



To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act, an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: California American Water Slant Test Well Project

LOCATION: City of Marina, Monterey County, California;
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS)

SUMMARY: California American Water proposes development and temporary operation of a slant test well to obtain information regarding the geologic, hydrogeologic, and water quality characteristics of the underlying aquifers. The slant test well would be drilled in the coastal foredune area of an existing CEMEX sand mining facility in the central coast of California, and would extend diagonally under the floor of the Pacific Ocean into the submerged lands of MBNMS. MBNMS proposes to authorize two state agency permits or other approvals that would allow development of California American Water's proposed slant test well project.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Daniel J. Basta, Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
(301) 713-3125

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact including the supporting environmental assessment is enclosed for your information.

Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above. Also, please send one copy of your comments to my staff at NOAA Program Planning and Integration (PPI), SSMC3, Room 15603, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Sincerely,

for Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure

