



**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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Application of California-American Water Company (U210W) for Approval of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project and Authorization to Recover All Present and Future Costs in Rates	Application 12-04-019 (Filed April 23, 2012)
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**MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE
SALINAS VALLEY WATER COALITION**

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Pursuant to Rule 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”), the Salinas Valley Water Coalition (SVWC) requests permission to intervene as a party to this proceeding.

The SVWC is a non-profit public benefit corporation, organized under the laws of, and qualified and doing business in, the State of California and the County of Monterey, and is not formed for the private gain of any person. SVWC’s members are comprised of agricultural landowners, farmers and businesses, and are water right holders within the Salinas Valley of Monterey County.

The SVWC was formed to participate in various governmental processes, in order to educate and inform its members on public policy issues and opinions that are of concern to their members; particularly policy

issues relating to the safety, stability, security and sufficiency of water and water supplies in the Salinas Valley; in an effort to protect the water rights of its members, to protect and preserve their water resources, and to effect water policy decisions in a manner that provides this protection while sustaining agricultural production and quality of life within the Salinas Valley.

For over two decades, the SVWC has worked with, and supported, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) in its pursuit of long-term basin balance of supply and demand and its effort to halt seawater intrusion. This support has been based on the belief that the Agency is committed to developing a program that is cost-effective, reasonable, hydrologically sound and equitable to landowners in all areas of the Salinas Valley. To this end, the SVWC was a leader and active participant in working with MCWRA and the Community to obtain a successful Proposition 218 voter approval to construct and implement the Salinas Valley Water Project.

Community participation is an essential element in any project, and critical to obtaining support for that project. Cal-American Water Company (Cal-Am) is proposing to build a project within the Salinas Valley, potentially without a public partner. The SVWC believes it is important that they be granted Party Status, so they can appropriately represent their members in this proceeding. The Salinas Valley agricultural community has, for the most part, been left out of the ‘project-building’ process and any discussion to date, regarding Cal-Am’s proposed project.

It is essential that the agricultural stakeholders of the Salinas Valley be included in the process. We are not advocating any particular project and/or components of the proposed project. But rather, we want to insure that our members water rights are not adversely impacted; that there are valid water rights identified to operate the project in the manner proposed; that these water rights are utilized in a manner that do not harm prior right holders; that the project will not harm the Salinas Valley Basin, impact its aquifers, exacerbate seawater intrusion and/or the basin's water balance, or export groundwater out of the basin. The SVWC wants assurances that protections will be put in place to address these issues adequately.

SVWC has actively supported the development of water projects within the Salinas Valley. Its members have built and paid, or continue to pay, for two reservoirs, the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project, The Salinas Valley Reclamation Project and the Salinas Valley Water Project—all in an effort to solve its basin's water problems. They have worked with their neighbors to resolve their difference so these projects could be successfully financed and implemented. The stability and security of their water resources and water rights are potentially at stake in this proceeding, and they must be appropriately represented.

The SVWC's mission statement states: **The water resources of the Salinas River Basin should be managed properly in a manner that promotes fairness and equity to all landowners within the basin. The management of these resources should have a scientific basis, comply**

with all laws and regulations, and promote the accountability of the governing agencies.

For these reasons, the SVWC respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion to Intervene to allow the SVWC to be included as a party, and that each of the following individuals are included on the service list as follows:

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Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nancy Isakson
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