

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY & COMPLIANCE DIVISION  
Water Utilities Branch

RESOLUTION NO. W-3499  
June 6, 1990

**R E S O L U T I O N**

**(RES. W-3499) SANTA PAULA WATER WORKS, LTD (SPWW).  
ORDER AUTHORIZING AN OFFSET RATE INCREASE PRODUCING  
\$103,800 OR 4.69% ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REVENUES.**

By Advice Letter No. 51, filed March 19, 1990, and amended by Advice Letter No. 51-A, filed May 7, 1990, SPWW requests authority under Section VI of General Order 96-A and Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code to increase rates for water service to offset: (1) a \$50,374 (16.5%) annual increase in Southern California Edison Company purchased power cost between January 1, 1988 and January 1, 1990, and (2) a \$53,437 increase as the result of undercollection in the balancing account as of January 1, 1990. SPWW serves about 6,619 customers in the City of Santa Paula and vicinity, Ventura County.

The increase which is the result of a change in the cost of purchased power is related to water consumption and is applied to the quantity block for metered services of both domestic and irrigation services. The quantity rate for domestic service will be increased by \$0.023 per Ccf and for the irrigation service by \$0.007 per Ccf (one Ccf equals one hundred cubic feet).

The increase as a result of the balancing account undercollection will be recovered through a surcharge of \$0.024 per Ccf for the domestic service and \$0.007 per Ccf for the irrigation service to be added to the quantity rate for a twelve-month period to be effective on the date of the filed tariffs.

The present rates became effective on January 1, 1990, pursuant to a Commission authorized attrition filing. The latest Commission general rate increase decision for this district is Decision No. 88-12-082, dated December 19, 1988, in which the Commission found a rate of return of 10.18% for 1990 reasonable.

SPWW has given public notice of this increase request by publishing in the local newspaper on March 19, 1990. No protest or correspondence has been received. This increase does not result in a rate of return in excess of that authorized.

Service is satisfactory. There are no Commission orders requiring system improvements, nor are there significant service problems requiring corrective actions.

SPWW has a variety of programs designed to promote water conservation including pamphlets, bill inserts, and water conservation kits. SPWW is an active participant in the Ventura County Water Conservation Program. Staff considers the utility's water conservation program to be adequate.

The table below shows typical bills for residential customers at various usage levels at present and proposed rates:

General Metered Service (5/8 x 3/4-inch meters)

<u>Monthly Usage</u>	<u>Present Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>
0 cu.ft.	\$ 8.20	\$ 8.20	0.00%
300	10.17	10.31	1.38
1,000	14.76	15.23	3.18
2,000	21.32	22.26	4.41
2,500	24.60	25.78	4.80
2,510 (avg.)	24.67	25.85	4.78
5,000	41.00	43.35	5.73
10,000	73.80	78.50	6.37

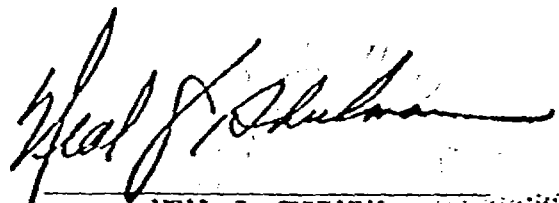
After investigation by the Water Utilities Branch, the Commission finds that the requested rate increase hereby authorized is justified, and that the resulting rates are reasonable. SPWW is directed to maintain its balancing account as required by Public Utilities Code 792.5.

IT IS ORDERED that Santa Paula Water Works, Ltd. is authorized, on the effective date herein, to make effective revised Schedule No. 1 and Schedule No. 3ML attached to Advice Letter No. 51A and Advice Letter No. 51 respectively, and to cancel the presently effective rate schedules for water service.

This resolution is effective today.

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on June 6, 1990. The following commissioners approved it:

G. MITCHELL WILK  
President  
FREDERICK R. DUDA  
STANLEY W. HULETT  
JOHN B. OHANIAN  
PATRICIA M. ECKERT  
... Commissioners

  
NEAL J. SHULMAN  
Executive Director