

COALITION OF PENINSULA BUSINESSES
Position Statement on Early Relief From the
Cease and Desist Order and Related Construction Moratoria
July 15, 2024

The Coalition of Peninsula Businesses (CPB) supports the effort to persuade the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to lift the 1995 Cease and Desist Order (CDO) early-in recognition of community efforts to develop alternative water supplies and reduce water use to levels to prevent overuse of Carmel River water. The Coalition's support is contingent on continued progress and completion of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP). If completion of the MPWSP is delayed, frustrated or impeded, or if proponents of the 'lift the CDO' effort use this action to in any way argue or suggest that the MPWSP is no longer needed, the Coalition's support is rescinded.

Finding a permanent and sustainable source of water to lift the CDO and its related construction moratoria has been the highest priority of the Coalition of Peninsula Businesses since its founding. That is why the Coalition supports completion and operation of the MPWSP as the only means of securing a sustainable and permanent source of water for the Peninsula to replace water taken in excess of 3,376 acre-feet per year from the Carmel River. The anticipated completion of the Pure Water Monterey expansion does not provide the permanent and sustainable water supply

The SWRCB specifies in the CDO that lifting the CDO requires a certification from Cal Am that it has found and substituted a permanent source of water to replace water taken in excess of 3,376 acre-feet per year from the Carmel River and that the SWRCB Deputy Director for Water Rights must concur in writing. The CDO does not specify any alternative for lifting the CDO.