



**California Public Utilities Commission**  
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

Docket #: A.04-09-019

**CPUC TO ISSUE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
FOR CALAM COASTAL WATER PROJECT**

SAN FRANCISCO, December 15, 2008 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today said it will release a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for public comment on January 30, 2009, for California American Water Company's (CalAm) proposed Coastal Water Project located in Monterey County.

CalAm is requesting CPUC authority to build, own, and operate the Coastal Water Project. As proposed, the project would include a desalination plant, an ocean water intake system, a brine discharge system, a product water conveyance system, and aquifer storage and recovery facilities. CalAm states that the project would allow it to comply with State Water Resources Control Board rules requiring CalAm to secure a water supply to replace diversions from the Carmel River Aquifer. CalAm also states that the project would enable compliance with a court decision that establishes a physical solution providing for the long-term management of the Seaside Groundwater Basin.

The DEIR will present and analyze the proposed project, alternatives to the proposed project, and a proposal for a project of more regional countywide scope. The DEIR will identify various environmental alternatives for the proposed project, as well as the No-Project alternative.

The public comment period for the DEIR will be from January 31-April 1, 2009. The DEIR will be available at 17 public libraries throughout Monterey County and the County Clerk's office, as well as on the Internet at [www.CWP-EIR.com](http://www.CWP-EIR.com). Copies of the DEIR on CD-ROM will be available by request at the addresses given below. All comments on the DEIR must be received by the close of the comment period in order to be considered. Comments may be forwarded to the CPUC as follows by U.S. mail or other delivery service to:



**California Public Utilities Commission**

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The CPUC will hold four Public Participation Hearings in the Monterey Bay area between March 1-15, 2009, to take comments directly from the public.

After the close of the comment period, the CPUC will respond to comments and prepare a Final EIR in mid-summer 2009, and the Administrative Law Judge assigned to this proceeding will prepare a Proposed Decision.

More information about the proposed project is available at [www.CWP-EIR.com](http://www.CWP-EIR.com).

For more information on the CPUC, please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

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