Public Comment, MPWMD Board Meeting, October 19, 2020 – Agenda Items # 9 and #10

I would like to thank the MPWMD Board for the outstanding job they have been doing, and are doing, to support our communities' efforts to work together towards solving our water supply issues. Your dedicated work and tireless efforts to develop the best workable plans as well as focusing on moving forward to implement those plans is indeed admirable and much appreciated by our communities. I congratulate you and admire you for the progress made to date and urge you not to stop short of complete success. Please consider the serious implications of M1W's continued actions to withhold SEIR certification. This failure to certify the SEIR will hamper progress on fulfilling the community desire to have a reliable, environmentally safe, and affordable water supply for now and future decades. You have an opportunity to lighten the stress load and financial burden that this water issue represents, especially during this challenging time of COVID-19 health threat. Please consider the value of supporting our citizenry and looking out for the public good. This is a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers who funded the million-dollar Supplemental EIR. This is the best option to stop the illegal Carmel River water pumping and to ensure a potable water supply now without the complications of sticky litigation and unrealistic efforts to derail Pure Water Monterey Expansion. Please listen to the voice of the people and move forward with your capacity and authority to support SEIR certification as well as appealing to LAFCO to proceed with the operational plan approval needed to press on.

You are the heroes with the courage and strength of character and integrity to implement the best, and right now, the only, solution that can ensure a secure water supply for our future.

Thank you for all the outstanding work you are doing for all our communities. God bless you all. I salute you and staff. Special thanks and bravissimo to Chair Alvin Edwards for his outstanding leadership, and to General Manager David Stoldt for his integrity and genuine, faithful adherence to truthful reporting.

Margaret-Anne Coppernoll, Ph.D. Marina