

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
DIVISION OF WATER AND AUDITS**

**Advice Letter Cover Sheet**

California Water Service  
**Utility Name:** Company  
All ratemaking areas except  
**District:** Grand Oaks  
**CPUC Utility #:** U-60-W  
**Advice Letter #:** 2370  
**Tier:** ☒ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ Compliance  
**Authorization:**  
**Description:** 2018 General Rate Case Interim Rate  
Memorandum Account  
**Date Mailed to Service List:** 12/31/2019  
**Protest Deadline (20<sup>th</sup> Day):** 01/20/2020  
**Review Deadline (30<sup>th</sup> Day):** 01/30/2020  
**Requested Effective Date:** 01/01/2020  
**Rate Impact:** none

The protest or response deadline for this advice letter is 20 days from the date that this advice letter was mailed to the service list. Please see the "Response or Protest" section in the advice letter for more information.

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**Email:** [Nwales@calwater.com](mailto:Nwales@calwater.com)

**Utility Contact:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

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**Phone:** (415) 703-1133

**Email:** [Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov)

**DWA USE ONLY**

**DATE**

**STAFF**

**COMMENTS**

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[ ] APPROVED

[ ] WITHDRAWN

[ ] REJECTED

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY**

1720 NORTH FIRST STREET  
SAN JOSE, CA 95112 • (408) 367-8200 • F (408) 367-8428

December 31, 2019

**Advice Letter No. 2370**

To the California Public Utilities Commission:

California Water Service Company ("Cal Water") respectfully submits this Tier 1 advice letter for an interim rate memorandum account associated with Cal Water's 2018 General Rate Case ("GRC") proceeding, Application ("A") 18-07-001, applicable to all regulated ratemaking areas in California except Grand Oaks.

New/Revised CPUC Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Schedule No.	Cancelling CPUC Sheet No.
xxxxx-W	Preliminary Statement AZ		xxxxx-W
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**Summary**

In the Administrative Law Judges' Ruling Granting California Water Service Company's Motion for Interim Rate Relief on November 7, 2019 ("ALJs' 11/7/19 Ruling"), Cal Water is authorized to establish an interim rate memorandum account to become effective on January 1, 2020 in the event that the Commission has not issued a final decision in A.18-07-001. Cal Water requests authorization to open the 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account ("2018 IRMA") via this Tier 1 advice letter.

**Background**

Cal Water filed its 2018 General Rate Case on July 1, 2018 for new rates effective 2020-2022. A detailed procedural history of the proceeding is provided in the Joint Motion of California Water Service Company (U-60-W) and the Public Advocates Office for Adoption of a Settlement Agreement.<sup>1</sup> In brief, most material issues in the proceeding were resolved in the partial Settlement Agreement of California Water Service Company and the Public Advocates Office ("Settlement") filed on October 8, 2019, and some issues were litigated. Final customer rates are dependent upon the resolution of certain disputed issues, so the partial Settlement Agreement does not include final customer rates.

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<sup>1</sup> Joint Motion of California Water Service Company (U-60-W) and the Public Advocates Office for Adoption of a Settlement Agreement (October 8, 2019); with the proposed Settlement Agreement of California Water Service Company and the Public Advocates Office ("Settlement") provided as Exhibit A.  
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M316/K882/316882201.PDF>.



In response to Cal Water's Motion for Interim Rates filed on September 9, 2019, the assigned Administrative Law Judges issued a ruling authorizing both interim rates and establishment of a memorandum account, effective January 1, 2020, if the Commission is unable to issue a final decision in A.18-07-001 in time for new rates to be effective on that date.<sup>2</sup> On December 24, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Extending Statutory Deadline to July 1, 2020, with a proposed decision anticipated in the first quarter of 2020.<sup>3</sup>

## **Discussion**

Pursuant to the ALJs' 11/7/2019 Ruling, Cal Water requests establishment of the 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (or "2018 IRMA") to track the difference between Interim Rates and Final Rates for the period between January 1, 2020 and the day before Final Rates go into effect (the "Interim Period"). In addition, because a final decision in this case could impact a variety of rate-related and non-related issues for which a start or initiation date may be relevant, Cal Water requests that the 2018 IRMA be subject to any modifications and interpretations needed to fully reflect the intent of a final decision in A.18-07-001.

For the purposes of the 2018 IRMA, "Interim Rates" consist of the rates that Cal Water has implemented during the Interim Period. Because Cal Water is not proposing a GRC-related adjustment to current rates, the "Interim Rates" in January 2020 will be the same as those in effect at the time of this advice letter filing. However, Cal Water has already requested revenue increases effective February 1, 2020 for several revenue offsets, as discussed in greater detail below. If those revenue increases are approved, Cal Water will change rates on February 1, 2020, and those adjusted rates will then become the "Interim Rates." Therefore, for the purposes of calculating the appropriate true-ups for the 2018 IRMA, "Final Rates" should reflect these and any other "subsequent offsets" in the manner discussed below.

Subsequent Offsets in Final Rates. Since the filing of the Settlement on October 8, 2019, Cal Water has increased the rates for customers in its Westlake District to reflect Commission approval of a revenue increase for a ratebase offset.<sup>4</sup> In a final decision in A.18-07-001, the Commission will adopt "new" GRC rates, however those "new" rates should not nullify any revenue increases approved through the informal advice letter process during the pendency of the GRC proceeding.

In the Settlement, all revenue offsets approved by the Commission between July 1, 2018 and October 8, 2019 were incorporated into the proposed calculations, as explicitly addressed in the

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<sup>2</sup> <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M319/K132/319132077.PDF>.

<sup>3</sup> D.19-12-059 at 2. <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M322/K782/322782789.PDF>.

<sup>4</sup> Advice Letter 2350 (submitted August 7, 2019), approved for an effective date of October 4, 2019 (per disposition letter dated October 16, 2019).



discussion of Special Request #6 regarding “subsequent offsets” (offsets approved subsequent to the filing of the GRC Application).<sup>5</sup> The Settlement did not include the Westlake ratebase offset rate increase that became effective on October 4, 2019, however. Further, Cal Water has requested authority to change rates on February 1, 2020 to reflect several other offsets.<sup>6</sup> To properly calculate an interim rate true-up that is consistent with the Commission’s intent in adopting a final GRC decision, the “Final Rates” in the 2018 IRMA should be defined to include both the newly-approved GRC rates, as well as any revenue offsets approved outside of A.18-07-001.

Other Modifications Adopted in A.18-07-001. The proposed preliminary statement for the 2018 IRMA explicitly creates sub-accounts for new balancing accounts discussed in the GRC proceeding that could be approved in a final GRC decision – balancing accounts related to conservation, pension, and health care costs – to ensure that they receive January 1, 2020 effective dates if approved by the Commission.<sup>7</sup> However, there may be other issues resolved in a final decision (issues that neither create new regulatory mechanisms nor directly impact interim rates) for which retroactivity back to January 1, 2020 is appropriate in order to implement a final decision in a manner consistent with the Commission’s intent.

These could include issues addressed in the Settlement as well as issues that have been litigated. For example, the Settlement proposes modifications to the terms and conditions of several memorandum accounts.<sup>8</sup> A narrow interpretation of the proposed preliminary statement submitted in the advice letter, however, could frustrate the Commission’s intent by precluding Cal Water from treating these modifications as retroactive back to January 1, 2020.<sup>9</sup> For example, in the proposed modifications to Cal Water’s 2018 Tax Accounting Memorandum Account (“TAMA”) in Preliminary Statement AV, the parties agreed that Cal Water should be authorized to track the tax implications of funds received through grants so that the Commission can consider proper disposition at a later time.<sup>10</sup> If Cal Water receives grant funds after January 1, 2020 but before a

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<sup>5</sup> Settlement at 32-33; *see also* Attachment 1 to the Settlement.

<sup>6</sup> See Advice Letters 2358 through 2368 submitted on December 20, 2019 and Advice Letter 2369 submitted on December 27, 2019.

