



## Supplement to November 18, 2024 MPWMD Board Packet

Attached are copies of letters sent and/or received between **October 17, 2024** and **November 13, 2024**. These letters are listed in the Monday, November 18, 2024 Board Packet under Letters Received.

Author	Addressee	Date	Topic
<b>David J. Stoldt</b>	Senators Alex Padilla and Laphonza Butler	10/10/2024	Support for \$60,000,000 for Environmental Infrastructure under the Corps of Engineers Construction
<b>Gary Cursio and Gian Pepe</b>	David Stoldt	10/21/2024	Thank you for sponsorship of the 34 <sup>th</sup> Annual Nick Lombardo Memorial Golf Tournament
<b>David J. Stoldt</b>	Congressman Panetta	10/25/2024	Request to encourage the Committee to defer to the Senate's proposed level of \$60,000,000 for Environmental Infrastructure under the Corps of Engineers Construction
<b>Melodie Chrislock</b>	MPWMD Board	11/8/2024	Cal-Am Complaint from Pasadena
<b>Mayor Tyler Williamson</b>	MPWMD Board	11/12/2024	Support for proposed MPWMD water allocation





October 10, 2024

The Honorable Alex Padilla  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Laphonza Butler  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Padilla and Butler:

As the Senate Committee on Appropriations (Committee) prepares to conference the FY 2025 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill, I am writing on behalf of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (District) to urge you to do all you can to insist on the Senate's proposed level of \$60,000,000 for Environmental Infrastructure (EI) under the Corps of Engineers (Corps), Construction. As you know, as a result of your successful efforts to secure an authorization under EI (section 219) in the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, the District would benefit greatly from the opportunity to partner with the Corps to address high-priority water resource-related infrastructure needs through this account. The Senate's recommended level for this important program will provide the Corps with much-needed capacity to begin addressing these critical needs.

Specifically, the District is working to build opportunities to partner with the Corps on a portfolio of projects we have grouped together under the Monterey Peninsula Stormwater Diversion and Recycling Program. Water recycling and recharging the region's sole groundwater basin are critical for our water supply security. Water recycling via the Pure Water Monterey indirect potable reuse project will provide 50-60% of the region's potable water supply beginning in 2025; it currently provides over 1/3 of the region's water supply. We also respectfully request that the final report accompanying the Fiscal Year 2025 Energy and Water bill include an explicit statement that EI projects shall not require a new start or new investment decision and shall be considered ongoing work. The House and Senate Committees included such a statement in the Explanatory Statement accompanying the final bill in Fiscal Year 2024. Exempting EI from the requirement for a new start or new investment decision is crucial to helping the Corps to streamline the availability of assistance for projects that often require a limited but essential federal investment.

Finally, we request that the Statement of Managers or Explanatory Statement accompanying the final bill not include a set-aside for "a multi-state environmental infrastructure program," as was done in Fiscal Year 2024. With more than \$12.8 billion available under more than 400 separate EI authorities, we believe the Corps should have the flexibility to allocate resources to the highest priority projects, as determined by the Corps, rather than earmarking a disproportionate share of EI program funding to projects covered by a very limited number of multi-state EI authorities.

We appreciate your consideration of our requests and thank you for your continued support of critical water infrastructure projects that benefit the nation and the District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David J. Stoldt".

David J. Stoldt  
General Manager





MONTEREY COUNTY  
HOSPITALITY  
ASSOCIATION

October 15, 2024

David Stoldt  
MPWMD  
P.O. Box 85  
Monterey, CA 93942

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MPWMD

Dear Mr. Stoldt,

On behalf of the Monterey County Hospitality Association (MCHA) Board of Directors and the Golf Committee, we want to thank you for your generous sponsorship of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Nick Lombardo Memorial Golf Tournament held at The Club at Pasadera on Monday October 7, 2024.

Monterey County Hospitality Association represents and advocates for more than 26,000 employees of hospitality and related businesses throughout the county. The Golf Tournament is one of two major fundraisers for MCHA, and with your generous support, we can continue to fund programs vital to the success of our industry and community.

Our Government Affairs Committee continues to work diligently with local, county and state officials to solidify a viable water solution for the Monterey Peninsula, in addition to advocating for workforce housing, transportation and other important issues affecting our industry. Through our training & development programs, member events and community collaborations, we continue to develop opportunities for hospitality career advancement, employee recognition and industry engagement at all levels.

