## MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

5 HARRIS COURT, BLDG. G<br>POST OFFICE BOX 85<br>MONTEREY, CA 93942-0085 • (831) 658-5601<br>FAX (831) 644-9558 • http://www.mpwrid.dst.ca.us

## Date: <br> May 28, 2003

## To: Interested Agencies

From: $\quad$ Stephanie Pintar, Project Manager, 831/658-5601


## Subject: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR MPWMD ORDINANCE NO. 117

Attached is the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration, along with the Initial Study, for Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) Ordinance No. 117. The proposed ordinance, which is enclosed with the proposed Negative Declaration, would clarify MPWMD Rules and Regulations that govern Water Use Credits and Cancellation of Permits and adds administrative processing fees for documenting Water Use Credits.

Ordinance No. 117 applies within the boundaries of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), including the cities of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Sand City, Seaside, portions of Monterey County (primarily Carmel Valley, Pebble Beach and the Highway 68 corridor), and the Monterey Peninsula Airport District.

The review period is June 1, 2004 through June 21, 2004. CEQA allows a 20-day review period for projects of local interest. The first reading of Ordinance No. 117 is scheduled before the MPWMD Board at a public hearing on June 21, 2004. The second reading and consideration of adoption of the Negative Declaration is scheduled for public hearing on July 19, 2004 at 7:00 PM at the Monterey City Council Chambers, City Hall (corner of Pacific and Madison Street), Monterey.

Please refer to the attached documents for more detailed information, or call me at 831/658-5601.

## CEQA GUIDELINES APPENDIX G MPWMD ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FOR ORDINANCE NO. 117

## PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Title:
2. Lead Agency Name and Address:
3. Contact Person and Phone:
4. Project Location:
5. Project Sponsor's Name/Address:
6. General Plan Designation:
7. Zoning:
8. Description of Project: Proposed Ordinance No. 117 (Attachment 3) would revert the Water Use Credit Transfer approval process from discretionary to ministerial, would add safeguards to the transfer process to ensure water savings, and would add a list of standard conditions of approval to the District's Rules and Regulations. The ordinance would also address fees for receiving, processing, monitoring and enforcing Water Use Credit transfers and fees for processing requests to review water savings associated with installation of new water saving technology.
9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting: Land uses within the District range from urban and suburban residential and commercial areas to open space/wilderness. The District encompasses the cities of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Sand City, Seaside, portions of Monterey County (primarily Carmel Valley, Pebble Beach and the Highway 68 corridor), and the Monterey Peninsula Airport District (Attachment 1). Each of these jurisdictions regulates land uses within its boundaries. The District does not regulate land uses.

The Monterey Peninsula is dependent on local sources of water supply, which (directly or indirectly) are dependent on local rainfall and runoff. The primary sources of supply include surface and groundwater in the Carmel River basin, and groundwater in the Seaside Basin (Attachment 2).

Vegetation communities on the Monterey Peninsula include marine, estuarine, and riverine habitats; fresh emergent and saline emergent (coastal salt marsh) wetland communities; riparian communities, particularly along the Carmel River; a wetland community at the Carmel River lagoon; and upland vegetation communities such as coastal scrub, mixed chaparral, mixed . hardwood forest, valley oak woodland, and annual grassland. These communities provide habitat for a diverse group of wildlife. The Carmel River supports various fish resources, including federally threatened steelhead fish and California red-legged frog.

10: Other public agencies whose approval is required: None

## ENYIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTLALEY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

| $\square$ | Aesthetics | $\square$ | Hazards and Hazardous Materials | $\square$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\square$ | Public Services |  |  |  |
| $\square$ | Agricultural Resources | $\square$ | Hydrology and Water Quality | $\square$ |
| $\square$ Air Quality | $\square$ | Land Use and Planning | $\square$ | Transportation/Traffic |
| $\square$ | Biological Resources | $\square$ | Mineral Resources | $\square$ |
| $\square$ | Cultural Resources | $\square$ | Noise |  |
| $\square$ | Geology/Soils | $\square$ | Population and Housing |  |
|  |  |  | Mandatory Findings of |  |
|  |  |  | Significance |  |

DCTERMINATION (Io becompleted by the Lead Agency)

I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

I find that although the proposed project COULD have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A mitigated negative declaration will be prepared.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect(s) on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets, if the effect is a "potentially significant impact" or is "potentially significant unless mitigated." An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.