<sup>7</sup> While the parties agreed in the Settlement that a new conservation balancing account should be opened, whether or not Cal Water should be authorized to open new pension and healthcare balancing accounts for 2020-2022 was litigated.

<sup>8</sup> See *e.g.* modifications to the Chromium-6 Memorandum Account and the Asbestos Memorandum Account discussed in the Settlement. Settlement at 44-47.

<sup>9</sup> For example, in the proposed modifications to Cal Water’s 2018 Tax Accounting Memorandum Account (“TAMA”) in Preliminary Statement AV, the parties agree that Cal Water should be authorized to track the tax implications of funds received through grants so that the Commission can consider proper disposition at a later time. Settlement at 34. If Cal Water receives grant funds after January 1, 2020 but before a final decision in A.18-07-001, and the Commission adopts this modification, Cal Water should be allowed to track those funds in the modified memorandum account even if this possibility is not explicitly stated in the preliminary statement for the 2018 IRMA.

<sup>10</sup> Settlement at 34.



final decision in A.18-07-001, and the Commission adopts this modification, Cal Water should be allowed to track those funds in the modified memorandum account even if this possibility is not explicitly stated in the preliminary statement for the 2018 IRMA.

With regard to disputed issues, a final decision in the GRC will identify the appropriate depreciation rates and capital construction financing rates (also known as Interest During Construction or Allowance for Funds Used During Construction) that should be in effect starting January 1, 2020. While interim rate memorandum accounts for delayed GRC decisions ostensibly exist to true up interim and final rates, GRC decisions also resolve ratemaking issues like these that go far beyond calculating appropriate interim rate surcharges or surcredits. Implicit in a final decision on appropriate depreciation and capital construction financing rates is that they will be retroactive back to January 1, 2020 for ratemaking purposes, thus directly influencing future rates, even though the issues are not referenced in a preliminary statement addressing interim rates resulting from a delayed GRC decision.<sup>11</sup>

Given the breadth of Cal Water's GRC and the complexity of the ratemaking process, Cal Water requests that the Commission exercise reasonableness in interpreting, after a final decision is adopted, how to implement the 2018 IRMA in a manner that achieves fairness for both customers and the company, rather than mandating that the preliminary statement identify an exhaustive list of ratemaking impacts that could result from a delay in the GRC decision.<sup>12</sup>

Duration of Interim Rate True-Ups. Cal Water proposes that any surcharges or credits applied to amortize 2018 IRMA balances be applied for the same length of time as the Interim Period, unless administrative efficiency or fairness require otherwise. The "True-Up Period" should therefore equal the number of months in the Interim Period, with the exception that a partial month in the Interim Period should be rounded up or down to a full month.

LIRA Discount True-Up. The monthly LIRA discount in each ratemaking area is equivalent to one-half of the  $5/8 \times 3/4$ -inch meter charge. Because of the adjustments reflected in the rate designs proposed in the Settlement,<sup>13</sup> the LIRA discount in some areas will be higher under Final Rates, and in other areas higher under Interim Rates. In areas where LIRA customers are owed additional discounts, a temporary credit will be applied (an Interim LIRA credit).

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<sup>11</sup> Note that whether all aspects of a final decision can be treated as retroactive for financial accounting purposes may be influenced by financial audit recommendations.

<sup>12</sup> Cal Water also notes that, the longer the delay in a final decision, the more likely there will be unanticipated ratemaking implications requiring a broader interpretation for implementation of the 2018 IRMA.

<sup>13</sup> In A.18-07-001, Cal Water re-evaluated the rate design for each ratemaking area and proposed various modifications. The agreed-upon rate designs in the Settlement reflect many changes that may include different tier breaks, different rate differentials between tiers, and the shifting of revenue recovery between service charges and quantity rates.



In areas where the LIRA discount under Final Rates is lower than the LIRA discount under Interim Rates, however, Cal Water does not propose to apply a temporary surcharge. Instead, for the duration of the True-Up Period, the LIRA discounts provided in that area should be temporarily decreased to account for the excess discounts provided during the Interim Period. Cal Water believes that this approach will accomplish the goals of making the non-LIRA customers who fund the program whole, and recovering the excess discounts from LIRA customers in a palatable manner.

