

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

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: Big Basin Water Company

Date Mailed to Service List: Jan. 15, 2020

CPUC Utility #: WTC 157

Protest Deadline (20th Day): Feb. 4, 2020

Advice Letter #: 73-W

Review Deadline (30th Day): Feb. 14, 2020

Tier 1 2 3 Compliance

Requested Effective Date: Feb. 4, 2020

Authorization O.P. #5, Res. W-5051

Rate Impact: \$0
 0%

Description: Zero out the 2015 and 2017 TOBA
 surcredits and establish a new surcredit for
 the 2018 TOBA operations.

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: Jim Moore

Utility Contact 2:

Phone: (831) 338-2933

Phone 2:

Email: bbwater197@yahoo.com

Email 2:

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

DATE

STAFF

COMMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____

Big Basin Water Company

P.O. Box 197 Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Telephone (831) 338-2645

January 15, 2020

Advice Letter No. 73-W

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Big Basin Water Company (Big Basin) hereby transmits for filing one original and one copy of this advice letter and the following tariff sheets which are enclosed:

<u>NEW SHEET #</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CANCELLING SHEET #</u>
382-W	General Metered Service	378-W
383-W	Annual Flat Rate Service	379-W
384-W	Table of Contents	381-W

REQUEST

By Advice Letter (AL) No. 73-W, Big Basin seeks to report to the Commission that it has completed the surcredit and had fully reimbursed the ratepayers portion in the Timber Operations Balancing Account (TOBA) for the years 2015 and 2017, as required in Ordering Paragraph No. 5 of Resolution W-5051. Both TOBA accounts have zero balances. Therefore, Big Basin requests authority to cease the surcredit for both accounts.

Big Basin also requests to establish a surcredit of \$7.38 a month for metered customers and flat rate customers for 12 months to amortize the balances recorded in Timber Operations Balancing Account (TOBA) in 2018. Big Basin received \$177,304.05 for the timber harvest operations in 2018. The ratepayers' portion of the timber revenue is \$53,191.22 (30% of the timber revenue received).

The Commission staff has been provided with documents supporting the balancing accounts accruals.

This Advice Letter will not provide additional net revenue for Big Basin. It will not result in any increase in its authorized rate of return.

Big Basin Water Company

P.O. Box 197 Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Telephone (831) 338-2645

Big Basin respectfully requests expedited handling of this advice letter.

BACKGROUND

Per Ordering Paragraph No. 3, Resolution W-4526, Big Basin is required to record 30% of the proceeds to the TOBA as the share of the ratepayers for its timber harvesting operations. Big Basin had operations in 2015 that generated revenue of \$82,921.29 of which \$24,876.39 was recorded in its TOBA for 2015 and revenue of \$127,364 of which \$38,209.37 was recorded in its TOBA for 2017. A surcredit of \$2.34 monthly was paid to metered and flat rate ratepayers until the balances on both TOBA accounts had been fully paid. Big Basin acknowledges that it had made a mistake in not closing the 2015 surcredit in its tariff once it was fully paid and then arbitrarily applying the same surcredit amount of \$2.34 to amortize the 2017 TOBA balance. Big Basin should have requested authority from the Commission to institute a new surcredit amount for the 2017 TOBA balance. Big Basin begs the Commission's indulgence for this failure. To mitigate its error and make sure that the ratepayers are correctly and fully reimbursed with their share of the timber harvesting revenues for 2015 and 2017, Big Basin had engaged a third party CPA firm, splettStoesser, to review the 2015 and 2017 TOBA account balances and reimbursement amounts separately. The CPA report shows that the 2015 revenue was \$82,921.29 and \$24,953.39 was fully reimbursed on July 14, 2017 and that the 2017 revenue was \$127,364.58 and \$38,923.83 were fully reimbursed on November 15, 2019. The CPA report is attached.

In 2018, Big Creek Lumber harvested timber and paid Big Basin \$177,304.05 for the timber as agreed according to the terms cited in Big Basin and Big Creek Lumber Timber Sale Contract that was approved in Resolution W-5051. The amount recorded in TOBA is \$53,191.22 in 2018. Big Basin's proposes a surcredit of \$7.38 a month for metered customers and flat rate customers for 12 months to amortize the TOBA balance.

Big Basin Water Company

P.O. Box 197 Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Telephone (831) 338-2645

TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE

These tariffs are submitted pursuant to Water Industry Rule 7.3.1(1) of General Order (GO.) 96-B and this advice letter is designated as a Tier 2 filing. This advice letter will become effective upon approval or deemed approval by DWA staff.

NOTICE

In compliance with GO. 96-B, General Rule 4.3 and 4.7, a copy of this advice letter has been served to all parties on service list AL #73-W.

This filing will not cause withdrawal of service nor conflict with any other schedule or rule.