I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there WILL NOT be a significant effect in this case because all potentially significant effects:

1) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards; and
2) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project.

The earlier EIR adequately analyzes the proposed project, so NO ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT or NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

Signature: Date:

Title: MPWMD General Manager

## EV ALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the entire action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less-than-significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVIII, EARLIER ANALYSES, may be cross-referenced).
5. The explanation of each issue should identify:
a. The significance threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
b. The mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant
6. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier ERR or Negative Declaration [Section 15063(c)(3)(D)]. In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
a. Earlier Analysis used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
b. Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analyses.
c. Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "less Than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
7. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated. A source list should be attached, and other sources used, or individuals contacted, should be cited in the discussion.
8. This checklist has been adapted from the form in Appendix $G$ of the State CEQA Guidelines, as amended effective October 26, 1998 (from website).
9. Information sources cited in the checklist and the references used in support of this evaluation are listed in attachments to this document.

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| ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> (See attachments for discussion and information sources) |  | Potentially Significant Impact | $\begin{gathered} \text { Less Than } \\ \text { Significant } \\ \text { Mitith } \\ \text { Mititition } \\ \text { Incorporated } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less Than } \\ & \text { Significant } \\ & \text { Impact } \end{aligned}$ | $\underset{\text { Impact }}{\text { No }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| b) | Cause substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Sec. 15064.5? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
| c) | Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
| d) | Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
|  | VI. GEOLOGIC AND SOILS. Would the proje |  |  |  |  |
| a) | Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including risk of loss, injury or death involving: | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| i) | Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquidt-Priolo Earthquake Fault zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42. | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\underline{\square}$ |
| ii) | Strong seismic ground shaking? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| iii) | Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| iv) | Landslides? | $\square$. | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| b) | Result in substantial soil erosion or loss of topsoil? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| c) | Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on-or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| d) | Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ! |
| e) | Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater? | $\square$ | $\square$. | $\square$ | $\square$ |


|  | ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> attachments for discussion and information sources） | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than <br> Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VH．HAZARDSANDHAZARDOUS MATERAMS．Woud the project： |  |  |  |  |  |
| a） | Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport，use or disposal of hazardous materials？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| b） | Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accidental conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | E |
| c） | Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials，substances，or waste within one－quarter mile of an existing or proposed school？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| d） | Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and，as a result， would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | 回 |
| e） | For a project located within an airport land use plan or，where such a plan has not been adopted，within two miles of a public airport or public use airport， would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | V |
| f） | For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip，would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | E |
| g） | Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| h） | Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss，injury or death involving wildland fires， including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | 國 |
|  | VII．HMDROLOGY AND W ATER OUALII | Would | project： |  |  |
| a） | Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | 囫 |


|  | ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> ee attachments for discussion and information sources) | Potentially Significan Impact | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less Than } \\ & \text { Significant } \\ & \text { With } \\ & \text { Mitigation } \\ & \text { Incorporated } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Less Than } \\ & \text { Significant } \\ & \text { Impact } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { No } \\ \text { Impact } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| b) | Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted? | - | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
| c) | Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on-or off-site? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| d) | Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on-or offsite? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| e) | Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| f) | Otherwise substantially degrade water quality? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| g) | Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| h) | Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| i) | Expose people or structures to a property to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
| j) | Inundation by seiche, tsunami or mudflow? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | E |
|  | IX: LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would th | ject: |  |  |  |


|  | ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> (See attachments for discussion and information sources) | Potentially Significan Impact | Less Than Sigificant with Mitigation | Less Than Sigaificant Impact | $\underset{\text { Impact }}{\text { Noo }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a) | Physically divide an established community? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| b) | Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| c) | Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| X. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and residents of the state? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| b) | Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| XI. NOISE. Would the project result in: |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) | Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| b) | Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| c) | A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| d) | A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | E |
| e) | For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ! |
|  | For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |



|  | ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> （See attachments for discussion and information sources） | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than <br> Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impact |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment？ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | XV．TRANSPORTATIONIRAMAIC．Would the project： |  |  |  |  |
| a） | Cause an increase in traffic which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system（i．e．，result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips，the volume to capacity ratio on roads，or congestion at intersections）？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | 回 |
| b） | Exceed，either individually or cumulatively，a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads and highways？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | － |
| c） | Result in a change to air traffic patterns，including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | 囪 |
|  | Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature（e．g．，sharp curves or dangerous intersections） or incompatible uses（e．g．，farm equipment）？ |  | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |
| e） | Result in inadequate emergency access？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | － |
| f） | Result in inadequate parking capacity？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | － |
| $\mathrm{g})$ | Conflict with adopted policies，plans or programs supporting alternative transportation（e．g．，bus turnouts，bicycle racks）？ |  | $\square$ | $\square$ | 昔 |
|  | XVI．UMHMYES AND SERYICESYSTEMS． | uld the | ject． |  |  |
|  | Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board？ |  | $\square$ | $\square$ | － |
| b） | Require or result in construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities，the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects？ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | 1 |
| c） | Require or result in construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities， | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | ■ |


|  | ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> (See attachments for discussion and information sources) | Potentially Significant Impact | Less Than <br> Significant with Mitigation Incorporated | Less Than Significant Impact | No Impac |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects? |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) | Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| e) | Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has an adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
|  | Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | E |
| g) | Comply with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | E |
| XVI. MANDATORY EINDINGS OF SIGMIHICANCE |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
| b) | Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.) | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | - |
| c) | Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? |  | $\square$ | $\square$ | 回 |


| ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES <br> (See attachments for discussion and information sources) |  | Potentia Significa Impact | Less Than Significant with Mitigation | $\underset{\text { Sigsificant }}{\substack{\text { Less Than } \\ \text { Sin }}}$ Impact | $\xrightarrow[\text { Impact }]{\substack{\text { No }}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| XVII EARLIER ANALYSES |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to process, one or more effects have been adequatel Declaration [State CEQA guidelines Section 150 should identify the following on attached sheets. <br> a) Earlier analyses used. Identify earlier analy review. <br> b) Impacts adequately addressed. Identify which within the scope of, and adequately analyzed applicable legal standards. Also, state wheth mitigation measures based on the earlier analss <br> c) Mitigation measures. For effects that are ch Mitigation Incorporated," describe the mitig refined from the earlier document and the ext conditions for the project. | ring, pro lyzed in <br> (3)(D)]. <br> nd state <br> ffects from n earlier ch effect <br> d as "Pot measure which | $m$ EIR, or earlier EIR his case a <br> re they ar <br> above cument pu re addre. <br> ally Signi hich were address si | ther CE <br> or Negativ discussion <br> available <br> ecklist w suant to ed by <br> cant Unl incorporate -specific | A <br> for <br> e <br> sor |
| Authority: Public Resources Code Sections 21083 and 21087. <br> Reference: Public Resources Code Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21080.3, 21082.1, 21083, 31083.3, 21093, 21094, 21151; Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino, 202 Cal. App. 3d 296 (1988); Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors, 222 Cal. App. 3d 1337 (1990). |  |  |  |  |  |

## DISCUSSION OF CHECKLIST ITEMS:

For all categories, "No Impact" was checked. Based on the Initial Study, there are strong arguments that adoption of Ordinance No. 117 is exempt from further CEQA review. However, the District is choosing to review the modification in the approval level of the relocation of Water Use Credits from an existing commercial use to another, or from an existing commercial use to a jurisdiction, as a project under CEQA. The addition of safeguards to the transfer program ensures that water savings are achieved. Streamlining of the Water Use Credit transfer process may encourage more people to take advantage of the program, resulting in more Water Use Credit transfer approvals. Therefore, the District has undertaken an Initial Study of this program.