RSF Discount and Subsidy True-Up. The Rate Support Fund would change in the following ways under the Settlement: (1) the RSF subsidy currently offsetting the revenue requirement for the Bay Area Region will be eliminated; (2) RSF subsidies will be applied to offset the revenue requirements for the Dixon and Willows Districts; and (3) customers in the Kern River Valley District will continue to receive discounts on the first 10 CCF of monthly usage, albeit at a different discount level. (Note that, while the Settlement lays out these principles, the specific amounts of the RSF subsidies and discount for the Dixon, Willows, and Kern River Valley Districts, respectively, cannot be calculated until other issues are resolved in A.18-07-001.)

For the Bay Area Region, Dixon, and Willows, Cal Water proposes to apply an RSF subsidy true-up as an area-wide surcharge or surcredit during the True-Up Period. The same would be true for Kern River Valley if additional RSF discounts are owed to customers during the True-Up Period.

If Kern River Valley received excess discounts during the Interim Period, however, Cal Water proposes an RSF true-up that mirrors the proposed approach for LIRA true-ups in which excess discounts were received during the Interim Period. For the duration of the True-Up Period, future RSF discounts should be temporarily decreased.<sup>14</sup> Cal Water believes that this approach will accomplish the goals of making the customers who fund the RSF program whole,<sup>15</sup> and recovering the excess discounts from RSF customers in a palatable manner.

After True-Up Periods. After the True-Up Period for Interim Rates, the residual balance for each ratemaking area will be transferred to the General District Balancing Account (Preliminary Statement AP) for each area, consistent with Section 3a of Preliminary Statement AP, which allows entries made for a “remaining balance that results from under- or over-amortization” when “the Commission has authorized a fixed period of amortization.” After the True-Up Period for the LIRA and RSF true-ups, however, residual balances should instead be transferred to the company-wide LIRA Balancing Account and the company-wide RSF Balancing Account, respectively.

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<sup>14</sup> This procedure is not applicable to the Bay Area Region, the Dixon District, and the Willows District because the Bay Area Region’s past RSF subsidy and the future RSF subsidies for Dixon and Willows are embedded in tariffed rates themselves, rather than provided on customer bills as credits to tariffed rates.

<sup>15</sup> With the exception of LIRA customers located in the Kern River Valley District, all of Cal Water’s regulated customers fund the RSF program.



Rate Base Offset for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Water Reliability Pipeline (PVPWRP). In the Settlement, the parties agreed to extend the sunset on the Tier 2 advice letter treatment for the two capital projects that make up the PVPWRP, and increase the cost caps to reflect the updated scope and cost of the project. Due to the magnitude of the PVPWRP and the significant rate impacts to customers, however, the Settlement would also make two significant changes for cost recovery. First, the Los Angeles County Region would remain a ratemaking area, but there would be a new set of residential and non-residential tariffs for Palos Verdes customers (and an updated recycled water tariff) so that the costs of the PVPWRP could just be applied to Palos Verdes customers. Second, the rate increase for Palos Verdes customers would become effective 30 days after the advice letter filing, subject to refund.<sup>16</sup> This provision would achieve a delicate balance by allowing the Commission time to review the advice letter without either delaying cost recovery, or establishing a separate memorandum account which would have the benefit of tracking carrying costs to allow full Commission review, but which could also result in extremely high balances that would later need to be recovered from customers.

The PVPWRP is scheduled to be in service in the first quarter of 2020. If Final Rates are not implemented by April 1, 2020, Cal Water proposes that the intent of the Settlement provisions relating to the PVPWRP should be implemented under the 2018 IRMA by allowing Cal Water to submit a Tier 2 advice letter (after Cal Water puts the PVPWRP into service and complies with the relevant requirements of the Settlement), and increasing rates for Palos Verdes customers up to the Settlement cost caps, subject to refund, on a date specified by Cal Water that is at least 30 days after the Tier 2 advice letter filing.<sup>17</sup> Given the Commission's statement in D.19-12-059 that "a proposed decision [in A.18-07-001] is anticipated during the first quarter of 2020," this request may become moot.<sup>18</sup> Nevertheless, Cal Water makes this request in an abundance of caution.

