





October 31, 2017

**Advice Letter No. 2283**

To the California Public Utilities Commission:

California Water Service Company (“Cal Water”) respectfully submits this Tier 2 advice letter requesting authority to make the following changes to tariffs applicable to multiple ratemaking areas.

New/Revised CPUC		Cancelling CPUC	
Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Schedule No.	Sheet No.
xxxxx-W	Rate Support Fund	RSF	xxxxx-W
xxxxx-W	Table of Contents (Page 1)	TOC	xxxxx-W
xxxxx-W	Table of Contents (Page 5)	TOC	xxxxx-W

**Summary**

This advice letter is filed in compliance with Decision 16-12-042, adopted on December 15, 2016, and Preliminary Statement AM (Rate Support Fund Balancing Account). Under Preliminary Statement AM, Cal Water must file a report on the status of the RSF surcharge by October 31<sup>st</sup> of each year, and may adjust the RSF surcharge effective January 1 of the following year.

Cal Water submits the required report, and requests that RSF surcharges become effective on **January 1, 2018**. Cal Water submits this as a Tier 2 advice letter.

**Background**

The current RSF surcharge was approved in AL 2242 pursuant to D.16-12-042, Ordering Paragraphs 6 and 15. In Preliminary Statement AM, Cal Water is authorized to:

1. File an advice letter to report on the status of the RSF surcharge by October 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The accounting procedure required for RSF BA are:
  - a. A debit entry equal to the recorded RSF credits (subsidies) given to customers for service provided under Schedule No. RSF;
  - b. A debit entry of \$993,015 for each of the three years in the 2017-2019 rate case cycle to reflect the subsidies that offset the revenue requirements of the former Redwood Valley District service areas of Coast Springs, Lucerne, and Unified;
  - c. A credit entry equal to the recorded RSF surcharges collected from all customers (except for LIRA customers in RSF Districts) as provided under Schedule No. RSF;



- d. A monthly debit or credit entry equal to the average balance in each segment of the account multiplied by  $1/12^{\text{th}}$  of the most recent month's interest rate on Commercial Paper (prime, 90-day) published in the Federal Reserve Statistical Release H-15.
2. Adjust the annual surcharge to zero out the forecasted balance anticipated to be in the account at the end of the following year.

### **Discussion**

The RSF Surcharge is calculated as a ratio: the numerator is the total RSF program cost; the denominator is the sum of all quantity and services revenue in 2018,<sup>1</sup> minus the service revenue discount given to LIRA customers in 2018. Whereas,

**For the numerator, the RSF program cost** equals to the sum of:

- (Number of subsidized units for 2018) x (the Tier 1 quantity rate for 2018 minus RSF Index), plus;
- The annual subsidy of \$993,015 for the Redwood Valley District, plus;
- The under-collected RSF account balance as of 12/31/2017, as specified in paragraph 3 of Preliminary Statement AM.

**For the denominator, the sum of all quantity and services revenue in 2018** is based on the most recent forecast from the 2018 Step & Sales Reconciliation Mechanism (Steps/SRM) filing. The calculated services and sales are escalated with 2018 adopted growth factors and adjusted with SRM.<sup>2</sup> Using forecasted sales with the SRM adjustment will be closer to actual sales in 2018 and may better balance the account within the forecasted period.

The service revenue discount given to LIRA customers in 2018 is based on the 2018 Steps & SRM filing and the number of LIRA customers enrolled in the program in September 2017.

The revised RSF surcharge for 2018 is increased from 0.354% to 0.420%. The rate will be applied to the basic water charges<sup>3</sup> on a customer's bill.

Neither Preliminary Statement AM nor D.16-12-042 identify the appropriate tier level for this filing. Cal Water is therefore submitting this as a Tier 2 advice letter consistent with Cal Water's Direct Testimony (Exhibit CWS-2 at page 183) in A.15-07-015, which proposes that the annual RSF update mechanism be modeled on the annual LIRA recalculation. In Ordering Paragraph 4 of D.12-09-020, the Commission ordered Cal Water to file annual LIRA surcharge updates via a Tier 2 advice letter.

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<sup>1</sup> All revenue associated with LIRA customers in the remaining RSF district, Kern River Valley, is also excluded.

