PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Commission Advisory & Compliance Division RESOLUTION NO. W-3601 Water Utilities Branch August 7, 1991

<u>R E S Q L U T I Q N</u>

(RES. W-3601) PHILLIPS WATER SERVICE (PWS). ORDER AUTHORIZING AN OFFSET RATE INCREASE PRODUCING \$407 OR 4.26% ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REVENUE.

BACKGROUND

By Advice Letter 14, filed July 3, 1991, PWS requests authority under Section VI of General Order 96-A, and Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code to increase rates to offset a \$407 increase in the Sonoma County Water Agency's file maintenance fee. PWS serves 28 metered rate customers in areas located adjacent to and westerly of the community of Penngrove, Sonoma County.

The present rates became effective on August 14, 1986, pursuant to Resolution No. W-3333 dated August 6, 1986 which authorized a rate of return of 10.3% for test year 1986.

DISCUSSION

The offset increase requested herein is for the purpose of recovering in rates, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, changes in items that have occurred since the present rates became effective. This rate increase will not result in a return greater than that previously authorized.

The reason for the \$407 increase in water testing expense is due to an increase in the Sonoma County Water Agency's file maintenance fee from \$37.00 per year to \$444.00 per year effective January 1, 1991.

Since this increase is not related to the quantity of water used, it is applied to the service charge portion of metered rates. The monthly service charge for a typical $5/8 \times 3/4$ -inch meter will increase by \$1.21 or 4.26%.

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

To promote conservation, PWS has requested its customers, through bill inserts and distribution of conservation material, to reduce their water consumption.

PROTEST

PWS mailed a notice of this rate increase request to all customers on June 30, 1991. No protests or correspondence have been received.

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<u>FINDINGS</u>

THE COMMISSION FINDS, after investigation by the Branch, that the rate increase hereby authorized is justified, and the resulting rates are just and reasonable.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Phillips Water Service is authorized, five days after the effective date herein, to make effective revised Schedule No. 1 attached to Advice Letter No. 14 and to cancel the presently effective Schedule No. 1.

2. This resolution is effective today.

I certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on August 7, 1991. The following Commissioners approved it:

NEAL J. SHULMAN

Executive Director

PATRICIA M. ECKERT President G. MITCHELL WILK JOHN B. OHANIAN NORMAN D. SHUMWAY COmmissioners

Commissioner Daniel Wm. Fessler, being necessarily absent, did not participate.