It is important to note that, in this advice letter, Cal Water is only requesting the outcome relating to the PVPWRP that would have been occurred if the Settlement had been adopted by January 1, 2020. Specifically, the parties in Cal Water's Settlement considered, and then explicitly dismissed, the idea of delaying a PVPWRP rate increase in favor of tracking the carrying costs of the completed project in a memorandum account pending final disposition of the Tier 2 advice letter, and then both increasing rates and amortizing the memorandum account.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, Cal Water is not requesting memorandum account treatment of the PVPWRP in this advice letter, which would be inconsistent with the Settlement; instead, Cal Water is requesting authority to implement a rate

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<sup>16</sup> Settlement at 152-155.

<sup>17</sup> The Commission has allowed a rate to go into effect pending approval of a Commission decision, albeit under different circumstances, in Resolution W-5025, California-American Water Company (Cal-Am), Order Authorizing to Re-instate the Sand City Surcharge at Current Rates Effective March 1, 2015 until the Decision to General Rate Case Application (A.) 13-07-002 is Issued (February 26, 2015).

<sup>18</sup> D.19-12-059 at 2.

<sup>19</sup> See Settlement at 150-151.



increase for a Tier 2 PVPWRP ratebase offset, subject to refund, under the terms specified in the Settlement.

The PVPWRP is not a new advice letter project; it was approved as a ratebase offset in a previous GRC, is almost complete, and has been subjected to extensive review by the Public Advocates Office in the 2018 GRC.<sup>20</sup> Accordingly, granting the authority requested in this advice letter could be considered analogous to extending the sunset of an authorized advice letter project, with an updated cost cap that the Public Advocates Office agrees is appropriate. Cal Water nevertheless recognizes the need for a close review of such a large project, and agreed in Settlement to meet with the staffs of the Commission's Water Division and Public Advocates Office's 30 to 45 days prior to filing its Tier 2 advice letter. In the proposed preliminary statement for the 2018 IRMA, Cal Water has therefore explicitly included in Section 4.d that Cal Water must comply with the requirements of the Settlement.

### **Requested Effective Date**

This is being submitted pursuant to General Order 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1(3), as modified by Resolution W-4664, and the ALJs' 11/7/19 Ruling, as a Tier 1 advice letter. Cal Water requests an effective date of **January 1, 2020**.

### **Notice**

Customer Notice – Customer notice of Tier 1 advice letters is not required under General Order 96-B, General Rule 7.3.1.

Service Lists – In accordance with General Order 96-B, General Rule 4.3 and 7.2 and Water Industry Rule 4.1, a copy of this advice letter will be mailed or electronically transmitted on **December 31, 2019**, 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. 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

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<sup>20</sup> See Settlement at 149 *et al* and the GRC exhibits referenced on page 155.



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- (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 that 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 Water Division within 20 days of the date this advice letter is submitted. 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. The address for mailing or delivering a protest is:

Tariff Unit, Water Division 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)

On the same date the response or protest is submitted to the Water Division, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy by mail (or e-mail) to us, addressed to:

Natalie Wales  
California Water Service Company  
1720 North First Street,  
San Jose, California 95112  
Fax 408/367-8566 or  
[Nwales@calwater.com](mailto:Nwales@calwater.com)

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform the Water Division, within the 20-day protest period, so that a late-filed protest can be entertained. The informing document should include an estimate of the date the proposed protest might be voted on.

**Replies**

The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Each reply must be received by the Water Division within 5 business days after the end of the protest period, and shall be served on the same day to the person who submitted 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.



