

The Sentinel

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Air Pollution Board Board OKs Its Budget

WATSONVILLE — An operating budget of \$689,556, an increase of 14.3 percent, for the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, was approved by the district's control board on a 6 to 1 vote here Wednesday.

The board approved the budget, cutting \$30,000 from the recommendation of the staff and the district's advisory board.

Earlier the board approved an increase of \$214,000 in permit fees charged to industrial operations within the district. The largest increase affected Pacific Gas and Electric Co.'s Moss Landing plant where the fees were increased from \$38,280 to \$176,392.

Vote to approve the fee increase was 5 to 2 with board members Enos Silva of San Benito County and Dusan Petrovic of Monterey County casting the negative votes.

Approval votes were from Chairman William Peters of Monterey County, Barbara Shipnuck and Marc Del Piero of Monterey County and Gary Patton and Robley Levy of Santa Cruz County.

Members of various industrial firms including PG&E, Mobil, Texaco, Kaiser Refractories and Lone Star objected to the increase in fees.

Permit fees for the 1982-83 fiscal year will total \$435,659, the king-size share of the district's \$689,000 budget.

Contributions to the budget from the three counties within the district, Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito were cut to \$25,420 as compared with \$36,685.

Permit fees last year were \$221,000.

The board ordered Air Pollution Control Officer Larry Odle to make the cuts in the budget wherever possible without adversely affecting the district's air monitoring program.