Historically, 60.843 acre-feet of water have been transferred since 1993. This figure equates to just over 0.3 percent of the overall total Cal-Am water use. Even if the water savings assumptions that Ordinance No. 117 is based upon are incorrect and the safeguards incorporated in the ordinance fail, the historic use of the program indicates that this program would have no measurable impacts on the environment.

Based on this Initial Study, the MPWMD believes that adoption of Ordinance No. 117 would have no actual or potential significant adverse environmental impacts; in fact, the ordinance could result in beneficial effects due to more consistent implementation of District Rules and Regulations and the addition of safeguards to the existing Water Use Credit transfer program. Furthermore, the MPWMD determines that there is an absence of substanitial evidence from which a fair argument can be made that adoption of Ordinance No. 117 has measurable and meaningful actual or potential adverse environmental consequences. The MPWMD is aware that CEQA requires preparation of a Negative Declaration if there is no substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the project may cause a significant effect on the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines 15063(b)(2). For these reasons, the MPWMD intends to adopt a Negative Declaration regarding adoption of Ordinance No. 117.

Proposed Ordinance No. 117 would improve MPWMD Rule 28 (Commercial-to-Commercial and Commercial-to-Jurisdiction Transfers of Water Use Credits for Commercial and Industrial Uses). Although the ordinance changes the approval level of Water Use Credit transfers from a discretionary approval process to a ministerial process, the ordinance includes the following safeguards:

* Water Use Credit transfers must occur within a single jurisdiction;
* Water Use Credit transfers must occur within a single water distribution system;
- Water Use Credit transfers only occur with the prior approval of the jurisdiction;
- Transfer of a Water Use Credit permanently extinguishes the right to the Water Use Credit on the originating site;
* Water Use Credit transfers are only allowed from an existing commercial or industrial use;
- Water Use Credit transfers may only be applied to intensification of another existing commercial or industrial use or added to a jurisdiction's allocation;
- Water Use Credits must not originate from any prior open space water use;
- Property-to-property commercial water use credit transfers shall only enable intensification of an existing commercial or industrial water use capacity, as proposed by a current application for a water permit;
- Transfers shall not provide water use capacity for new commercial or industrial water meter connections;
" Transferred water credits shall not be "banked" for future use at any new or different site;
- The use of credits resulting from a property-to-jurisdiction transfer is at the discretion of the jurisdiction;
* Every jurisdiction utilizing water from a property-to-jurisdiction transfer must account for all water that was received through a water credit transfer, and the jurisdiction must clearly identify applicants that are authorized to use water from a commercial-to-public transfer on the Water Release Form and Water Permit Application;
- All Water Use Credit transfers shall originate only from prior documented commercial water use capacity and are subject to each and every limitation on the calculation of Water Use Credits set forth in District Rule 25.5;
- Transferable Water Use Credits will be calculated as follows: (1) categorize water use on the originating (donor) Site (i.e. Group I, Group II or Group III as listed in Rule 24, Table 2: Commercial Water Use Factors), (2) quantify the water use capacity existing on that Site, and (3) quantify the average actual annual water use for that Site;
- Average actual annual water use will also be calculated using the preceding ten (10) year water use record. When a ten year record is not available, the maximum number of annual water use records available, but no less than the preceding five (5) consecutive years of water use records, will be the used to compute the average actual water use for that Site. No transferable water credit shall be available if the minimum water use record is unavailable;
* The lesser of the factored use or the average actual water use will be the amount of transferable credit from demolition of a use;
* No credit will be transferred if the effect of the transfer would cause the originating site to have insufficient water credit to meet the water use capacity requirements of all existing structures on the transferring property site;
* If all prior water use is transferred from a site (due to demolition of all structures), the transfer will be approved only upon the removal of the meter connection from the originating site, and recordation of notice that all water use credits have been permanently extinguished as the result of a transfer;
* Transfers of Water Use Credits will only occur upon approval by the General Manager. The General Manager shall have sole and exclusive authority to determine the water use capacity that cannot be transferred by reason of capacity requirements for the originating Site;
- All transfers of Water Use Credits shall occur only when there is written (and recorded) agreement of the owner of record for the originating Site;
- The property owner(s) of the originating site shall consent to continuous monitoring of actual water use on the originating site and to public disclosure of that water use data for ten years after transfer. This agreement will run with the land and apply to any and all water meter accounts serving the originating Site. This requirement includes water meter accounts held by the property owners, property managers, renters or any other persons, firms or other entities that occupy the property or use water during the reporting time specified by the General Manager;
- Each property owner receiving water originating from a property-to-property Water Use Credit transfer must consent to continuous monitoring of actual water use on the recipient site and to public disclosure of that water use data for five years prior to issuance of a water permit utilizing any portion of water that originated from a Water Use Credit transfer and for five years after project occupancy. This agreement will run with the land and apply to any and all water meter accounts on the receiving site. This requirement includes water meter accounts held by the property owners, property managers, renters or any other persons, firms or other entities that occupy the property during the reporting time specified by the General Manager;
- For properties where a new or expanded water use is allowed by a property-to-jurisdiction transfer, the owner(s) of the receiving property must agree to the same conditions as required for a property-to-property transfer, including deed restrictions authorizing
consent to monitoring and public disclosure of water use data;
- The General Manager holds the sole and exclusive authority to determine the water use capacity requirements for the receiving Site;
- The General Manager will not approve any water credit transfer where money or other valuable consideration has been given in exchange for the water credit transfer;
- The General Manager will not approve any capacity for expanded water use deriving from a transferred water credit in any circumstance where money or other valuable consideration has been given in exchange for use of the water credit. These limitations, however, allow the recipient of a water credit transfer to reimburse the donor of that credit for connection fees previously paid to the District for that increment of water;
- Violation of the prohibition on the transfer of water credit for money or other valuable consideration will result in immediate revocation of the transfer credit;
- Violation of the prohibition on the transfer of water credit for money or other valuable consideration is a misdemeanor as provided in Section 256 of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Law;
- Before any water use credit transfer shall occur, the applicant must pay the transfer fee required by Rule 60 for each originating site.