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CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY

/s/

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Natalie Wales

Director of Regulatory Policy and Compliance

cc: Ting-Pong Yuen, Public Advocates Office of the CPUC

**Preliminary Statement**

Sheet 1

**AZ. 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (2018 IRMA)**

**1. Purpose**

The purpose of the 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (2018 IRMA) is to address any delay in the resolution of Cal Water's 2018 General Rate Case (Application 18-07-001) past the beginning of the first Test Year, January 1, 2020.

- a. The 2018 IRMA creates a sub-account to track the difference between Interim Rates and Final Rates during the Interim Period.
- b. The 2018 IRMA creates sub-accounts for the Public Purpose Programs and establishes a methodology for the true-up of those accounts.
- c. The 2018 IRMA creates sub-accounts for new balancing accounts that may be authorized in the final decision in A.18-07-001.
- d. The 2018 IRMA is subject to modification or interpretation as needed to carry out the intent of a final decision in A.18-07-001.

**2. Definitions**

- a. "Interim Rates" are the rates billed during the Interim Period.
- b. "Final Rates" consist of the following components:
  - i. New rates approved in A.18-07-001, and
  - ii. Any offsets (purchased water, pump tax, and rate base offsets) approved by the Commission via advice letter after October 8, 2019 (date of proposed Settlement Agreement) that are not reflected in (i), above.
- c. The "Interim Period" is the period from January 1, 2020 to the day before Final Rates are implemented.
- d. A "True-Up Period" is the period over which customer bills are adjusted to "true up" a balance tracked in the IRMA, unless administrative efficiency or fairness dictate otherwise. The duration of a True-Up Period is the same number of months that was in the Interim Period (with partial months rounded up or down to a whole month).

**3. Applicability**

The 2018 IRMA is applicable to all regulated ratemaking (RM) areas in California except Grand Oaks.

**4. Methodology**

a. Interim Rate True-Up.

- i. For each RM area, a sub-account in the 2018 IRMA will track the difference between revenue received during the Interim Period, and the revenue that Cal Water would have received had the components of the Final Rates been

(N)

(N)

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(To be inserted by utility)

Issued By

(To be inserted by CPUC)

Advice Letter 2370

GREG A. MILLEMAN

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Decision

Vice President

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution \_\_\_\_\_

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## AZ. 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (2018 IRMA)

in effect, *according to the effective date approved by the Commission for each component* during the Interim Period.

(N)

- ii. After the Interim Period, under-collected revenue will be recovered through an Interim Rate Surcharge, and over-collected revenue will be returned through an Interim Rate Credit, over the course of a True-Up Period.
- iii. Monthly interest expense calculated at 1/12 of the most recent month's interest rate on Commercial Paper (prime, 90-day), published in the Federal Reserve Statistical Release, will be applied.

- b. Public Purpose Program True-Ups. For each ratemaking area, there will be a sub-account representing the Interim LIRA Balancing Sub-Account (Preliminary Statement AJ) and the Interim RSF Balancing Sub-Account (Preliminary Statement AM). Estimated debit and credit entries for each sub-account will be recorded in the 2018 IRMA consistent with the terms in the existing Preliminary Statements AJ and AM, modified as necessary by the final decision.

- i. For each RM area, the Interim Sub-Accounts will track the difference between the discounts and subsidies provided during the Interim Period due to the public purpose programs, and those that would have been provided due to the programs had the components of the Final Rates been in effect, *according to the effective date approved by the Commission for each component* during the Interim Period.

The true-up of these discounts and subsidies will result in true-up surcredits, surcharges, and discount adjustments (as described below) that will be applied only to qualifying customers who are in the relevant public purpose program during each billing period of the True-Up Period, regardless of whether they were in those programs when Interim Rates were in effect.

After the True-Up Period, residual balances in the sub-accounts may be transferred to the associated existing LIRA and RSF accounts.

- ii. For the company-wide LIRA and RSF surcharges in effect to fund the programs during the Interim Period, there will be no true-up. The amounts for these surcharges tracked in the LIRA and RSF sub-accounts will be

(N)

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(To be inserted by utility)

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Advice Letter 2370

GREG A. MILLEMAN

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Resolution \_\_\_\_\_

Preliminary Statement

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AZ. 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (2018 IRMA)

transferred to the associated existing company-wide account.