<sup>2</sup> SRM adopted in D.16-12-042 provides for a rate and sales adjustment if the actual sales volume for a district is lower or higher than five percent of the adopted value for that district.

<sup>3</sup> Basic water charges consist of the service charge and quantity charges for a metered customer, and the flat charge for flat rate customers, after RSF credits are applied; they do not include any other fees, surcharges, or credits.



### **Requested Effective Date**

Pursuant to Preliminary Statement AM, Cal Water requests that the new RSF surcharge become effective on **January 1, 2018**.

### **Notice**

**Customer Notice:** This is a Compliance Advice Letter that does not require customer notice, as provided in under Water Industry Rule 3.2 of General Order 96-B.

**Service List:** In accordance with General Order 96-B, General Rules 4.3 and 7.2, and Water Industry Rule 4.1, a copy of this advice letter will be mailed or electronically transmitted on **October 31, 2017** to competing and adjacent utilities and other utilities or interested parties having requested such notification.

### **Response or Protest**

Anyone may respond to or protest this advice letter. When submitting a response or protest, please include the utility name and advice letter number in the subject line. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the Commission in evaluating the advice letter. A protest objects to the advice letter in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based. These grounds are:

- (1) The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the advice letter;
- (2) The relief requested in the advice letter would violate statute or Commission order, or is not authorized by statute or Commission order on which the utility relies;
- (3) The analysis, calculations, or data in the advice letter contain material error or omissions;
- (4) The relief requested in the advice letter is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding; or
- (5) The relief requested in the advice letter requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the advice letter process; or
- (6) The relief requested in the advice letter is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided such a protest may not be made where it would require relitigating a prior order of the Commission.)

A protest shall provide citations or proofs where available to allow staff to properly consider the protest. A response or protest must be made in writing or by electronic mail and must be received by the Division of Water and Audits within 20 days of the date this advice letter is filed. The address for mailing or delivering a protest is:

Tariff Unit, Division of Water and Audits, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
California Public Utilities Commission,  
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102  
[water\\_division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:water_division@cpuc.ca.gov)



**CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY**

Advice Letter 2283 RSF Surcharge Recalculation for 2018

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On the same date the response or protest is submitted to the Division of Water and Audits, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy by mail (or e-mail) to Cal Water at the following address:

Natalie Wales  
California Water Service Company  
1720 North First Street,  
San Jose, California 95112  
Fax 408/367-8430 or  
E-mail [nwales@calwater.com](mailto:nwales@calwater.com)

Cities and counties requiring Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform the Division of Water and Audits within the 20-day protest period so a late-filed protest can be entertained. The informing document should include an estimate of the date the proposed protest might be voted on. The advice letter process does not provide for any responses, protests or comments, except for the utility's reply, after the 20-day comment period.

**Replies:** The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Each reply must be received by the Division of Water and Audits within 5 business days after the end of the protest period and shall be served on the same day to the person who filed the protest or response. If you have not received a reply to your protest within 10 business days, contact California Water Service Company at (408) 367-8200.

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY

/s/

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Kitty Wong, Rates Analyst

cc: Ting-Pong Yuen, ORA

**Table of Contents - Page 1**

The following listed tariff sheets contain all effective rates and rules affecting the rates and service of the Utility together with information relating thereto:

<u>Sheet Subject Matter</u>	<u>Service Area</u>	<u>Schedule No.</u>	<u>CPUC Sheet No.</u>
Title Page			5613-W
Table of Contents			
Page 1	Table of Contents		XXXXX-W (C)
Page 2	Preliminary Statements		11462-W
Page 3	Preliminary Statements		11405-W
Page 4	Preliminary Statements		11360-W
Page 5	Rate Schedules - All Districts		11461-W
Page 6	Rate Schedules - District Specific		XXXXX-W (C)
Page 7	Rate Schedules - District Specific		11441-W
Page 8	Rate Schedules - District Specific		11457-W
Page 9	Rate Schedules - District Specific		11307-W
Page 10	Rate Schedules - District Specific		11404-W
Page 11	Service Area Maps		11399-W
Page 12	Rules		11451-W
Page 13	Rules		11304-W
Page 14	Sample Forms		11409-W
Page 15	Sample Forms		XXXXX-W

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(To be inserted by utility)  
 Advice Letter No. 2283  
 Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