The changes in Rule 28 (shown in Section Three) have a minimal impact on the environment as discussed at the beginning of this section.

Section Four contains Conditions of Approval for the originating and receiving sites of any Water Use Credit transfer. This section has no impact on the environment.

The changes in Section Five have no impact on the environment. Section Five amends District Rule 63, Miscellaneous Fees, to add administrative fees to receive, process, monitor, review and enforce transfer applications submitted pursuant to Rule 28. This section also includes fees to review new or unproven water saving technology and administrative fees to monitor, review and enforce applications and/or permits for Special Circumstances granted pursuant to District Rule 24-G.

Sections Six, Seven and Eight contain legal language for any ordinance. These sections have no impact on the environment. Adoption of Ordinance No. 117 itself has no measurable impact on the environment. Adoption of Ordinance No. 117 is dependent on CEQA review conclusions and permitting processes by the local jurisdictions or agencies that may regulate a proposed project.

Prior to completion of this Initial Study and Negative Declaration, the MPWMD Water Demand Committee reviewed Ordinance No. 117 on May 11, 2004.

Ordinance No. 117, as well as supporting materials and documents, may be reviewed at the MPWMD offices, at the address and phone number listed above. These materials include (a) MPWMD Rules and Regulations, (b) Board agenda information supporting development of concepts. for Ordinance No. 117 ("Board packets"), (c) Water Demand Committee staff reports and minutes supporting development of concepts for Ordinance No. 117, and (d) minutes of the February 25,

2004 MPWMD Technical Advisory Committee. Initial Study conclusions are also based on District staffs' professional assessments, knowledge and experiences, based on data on file at the District office. Public testimony and informal contact with members of the public and various local agency representatives also contribute to and support the Initial Study conclusions.

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