(N)

- iii. LIRA True-Up: In RM areas where LIRA customers are owed additional LIRA bill discounts under Final Rates, the true-up will be implemented through a surcredit during the True-Up Period. In RM areas where LIRA customers received excess LIRA bill discounts under Interim Rates, the true-up will be implemented during the True-Up Period through an adjustment (a decrease) to future monthly LIRA bill discounts.
- iv. RSF True-Up: In the Bay Area Region, where all customers receive RSF subsidies embedded in Interim Rates but will not receive RSF subsidies embedded in Final Rates, customers will have received excess RSF subsidies during the Interim Period. The true-up will be implemented through an additional region-wide RSF surcharge during the True-Up Period.

In the Dixon and Willows Districts, where customers did not receive RSF subsidies embedded in Interim Rates, but all customers will begin receiving RSF subsidies embedded in Final Rates, customers will be owed new RSF subsidies that will be implemented through a district-wide surcredit during the True-Up Period.

In the Kern River Valley District, all customers receive RSF bill discounts under Interim Rates and will continue to receive RSF bill discounts under Final Rates. If the district is owed additional RSF bill discounts during the True-Up Period, customers will receive a district-wide surcredit. If the district received excess RSF bill discounts during the Interim Period, the true-up will be implemented through an adjustment (a decrease) to future monthly RSF bill discounts.

- c. New Balancing Accounts. For each ratemaking area, there will be a sub-account representing each of the new balancing accounts listed below that may be authorized by a decision in A.18-07-001. Estimated debit and credit entries for each sub-account will be recorded in the 2018 IRMA generally consistent with the terms in existing Preliminary Statements Z3, AA3, and AB3, modified as necessary by the final decision. If an account is authorized in a final decision, the balance in the associated sub-account will be transferred to the newly authorized account.

- i. Interim [New] Conservation Expense Balancing Sub-Account (Proposed

(N)

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Advice Letter 2370  
Decision

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Vice President

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Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective \_\_\_\_\_  
Resolution \_\_\_\_\_

**Preliminary Statement**

Sheet 4

**AZ. 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (2018 IRMA)**

Preliminary Statement Z4);

- ii. Interim [New] Pension Cost Balancing Sub-Account (Proposed Preliminary Statement AA4), and;\*
- iii. Interim [New] Health Cost Balancing Sub-Account (Proposed Preliminary Statement AB4).\*

\*Authorization for these balancing accounts is disputed in A.18-07-001.

- d. Rate Base Offset for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Water Reliability Project (PVPWRP). In the Settlement, the parties agreed to extend the sunset on the Tier 2 advice letter treatment for the projects that make up the PVPWRP, increase the cost caps, and allow a rate increase only for Palos Verdes customers (which excludes Antelope Valley customers) 30 days after the advice letter filing, subject to refund.

If Cal Water puts the PVPWRP into service and complies with the requirements of the Settlement, and Final Rates have not been implemented by April 1, 2020, Cal Water may file a Tier 2 advice letter, and increase rates for Palos Verdes customers up to the Settlement cost caps on a date that is at least 30 days after the Tier 2 advice letter filing, subject to refund.

**5. Disposition**

After the Commission adopts a final decision in A.18-07-001, Cal Water will amortize the 2018 IRMA sub-accounts, and for new, approved balancing accounts, effectuate the transfers from sub-accounts to final balancing accounts, through Tier 2 advice letters and in accordance with General Order 96-B.

(N)

(N)

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter 2370

Decision

Issued By

GREG A. MILLEMANVice President

(To be inserted by CPUC)

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution \_\_\_\_\_

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**Preliminary Statement**

Sheet 5

AZ. 2018 GRC Interim Rate Memorandum Account (2018 IRMA)

(continued)

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(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter 2370

Decision

Issued By

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(To be inserted by CPUC)

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

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## Visalia 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  
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## **Willows District**

ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST  
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