



# AIA Monterey Bay

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

April 1, 2008

State Water Resources Control Board

Re: Pending Cease and Desist Order by SWRCB

Dear SWRCB,

The Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects, Monterey Bay Chapter opposes the implementation of the SWRCB's Cease and Desist Order until a replacement water project is in place.

In the 1990's SWRCB required Cal Am to significantly reduce their pumping from Carmel River. Cal Am and the community have diligently complied with water conservation efforts to stay within SWRCB's previously reduced pumping levels. Cal Am has also been diligent about pursuing a desalination plant and other alternate water sources. SWRCB has not, until now, pursued further reduction in Carmel River pumping since Cal Am and the community have demonstrated a good faith effort to comply with the Board's requirements.

AIA MB, along with others in the community, does not understand the sudden change in SWRCB's position. The detrimental affect of this Cease and Desist Order will be devastating to the community's economy, health, safety and environment. SWRCB certainly has a moral obligation, if not also a legal one, to see that a water project, sufficient for the community, is in place prior to any further reduction in Cal Am's ability to supply water. Instead of a punitive approach, the community needs SWRCB's support in moving Cal Am's water solution forward, starting with Coastal Commission and its staff.

SWRCB is obligated to assist the community in realizing a sufficient water supply, not only for residents of the area, but also to resolve all the varied environmental concerns related to pumping from Carmel River.

SWRCB cannot responsibly further reduce pumping from the Carmel River without an alternate resource in place.

Sincerely,



Jeanne C. Byrne, FAIA  
Vice President 2008  
American Institute of Architects  
Monterey Bay Chapter