

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 11, 2024

Natalie Wales
Director of Regulatory Policy & Compliance
California Water Service Company
1720 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95112-4598

Dear Ms. Wales,

The Water Division of the California Public Utilities Commission has approved California Water Service Company's Advice Letter No. 2513, filed on March 14, 2024, regarding Post-Disaster Report on State Collaboration re March 2023 Storms in Kern River Valley and Salinas Valley Region.

Enclosed is a copy of the advice letter with an effective date of March 14, 2024 for the utility's files.

Please contact Mahdi Jahami at MJ4@cpuc.ca.gov or 916-743-5080, if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Enclosures

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

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: California Water Service Company
Kern River Valley and Salinas Valley Region
District: ratemaking areas
Date Mailed to Service List: 03/14/2024

CPUC Utility #: U-60-W
Protest Deadline (20th Day): 04/03/2024
Advice Letter #: 2513
Review Deadline (30th Day): 04/13/2024
Tier: 1 2 3 Compliance
Requested Effective Date: 03/14/2024

Authorization: D.19-07-015
Description: Post-Disaster Report on State
Collaboration re March 2023 Storms in
Kern River Valley and Salinas Valley
Region
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.

Utility Contact: Albree Jewell

Phone: 916-205-4539

Email: ajewell@calwater.com

Utility Contact: Natalie Wales

Phone: 408-367-8566

Email: Nwales@calwater.com

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

DATE

STAFF

COMMENTS

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

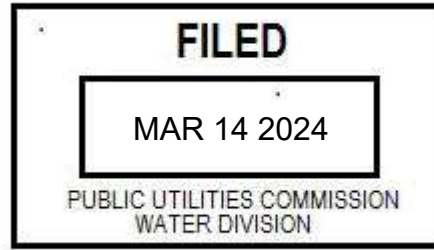
Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____



CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY
1720 NORTH FIRST STREET
SAN JOSE, CA 95112 • (408) 367-8200



March 14, 2024

Advice Letter No. 2513

To the California Public Utilities Commission:

California Water Service Company (“Cal Water”) respectfully submits this Tier 1 advice letter in compliance with Ordering Paragraph 12 of D.19-07-015, *Decision Adopting an Emergency Disaster Relief Program for Electric, Natural Gas, Water and Sewer Utility Customers* with regards to the collaboration with state agencies due to the impact on Cal Water’s customers during the March severe winter storms within our Kern River Valley and Salinas Valley Region ratemaking areas. ***Please note that this advice letter will only be distributed electronically.***

Summary

This Tier 1 advice letter confirms Cal Water’s compliance with the collaboration activities required by D.19-07-015 triggered by the severe winter storms in March 2023 that affected parts of Cal Water’s Kern River Valley and Salinas Valley Region ratemaking areas.

Background

D.19-07-015 requires water and sewer companies to file a Tier 1 advice letter 12 months after a state of emergency was proclaimed for an event affecting the water or sewer company. The Tier 1 advice letter is intended to affirm to the California Public Utilities Commission that the company is complying with the collaboration activities.

In D.19-07-015, the Commission provided as follows in Ordering Paragraph 12:

12. All Class-A Water utilities ... shall file a Tier 1 Advice Letter twelve months from a qualifying event, documenting the collaborative engagement they had with the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection demonstrating information sharing that aided these entities in carrying out their mission.

The Commission also adopted the following Conclusion of Law relevant to Ordering Paragraph 12:

21. It is reasonable to require the utilities, twelve months following a qualifying event, to file a Tier 1 Advice Letter describing the collaborative engagement they had with CalOES and CalFIRE demonstrating information sharing that aided CalOES and CalFIRE to carry out their missions.



Discussion

As described in Advice Letter 2476 (submitted on March 24, 2023), President Biden declared a state of emergency California on March 10, 2023¹ relating to the emergency conditions resulting from severe winter storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides beginning on March 9, 2023. The declaration applied to 34 counties in California, including Monterey County and Kern County.

The severe storms started impacting parts of Cal Water’s Kern River Valley district on March 10, 2023 and Salinas Valley Region on March 12, 2023, triggering the requirements of D.19-07-015. This advice letter addresses the collaborative activities Cal Water engaged in with state agencies as a result of the March storms.

