



**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
MONTEREY COUNTY FARM BUREAU**

Norman C. Groot
Executive Director,
Monterey County Farm Bureau
PO Drawer 1449
Salinas, CA 93902
Telephone: (831) 751-3100
Facsimile: (831) 751-3167
Email: norm@montereycfb.com

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Pursuant to Rule 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”), Monterey County Farm Bureau (“Farm Bureau”) requests permission to intervene as a party to this proceeding.

The Farm Bureau is a non-profit public benefit corporation, organized in 1917 and incorporated in 1945 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. Farm Bureau’s members are comprised of agricultural landowners, farmers, ranchers, and businesses that are water right holders within the Salinas Valley of Monterey County.

The Farm Bureau was formed to facilitate participation in various governmental processes by Monterey County farmers and ranchers, and to

educate and inform its members on public policy issues and opinions that are of concern to their members; key are public policy issues relating to the supply, stability, security and quality of water and water sources in the Salinas Valley. The Farm Bureau's mission is 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 six decades or more, the Farm Bureau 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 Farm Bureau was an 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 water supply project within the Salinas Valley, potentially without a public partner. The Farm Bureau 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. The Farm Bureau is not advocating for 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 Farm Bureau wants assurances that protections will be put in place to address these issues adequately.

The Farm Bureau 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. Farm Bureau has worked with our neighbors to resolve any differences 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.

For these reasons, the Farm Bureau respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion to Intervene to allow the Farm Bureau to be

included as a party, and that each of the following individuals are included on the service list as follows:

Norman C. Groot
Executive Director,
Monterey County Farm Bureau
931 Blanco Circle (physical address)
P.O. Box 1449 (mailing address)
Salinas, CA 93902-1449
Telephone: (831) 751-3100
Facsimile: (831) 751-3167
Email: norm@montereycfb.com

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Respectfully submitted,



Norman C. Groot, Executive Director
Monterey County Farm Bureau