Support from our community is a key element to the success of our organization. A sincere thank you for sponsoring our event this year. We look forward to working with you throughout the remainder of the year for a successful 2024 and beyond.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Cursio'.

Gary Cursio  
Golf Tournament Co-Chair

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gian Pepe'.

Gian Pepe  
Golf Tournament Co-Chair

Federal Tax ID: 501c(6) 51-0136406





October 25, 2024

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta  
United States House of Representatives  
304 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Panetta:

As the House Committee on Appropriations (Committee) prepares to conference the FY 2025 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill, I am writing on behalf of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (District) to urge you to encourage the Committee to defer to the Senate's proposed level of \$60,000,000 for Environmental Infrastructure (EI) under the Corps of Engineers (Corps), Construction. As you know, as a result of your successful efforts to secure an authorization under EI (section 219) in the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, the District would benefit greatly from the opportunity to partner with the Corps to address high-priority water resource-related infrastructure needs through this account. The Senate's recommended level for this important program will provide the Corps with much-needed capacity to begin addressing these critical needs.

Specifically, as we have discussed in the past, the District is working to build opportunities to partner with the Corps on a portfolio of projects we have grouped together under the Monterey Peninsula Stormwater Diversion and Recycling Program. Water recycling and recharging the region's sole groundwater basin are critical for our water supply security. Water recycling via the Pure Water Monterey indirect potable reuse project will provide 50-60% of the region's potable water supply beginning in 2025; it currently provides over 1/3 of the region's water supply.

We also respectfully request that the final report accompanying the Fiscal Year 2025 Energy and Water bill include an explicit statement that EI projects shall not require a new start or new investment decision and shall be considered ongoing work. The House and Senate Committees included such a statement in the Explanatory Statement accompanying the final bill in Fiscal Year 2024. Exempting EI from the requirement for a new start or new investment decision is crucial to helping the Corps to streamline the availability of assistance for projects that often require a limited but essential federal investment.

Finally, we request that the Statement of Managers or Explanatory Statement accompanying the final bill not include a set-aside for "a multi-state environmental infrastructure program," as was done in Fiscal Year 2024. With more than \$12.8 billion available under more than 400 separate EI authorities, we believe the Corps should have the flexibility to allocate resources to the highest priority projects, as determined by the Corps, rather than earmarking a disproportionate share of EI program funding to projects covered by a very limited number of multi-state EI authorities.

We appreciate your consideration of our requests and thank you for your continued support of critical water infrastructure projects that benefit the nation and the District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David J. Stoldt".

David J. Stoldt  
General Manager







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## Cal Am Complaint from Pasadena

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**From** mwchrislock@redshift.com <mwchrislock@redshift.com>

**Date** Fri 11/8/2024 5:36 PM

**To** Alvin Edwards <alvinedwards420@gmail.com>; Amy Anderson <carmelcellogal@comcast.net>; George Riley <georgetriley@gmail.com>; Karen Paull <karenppaull@gmail.com>; District 5 <district5@co.monterey.ca.us>; Marc Eisenhart <mae@gedlaw.com>; Ian Oglesby <ioglesby@ci.seaside.ca.us>; Dave Stoldt <dstoldt@mpwmd.net>; Sara Reyes <Sara@mpwmd.net>

MPWMD,

I received this unsolicited letter and thought the board might find it of interest.

Melodie Chrislock

Managing Director

**PUBLIC WATER NOW**

<http://www.publicwaternow.org>

[mwchrislock@redshift.com]mwchrislock@redshift.com

831 624-2282

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**From:** Juan Gutierrez <jcg966@sbcglobal.net>

