 District. I have know John for 21yrs. as my neighbor here at Carmel Valley Ranch. He has been a homeowner for that length of time, and has always been concerned with our living environment and water issues here on the Monterey Peninsula. He has always been fair and generous in my dealings with him over the last 21yrs. He has gone out of his way to make our neighborhood here at Carmel Valley Ranch a desirable place to live.

I hope you will consider him for the 5th District seat on the board. He will make an excellent choice as a new board member.

Sincerely,


James Goodacre

James W. Goodacre II RHU, REBC,LACP
P.O.Box 22423
Carmel, Calif. 93922
Phone (831)626-9250 or (888)735-5010
Fax (831) 626-0192
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 - Agentra Health
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 - Amazon.com
 - American Airlines
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 - American National
 - American Telephone...
 - Ann Arbor Annuities
 - Annuity Sale... (1)
 - Antioxidants
 - Arizona Blue CrossS...
 - Arizona Dept of Ins.

Arlene Tavani

From: tyler baker <tylerabakeriii@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 10:21 AM
To: Dave Stoldt
Cc: John Shupe; Arlene Tavani
Subject: Re: Recommendation for John Shupe

I am sorry to be awkward with the word processing. The best I can do is to copy it directly into the email. I hope this is ok with you.

Tyler A. Baker

79 Los Ositos
Carmel Valley, California
93924
tylerabakeriii@gmail.com

November 14, 2018

Mr. David J. Stoldt
General Manager
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
5 Harris Court - Building G
Monterey, California
93940
dstoldt@mpwmd.net

Dear Mr. Stoldt:

I am writing in support of the application of John A. Shupe to become a Director for District 5 of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

I met Mr. Shupe shortly after he and his wife moved to this area full-time from the San Francisco Bay Area. We have become good friends.

Mr. Shupe is smart and energetic. He is eager to contribute to this community. He has owned property in Carmel Valley Ranch for a number of years and is in the process of building a new home in the Preserve. As an owner of property in this area, he is familiar with our water issues. As a successful attorney with experience in both sophisticated litigation and general counsel advice, Mr. Shupe would bring useful experience to the Board. His work has involved dealing with complex financial issues, and he has worked closely with and against expert witnesses on a variety of topics. I am sure that you would find him a valuable colleague.

Sincerely yours,

[signed]

**Letters that express support for
two or more candidates without
preference for one**

Arlene Tavani

From: Nadra Colohan <nadra@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 10:08 PM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: Candidates

Arlene,
I would like to recommend Judi Lehman & Michael Baer for consideration to fill the vacant seats on the MPWMD board.
Thank you,
Nadra Colohan

Sent from my iPhone

Arlene Tavani

From: Alyce di Palma <aliciayo@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Arlene Tavani
Subject: Re: meeting to appoint Division 5 Board Member 11/19/18

To Whom it May Concern:

I unconditionally support both Judi Lehman and Kate Daniels be appointed to the Monterey Peninsula Water Board, as replacement for your water district representative who stepped down due to illness.

PUBLIC WATER NOW needs the support of a director **who supports the public water initiative *that the voters passed.***

Both above-named persons are prepared to represent the voters, residents, and users of a natural resource that “we” need to manage and respect. They are diligent, informed, collaborative, and problem-solvers.

Thank you for urgent consideration!

Alyce di Palma
Registered voter
Resident since 1999
POB 2957
Carmel-by-Sea, CA
(831) 601-7089

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NOV 14 2018

MPWMD

Ron Weitzman, President • Harvey Billig, Vice President • George Schroeder, Secretary-Treasurer

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Board

P.O. Box 85

Monterey, CA 93942-0085

Dear Board Members:

At your 19 November 2018 meeting, you are scheduled to select a replacement for the vacant Division 5 seat, and you have invited the public to provide recommendations among the seven announced candidates.. I have two to recommend that you put at the top of the list. I am recommending them alphabetically by their family names.

Michael Baer has participated in our weekly meetings of the Water Ratepayers Association of the Monterey Peninsula for many years and has been one of our most productive participants. Few, if any, citizens living in Division 5 are more knowledgeable about our local water situation than Michael. He is a wonderful team player and makes valuable contributions to group discussions with no ego-involvement. He would make an exceedingly helpful addition to your board.

Kate Daniels successfully managed the Supervisorial election campaign of Mary Adams and has served as her chief of staff. Since the campaign committee met in our house, I am a witness of Kate's skill and style as a leader. Kate gets things done. Although I am unfamiliar with Kate's knowledge of our local water scene, I can vouch for her competence and commitment and effectiveness, and because of these traits I recommend you consider her as one of your top two candidates.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about these two recommendations. You may call me at home (375-8439) or email me (ronweitman@redshift.com).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Weitzman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ron Weitzman. President

Water Ratepayers Association of the Monterey Peninsula

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Web site: www.waterplusmonterey.com