STATE OF CALIFORNIA GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 13, 2019

Jeffrey T. Linam Vice President of Rates & Regulatory California-American Water Company 4701 Beloit Drive Sacramento, CA 95838-2434

Dear Mr. Linam,

The Commission has approved California Water Service Company's Advice Letter No. 1225, filed on February 15, 2019, regarding compliance with Ordering Paragraph 41 of Decision D.18-12-021.

Enclosed is a copy of the advice letter with an effective date of February 15, 2019 for the utility's files.

Please contact Bradley Leong at 415-703-2307, if you have any questions.

Thank you,

/s/ROBIN BRYANT

Robin Bryant
Water & Sewer Advisory Branch
Water Division

Enclosures

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION DIVISION OF WATER AND AUDITS

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

 \square Compliance

Date Mailed to Service List: February 15, 2019

Protest Deadline (20th Day): March 7, 2019

Review Deadline (30th Day): March 17, 2019

Requested Effective Date: February 15, 2019

Rate Impact: \$See AL

Utility Name: California American Water

Tier □1 ⊠2 □3

District: All District

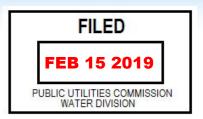
CPUC Utility #: U210W

Authorization D.18-12-021

Advice Letter #: 1225

Description:	expenses related to the Consprogram	•	See AL%
	ine for this advice letter is 20 day section in the advice letter for m		r was mailed to the service list. Please
Utility Contact:	Lakhjit Thind	Utility Contact	: Jonathan Morse
Phone:	916-568-4233	Phone	916-568-4237
Email:	lakhjit.thind@amwater.com	Email	: jonathan.morse@amwater.com
DWA Contact:	Tariff Unit		
Phone:	(415) 703-1133		
Email:	Water.Division@cpuc.ca.go	<u>v</u>	
	DW	A USE ONLY	
<u>DATE</u>	STAFF		DMMENTS
DAIL	<u>JIAII</u>	<u></u>	JIMINIE IN IS
[] APPROVED	[]] WITHDRAWN	[] REJECTED
Signature:	·	Comments:	
Date:			





4701 Beloit Drive Sacramento, CA 95838

www.amwater.com

P (916)-568-4251 F (916) 568-4260

February 15, 2019

ADVICE LETTER NO. 1225

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California-American Water Company (Cal-Am) (U210W) submits this advice letter to all of its water customers.

Purpose:

The purpose of this advice letter is to comply with Ordering Paragraph 41 of Decision D.18-12-021. This advice letter will do the following:

- 1. Provide an accounting of conservation funds spent with supporting documentation;
- 2. Provide a proposal to refund to customers any over collection of authorized but unspent budget funds where applicable.

Background:

On December 20, 2018, D. 18-12-021 authorized a three year conservation budget for Cal-Am's San Diego, Ventura, Los Angeles, Monterey, Sacramento, and Larkfield Districts.

Ordering Paragraph 41 of D.18-12-021 states:

41. California-American Water Company (Cal-Am) is authorized to shift authorized conservation budget amounts between best management practice rate categories within a service area. Cal-Am shall continue to track conservation expenses in the one-way California American Water Conservation Surcharge Balancing Accounts with any unspent funds refunded to ratepayers on an annual basis after the end of each year of the General Rate Case cycle. Cal-Am shall file a Tier 2 advice letter no later than 45 days after the end of each year providing an accounting of conservation funds spent with supporting documentation, as well as a proposal to refund to customers any unspent budgeted funds.