**Date:** Friday, November 8, 2024 at 10:13 AM

**To:** "mwchrislock@redshift.com" <mwchrislock@redshift.com>

**Subject:** CalAm Complaint & Brian Barreto

Hello Ms. Chrislock,

My name is Juan Gutierrez and my wife and I are City of Pasadena residents. We have been wanting to write to Public Water Now for some time to share our story about CalAm endangering us and our neighbors with one of their reservoir tanks, and how they engaged in deceptive behavior in failing to disclose the danger to the public and the CPUC. We discovered the danger when we were forced to begin our own investigation of the tank shortly after meeting Brian Barreto (CalAm's External Affairs Representative) and his behavior. We have since learned much about him and CalAm. So we are not surprised by Public Water Now's comments in a recent GRC filing to the CPUC raising concerns over an Imperial Beach Neighborhood Center letter and Barreto's connection to the Center. After reading this filing, I thought it was now a good time to email you. In sharing our story we hope that you consider sharing it on the Public Water Now website as another example of CalAm failures. I will keep it brief:

We live immediately south and downhill from a dangerous 2.5 million gallon water tank reservoir owned by CalAm. In February 2019 we began raising concerns about the safety of the reservoir when CalAm applied with the City of Pasadena for a permit to replace a booster pump station at the reservoir site. It was then that we met Brian Barreto. Eventually in 2022, we found records and learned that in 1992 CalAm determined that the reservoir was at risk of catastrophic failure with the potential for loss life and severe property damage due to its age and its proximity to an active fault. Also in 1992, CalAm applied

to the City of Pasadena to build a 12' wall in order to mitigate the danger. The application was approved but CalAm never built the wall and unbeknownst to us have been living in danger all these years. We have spent countless hours of research, consulting with experts & attorneys, discussing with our city officials, as well as many others all to bring the full extent of the danger to all, and to try to abate the public safety threat. We also detailed our claims against CalAm in a formal complaint with the CPUC (Complaint No. C23-11-009—viewable on the CPUC website). My direct testimony is also available on the website, along with several supporting documents (Exhibits 1 thru 24.) The City of Pasadena also filed a formal complaint against CalAm (C24-05-006). The complaints have since been consolidated. Most recently (October 31, 2024) we filed a Motion.

Additionally, in the process of researching and reading hundreds of CPUC documents, we have also learned that appears CalAm has simply mismanaged their infrastructure in the Los Angeles District. All of the tanks in the San Marino service area (I believe CalAm calls it) are over one hundreds years old and in need of replacing (with ours endangering people's lives, and which should be retired). This is based on CalAm's own testimony given to the CPUC in past GRC proceedings. Yet, because (it appears to us anyway) there is little to no meaningful regulation of this company, they operate with impunity and disregard for the public.

CalAm's conduct is another example for why these utilities should not be investor-owned. It appears most in northern California are familiar with CalAm, but unfortunately in Southern California they fly below the radar. We are doing our best in this fight with CalAm and their attorneys. Unfortunately, the CPUC process is slow and it is beginning to feel like it is not very complainant friendly or efficient, and not as committed to public safety as they portray themselves. Please feel free to share our complaint either through your website or to other groups/organizations that you think would benefit from our information. We hope that it helps as part of your efforts to educate communities on water issues and the negative impact these investor-owned utilities have on our communities.

We would also welcome and appreciate any help, advice, or advocacy you can provide to us in our complaint with the CPUC. As you know CalAm is part of American Water Works with enormous amount of resources and influence and any help would greatly be appreciated.

Please also feel free to reach out to us should you have any questions or need more information.

Kind regards,

Juan Gutierrez  
Pasadena, CA  
626-710-7481



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MPWMD

October 16, 2024

Board of Directors  
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District  
P.O. Box 85  
Monterey, CA 93942-0085

Dear Board of Directors,

The City of Monterey supports the proposed Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's water allocation. The allocation will provide the City with 141-acre feet of water to support new construction. This will be a tremendous step forward for the City and region.

It is, however, important to recognized that additional water supply is ultimately needed beyond the 141 afy. The 141 afy only provides a portion of the water needed to develop the required 3,654 housing units as designated through the Regional Housing Needs Allocation and to support further job growth. Furthermore, MPWMD and the cities also need to continue to work with the State Water Resources Control Board to lift the Cease-and-District Order (CDO). Without release of the CDO, developers will be constrained to only build on sites with existing water meters.

Thank you for reaching out to the City of Monterey; the City supports the 141-acre foot allocation. For any additional allocation beyond the 141-acre feet, the City recommends that an equitable allocation process be adopted so all agencies obtain some water and enough adequate water supply is retained so every jurisdiction can meet its RHNA obligations.

Sincerely,

Tyller Williamson  
Mayor