Cal Water was involved in communications with the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services for the Statewide Winter Storms that impacted Cal Water’s Kern River Valley and Salinas Valley Region ratemaking areas. The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services Business Operations Center was open and active from 7am to 7pm during the height of the storms. In email communications they provided updates during the storms mentioning Governor Gavin Newsom Emergency Proclamations and President Biden’s approval of California’s request for a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration to support response and recovery efforts.

Requested Effective Date

Pursuant to OP 12 of D.19-07-015, this is filed as a Tier 1 advice letter. Cal Water does not request a specific effective date since this is a compliance filing without changes to Cal Water’s tariffs.

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 transmitted electronically on **March 14, 2024**, 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;

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/03/10/president-joseph-r-biden-jr-approves-california-emergency-declaration-3/>.



CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY

Advice Letter 2513 – 12-Mo SVR-KRV March 2023 Storms (State Collab)

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

Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd floor
California Public Utilities Commission,
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
E-mail: 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 Cal Water at the following address:

Natalie Wales
California Water Service Company
1720 North First Street,
San Jose, California 95112
E-mail: cwsrates@calwater.com

Cities and counties requiring Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform the Water Division 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 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 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, and ask for the Rates Department.



CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY

Advice Letter 2513 – 12-Mo SVR-KRV March 2023 Storms (State Collab)

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY

/s/

Albree Jewell
Rates Analyst

cc: Syreeta Gibbs (Public Advocates Office)
PublicAdvocatesWater@cpuc.ca.gov



Kern River Valley District

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

DARLENE STUDDARD, COMMITTEE
MEMBER
Residents Against Water Rates RAW
P.O.Box 3701
Wofford Heights, CA 93285

JEREMY CALLIHAN
**Department of Water Resources Safe
Drinking Water Program**
1416 Ninth St, Rm. 816
Sacramento, CA 95814
jeremy.callihan@water.ca.gov

LINDA NG
**Department of Water Resources Safe
Drinking Water Program**
1416 Ninth St, Rm. 816
Sacramento, CA 95814
linda.ng@water.ca.gov

ROB BENSON
P.O.Box 1557
Kernville, CA 93238
rcbenso@earthlink.net

ONLY FOR SERVICE AREA MAPS:

BLAIR KNOX, EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kern County LAFCO
5300 Lennox Ave, Suite 303
Bakersfield, CA 93309
eo@kernlafco.org



King City District (Salinas Valley Region)

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

STEVE ADAMS

King City

212 S. Vanderhurst Ave

King City, Ca 93930

sadams@kingcity.com

LITTLE BEAR WATER COMPANY

51201 Pine Canyon Rd, Space #125

King City, CA 93930

beatriz@littlebearwater.com

ONLY FOR SERVICE AREA MAPS:

RUSS NICHOLS, FIRE CHIEF

King City

212 S. Vanderhurst Ave

King City, CA 93930

kcf@kingcity.com

KATE MCKENNA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LAFCO of Monterey County

P.O. Box 1369

Salinas, CA 93902

mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov



Salinas District (Salinas Valley Region)

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

BRIAN FRUS, SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER

City of Salinas

200 Lincoln Ave
Salinas, CA 93901
brianf@ci.salinass.ca.us

CHRISTOPHER A. CALLIHAN, CITY

ATTORNEY

City of Salinas

200 Lincoln Ave
Salinas, CA 93901
chrisc@ci.salinass.ca.us

TOM ADCOCK

Alco Water Service

249 Williams Rd
Salinas, CA 93905
andrea@alcowater.com

Gavilan Water Company

644 San Juan Grade Road
Salinas, CA 93906

CLAUDIA ESCALANTE, EXECUTIVE

ASSISTANT

Monterey County Administration

168 West Alisal Street, 3rd Floor
Salinas, CA 93901
escalantec@co.monterey.ca.us

ONLY FOR SERVICE AREA MAPS:

KATE MCKENNA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Monterey County LAFCO

P.O. Box 1369
Salinas, CA 93902
mkennek@monterey.lafco.ca.gov

SAMUEL KELMEK, FIRE CHIEF

City of Salinas

200 Lincoln Ave
Salinas, CA 93901