Cal-Am initially collected \$117,014 through its conservation surcharge in 2018, but ceased further collections due to the delay in obtaining a 2016 General Rate Case decision for test year 2019. D.18-12-021 was issued on December 13, 2018. In 2018, Cal-Am spent \$1.152 million in conservation, anticipating that a three year budget would be approved in D.18-12-021 that would allow the Company to shift approved conservation funds between years as allowed in prior GRC decisions. D.18-12-021 approved a three year budget, but Ordering Paragraph 41 requires "a Tier 2 advice letter no later than 45 days after the end of each year providing an accounting of conservation funds spent with supporting documentation, as well as a proposal to refund to customers any unspent budgeted funds." Cal-Am will, therefore, continue its conservation programs in 2019 and 2020 under the approved three-year budget assuming annual budget amounts in 2019 and 2020 totaling one half of the remaining unspent approved three year total budget for each year. Cal-Am anticipates that it will begin collecting the conservation surcharge

on or around May 1, 2019 when the 2019 Step rates become effective. The conservation surcharge effective in 2019 will first cover conservation expenditures incurred in 2018 and, over time, will be collected for conservation expenditures in 2019 and 2020. As directed in D-18-12-021, Cal-Am will file Tier 2 advice letters each subsequent year providing an accounting of conservation funds spent with supporting documentation, as well as a proposal to refund any unspent budgeted funds as appropriate.

Request:

Pursuant to D. 18-12-021, Ordering Paragraph 41, Cal-Am requests authority (1) to continue its conservation programs under the approved three-year budget of \$4,801,752, with annual budget amounts in 2019 and 2020 totaling one half of the remaining unspent approved three year total budget, and (2) to first apply conservation surcharges collected starting in 2019 to conservation expenditures incurred in 2018, with surcharges applied to 2019 expenditures thereafter. Cal-Am will continue to track conservation expenses in all districts in the Conservation Surcharge Balancing Accounts In addition Cal-Am will refund customer collected surcharges in excess of the authorized annual budget as outlined above for 2019 and 2020 where applicable. Any amounts subject to refund will be returned to ratepayers.

Tier Designation:

This advice letter is submitted pursuant to General Order No. 96-B and D.18-12-021 and is designated as a Tier 2 filing.

Effective Date:

California American requests an effective date of February 15, 2019.

RESPONSE OR PROTEST¹

Anyone may submit a response or protest for this AL. 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 AL. A **protest** objects to the AL in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based. These grounds² are:

- (1) The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the AL;
- (2) The relief requested in the AL 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 AL contain material error or omissions;
- (4) The relief requested in the AL is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding; or
- (5) The relief requested in the AL requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the AL process; or
- (6) The relief requested in the AL 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.

¹ G.O. 96-B. General Rule 7.4.1

² G.O. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.2

A protest may not rely on policy objections to an AL where the relief requested in the AL follows rules or directions established by statute or Commission order applicable to the utility. A protest shall provide citations or proofs where available to allow staff to properly consider the protest.

DWA must receive a response or protest via email (<u>or</u> postal mail) within 20 days of the date the AL is filed. When submitting a response or protest, <u>please include the utility name and advice letter number in the subject line.</u>

The addresses for submitting a response or protest are:

Email Address: Mailing Address:

Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov CA Public Utilities Commission

Division of Water and Audits 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

On the same day the response or protest is submitted to DWA, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy of the protest to Cal-Am at:

Email Address: Mailing Address:

<u>lakhjit.thind@amwater.com</u> 4701 Beloit Drive

Sacramento, CA 95838

sarah.leeper@amwater.com 555 Montgomery Street, Suite 816

San Francisco, CA 94111

jonathan.morse@amwater.com 4701 Beloit Drive

Sacramento, CA 95838

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform DWA, 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.

REPLIES³

The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Any reply must be received by DWA within five business days after the end of the protest period, and shall be served on the same day on each person who filed the protest or response to the AL.

The actions requested in this advice letter are not now the subject of any formal filings with the California Public Utilities Commission, including a formal complaint, nor action in any court of law.

This filing will not cause the withdrawal of service, nor conflict with other schedules or rules.

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³ G.O. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

Advice Letter 1225 February 15, 2019 Page 4 of 4

If you have not received a reply to your protest within 10 business days, please contact me at (916) 568-4233.

CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

/s/ Lakhjit Thind

Lakhjit Thind Financial Analyst

BY MAIL:

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California Public Utilities Commission
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City of Pacific Grove

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Department Attention: Sarah Hardgrave 300 Forest Ave., 2nd floor Pacific Grove, CA 93950

c/o Community Development

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