Issued by  
PAUL G. TOWNSLEY  
 Name  
Vice President  
 TITLE

(To be inserted by CPUC)  
 Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Effective \_\_\_\_\_  
 Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

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Rate Schedules

<u>Sheet Subject Matter</u>	<u>Service Area</u>	<u>Schedule No.</u>	<u>CPUC Sheet No.</u>
<u>Rate Schedules:</u>			
<b>ALL DISTRICTS</b>			
Service to Company Employees		ED-1	5168-W
Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee		UF	11332-W
Rate Support Fund		RSF	XXXXX-W (C)
Low Income Ratepayer Assistance			
Page 1		LIRA	11325-W
Page 2		LIRA	10371-W
Page 3		LIRA	11324-W
PBOP Surcharge		PB	7049-W
Additional Surcharges/Surcredits			
Page 1		AS	11391-W
Page 2		AS	11390-W
Page 3		AS	11126-W
Page 4		AS	11125-W
Page 5		AS	11460-W
Page 6		AS	11394-W
FIRE FLOW TESTING CHARGE		FF	8597-W
Schedule 14.1			
Page 1		14.1	11052-W
Page 2		14.1	10760-W
Page 3		14.1	11051-W
Page 4		14.1	10758-W
Page 5		14.1	10757-W
Page 6		14.1	10756-W
Page 7		14.1	11050-W
Page 8		14.1	11049-W
Page 9		14.1	11048-W
Page 10		14.1	11047-W
Page 11		14.1	11046-W
Page 12		14.1	11045-W
Page 13		14.1	11044-W
Page 14		14.1	11043-W
Page 15		14.1	11122-W
Page 16		14.1	11041-W

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)  
 Advice Letter No. 2283  
 Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

Issued by  
PAUL G. TOWNSLEY  
 Name  
Vice President  
 TITLE

(To be inserted by CPUC)  
 Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Effective \_\_\_\_\_  
 Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule No. RSF

All Tariff Areas

RATE SUPPORT FUND

The Rate Support Fund (RSF) Program provides credits on the bills of customers in the Kern River Valley District. It also provides a subsidy of \$993,015 to reduce the revenue requirements of the service areas in the Redwood Valley District for each of the three years in this rate case cycle (2017-2019).

The RSF Program is funded through surcharges on other customers as specified below.

RSF SURCHARGE

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable to all water service except that provided for:

- (1) public and private fire protection services
- (2) under Schedules OR-3M, OR-3M-I, and OR-2UL for raw water delivery along the Powers Canal and
- (3) LIRA customers located in an RSF District (see Schedule LIRA).

TERRITORY:

All territories served.

SURCHARGE:

An RSF surcharge rate of **.420%** will be applied to the basic water charges (identified below) on a customer's bill.

(1)

"Basic water charges" as referenced in this Schedule consist of the service charge and quantity charges for a metered customer, and the flat charge for flat-rate customers, after RSF credits are applied; they do not include any other fees, surcharges, or credits.

RSF CREDIT

APPLICABILITY:

Applicable to all water service in the Kern River Valley District (the "RSF District"), except that provided for public and private fire protection services.

CREDIT AMOUNTS:

A discounted quantity rate on the first units of water consumption per month up to the "RSF Usage Limit."  
Discounted RSF quantity rate..... **\$5.28** per 100 cubic feet (CCF)

The Discounted RSF Quantity Rates apply to monthly water consumption up to the following RSF Usage Limits:

Kern River Valley District                      First **10** CCF

Additional units will be charged at the quantity rates described on the rate schedules for those service areas.

Kern River Valley District                      Schedule KRV-1

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The RSF Credits and Surcharges on this tariff shall be separately identified on customer bills.
2. Customer bills in the former Redwood Valley District service areas (Coast Springs, Lucerne, and Unified) shall have a message indicating that their basic water rates (service charge and quantity rates) are lower due to a subsidy from the RSF program. This bill message will continue as long as the RSF subsidy continues.
3. In no instance should the total amount of the combined RSF Credit and and LIRA discount received by a customer in any month exceeds that customer's water bill for service in that month.





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PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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 PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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**Los Altos District**  
 ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
 PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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 ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
 PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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 ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
 PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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 ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
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 ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
 PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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 PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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ADVISE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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ADVISE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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PER SECTION III (G) OF GENERAL ORDER NO. 96-A

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