

Dear Customer:

EXHIBIT 17-A

Despite recent scattered rainfall, the Monterey Peninsula and the rest of the state continue to face their third year of drought. The Governor's Emergency Drought Declaration calls for a voluntary 20% reduction in water use statewide, and calls upon all local urban water suppliers to implement their local water shortage contingency plans immediately.

These actions complement the state program known as the "20 x 2020 Water Conservation Plan" which sets forth a statewide road map to maximize the state's urban water efficiency and conservation opportunities between 2009 and 2020, and beyond. It aims to set in motion a range of activities designed to achieve the 20% per capita reduction in urban water demand by 2020. The draft of that plan served as a basis for legislation that was enacted in November 2009 to incorporate into law (Senate Bill X7-7) the goal to achieve a 20% reduction in urban per capita water use in California by 2020.

Here on the Monterey Peninsula, we have already been in Stage 1 of our local water shortage contingency plan for over a decade. Residents and businesses have been successfully working together to conserve water. Although we have already met the *20 x 2020 Water Conservation Plan* goals, in this time of drought, we must continue our efforts and find new ways to save water. We encourage you to voluntarily reduce your water use for the benefit of the Monterey Peninsula.

Sincerely yours,
California American Water &
The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

WE CARE ABOUT WATER. IT'S WHAT WE DO.
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CODE

