

Joel Pablo

From: Dave Stoldt
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 2:56 PM
To: Mary L. Adams; Alvin Edwards; Amy Anderson; George Riley; Ian Oglesby; Karen Paull; Marc Eisenhart; District 5
Cc: Dave Laredo; Fran Farina; Joel Pablo
Subject: FW: Public Input

FYI

From: mcopperma@aol.com <mcopperma@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 2:11 PM
To: Dave Stoldt <dstoldt@mpwmd.net>
Subject: Public Input

Hello Dave,

Since I am unable to attend the meeting this evening due to another prior commitment, I would like to ask a question or make a comment for you, the board directors and legal counsel to consider.

Given the cascade of bad actor (CalAm) behaviors, it seems that there could be, or should be, a legal way to request court action based on an emergency declaration of relief or other procedure that could propel the Measure J action forward more speedily.

Added to all the other past actions, CalAm is now defying and dishonoring its agreement to sign the WPA. It has declared it will again over pump the Seaside Basin, implying it will continue to abuse ASR injection wells as extraction wells, thereby jeopardizing drought protection/water security and impeding rain water capture for storage - all to maintain leverage for its desal project, so declared CalAm President Kevin A.Tilden. CalAm also stated it intends to "negotiate" its way around the Coastal Commission's twenty conditions attached to the project approval.

Additionally, CalAm defies state mandates to recycle all possible water resources and to provide workforce affordable housing. By refusing to sign, CalAm deliberately and obstinately brings more angst and harm to our communities. Their public statement before the Coastal Commission last Nov 17th that it fully supports the PWM Expansion was merely a ploy to induce approval, albeit conditional, for its desal project. All the while, CalAm intended to refuse to sign the WPA, proof of which is apparent in their actions to deprive ratepayers of the \$42 million in grant funds for Expansion construction - obviously to make water even more costly to ratepayers and increase profits via rehearing demands being made of the CPUC, for more funds for their desal plant, not for the PWM Expansion. CalAm used this same withdrawal from agreement tactic during the regional water project. CalAm did not like MCWD's grant received for pipeline infrastructure as it meant less profit for CalAm. Shortly after its abrupt departure from this regional water project, CalAm magically announced its MPWMP and invaded Marina's aquifers with its test slant well, despite having no water rights to the SVGB, Marina's potable water supply. Water rights formed the basis for project feasibility, according to the MPWSP EIR, without which the project could not proceed. The CPUC obviously has chosen to ignore that EIR requirement while the Coastal Commission overrides its own environmental justice policy and declaration to favor the most environmentally just project. PWM Expansion provided that viable, and only viable, alternative water project ready to go. CalAm wants to

derail this save-the-day recycled water project, thinking it can succeed, all due to "political clout and pressure", in my opinion, and unabashed greed.

A master at deceit and pernicious strategies, CalAm is showing its true colors again and must be stopped from even more treacherous actions that will only continue to hurt residents and cause divisiveness due to unfairness and environmental injustice practices.

CalAm wants more millions, yet it has, according to my understanding, gained a seventy-five percent increase in millions of dollars of profits this past year, added to all the other millions in profits from previous years. Rampant greed is at play along with manipulative propaganda and fear mongering. People are weary of seeing their money being used against them in political ploys and "charitable" donations to bolster CalAm's public image, but paid for by stressed ratepayers. Of course, this is an outrage.

If there is any legal means available, I pray that a declaration of relief on an emergency basis can be filed in court as part of the proceedings filed to date so MPWMD can execute its own action to move forward with public water distribution and Expansion construction. If MPWMD can obtain emergency approval, it can itself be eligible for the \$42 million grant, without CalAm's signature, which in turn can support the buyout, probably eminent domain. Now is the time, it seems, to strike while the iron is hot, so-to-speak. We cannot afford to lose more rain water capture for ASR or risk more CalAm violations of the Seaside Basin Adjudication stipulations.

CalAm is "caught in the act" and has exposed its malevolent intentions to defy state mandates and impede progress in water security and desperately needed affordable housing. Putting the whole picture together, a court would be hard pressed to deny an emergency relief action. Too much is at stake, so I am submitting, with all humility, this simple comment for your consideration, knowing that you and your staff are far more capable than I and have more than likely already formulated a plan more comprehensive and workable.

My comment is meant to show support and appreciation, with admiration and respect for the truly outstanding job you all are doing for our communities. We salute you and applaud all your efforts that require the "blood, sweat, and tears" that all of us are suffering to achieve justice and right action.

Bravissimo!!! God bless you and your inspirational work!

Very respectfully,
Margaret-Anne Coppernoll