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
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 DWA within 20 days of the date this advice letter is filed. The addresses for submitting a response or protest are:

Big Basin Water Company

P.O. Box 197 Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Telephone (831) 338-2645

Mailing Address:

California Public Utilities
Commission
Water Division, 3rd Floor
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Email Address:

Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

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

Mailing Address:

Big Basin Water Company
Attn: Jim Moore
P.O. Box 197
Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Email Address:

Bbwater197@yahoo.com

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.

REPLIES

The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Each 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 to the person who filed the protest or response.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the service list from Advice Letter 73-W) has been served a copy of this Advice Letter No. 73-W on January 15, 2020.

Executed in Boulder Creek, California on January 15, 2020.

Big Basin Water Company

P.O. Box 197 Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Telephone (831) 338-2645

Big Basin Water Company

By: _____
Jim Moore
Manager

Enclosures:

SCHEDULE NO. 1
GENERAL METERED SERVICE

APPLICABILITY metered water

Applicable to all service furnished on a monthly basis.

TERRITORY

Big Basin and vicinity, Santa Cruz County

RATES

Quantity Rate:

For all water, per 100 cu. ft. \$3.36

Service Charges:

Per Meter Per Month

For 5/8 x 3/4- inch meter	\$32.95
For 3/4-inch meter	49.42
For 1 -inch meter	82.37
For 1-1/2-inch meter	164.62
For 2 -inch meter	283.46
For 3 -inch meter	493.98

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. All bills are subject to the reimbursement fee set forth in Schedule No. UF. (D)
2. A \$7.38 bill surcredit shall be applied to each customer's monthly water bill to amortize the 2018 Timber Operations Balancing Account balance of \$53,191.22 from timber harvesting operations revenues for 2018. The bill surcredit shall be separately identified on each bill and in place for a period of 12 months, or until the \$53,191.22 is fully reimbursed to customers. (N)

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter No. 73-W

Decision No. _____

Issued By

Jim Moore

Manager

(To be inserted by P.U.C.)

Date Filed _____

Effective _____

Resolution No. _____

SCHEDULE NO. 2
RESIDENTIAL FLAT RATE SERVICE

APPLICABILITY

Applicable only to flat rate residential water service furnished prior to May 1, 1985. This schedule is not open to new customers.

TERRITORY

Big Basin and vicinity, Santa Cruz County

RATES

	<u>Per Service Connection Per Month</u>
All existing flat rate connections, where meters have not been located	\$63.44

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The above flat rate applies to service connection not larger than one inch in diameter.
2. For service covered by the above classification, if the utility so elects, a meter shall be installed and service provided under Schedule No.1, General Metered Service, effective as of the first day of the following calendar month. Where the flat rate charge for a period has been paid in advance, refund of the prorated difference between such flat rate payment and the minimum meter charge for the same period shall be made on or before that day.
3. All bills are subject to the reimbursement fee set forth in Schedule UF.
4. A \$7.38 bill surcredit shall be applied to each customer's monthly water bill to amortize the 2018 Timber Operations Balancing Account balance of \$53,191.22 from timber harvesting operations revenues for 2018. The bill surcredit shall be separately identified on each bill and in place for a period of 12 months, or until the \$53,191.22 is fully reimbursed to customers.

(D)

(N)

(N)

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter No. 73-W

Decision No. _____

Issued By

Jim Moore

Manager

(To be inserted by P.U.C.)

Date Filed _____

Effective _____

Resolution No. _____

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following listed tariff sheets contain all effective rates and rules affecting the charges and services of the utility, together with other pertinent information.

<u>SUBJECT MATTER OF SHEET</u>	<u>P.U.C. SHEET NO.</u>	
Title Page	241-W	
Table of Contents	384-W , 144-W	(T)
Preliminary Statements	319-W, 25-W, 3-W	
Service Area Map	131-W	
Rate Schedules:		
Schedule No. 1 – General Metered Service	382-W	(C)
Schedule No. 2 – Annual Flat Rate Service	383-W	(C)
Schedule No. 3 – Safe Drinking Water Bond Surcharge	289-W, 290-W	
Schedule No. 4 – Private Fire Protection Service	380-W	
Schedule No. LC – Late Payment Charge	360-W	
Schedule No. UF – Surcharge to Fund CPUC Reimbursement Fee	362-W	
Rules:		
No. 1 – Definitions	136-W, 137-W	
No. 2 – Description of Service	87-W	
No. 3 – Application for Service	30-W	
No. 4 – Contracts	31-W	
No. 5 – Special Information Required on Forms	372-W – 374-W	
No. 6 – Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	34-W	
No. 7 – Deposits	296-W, 297-W	
No. 8 – Notices	246-W, 247-W	
No. 9 – Rendering and Payment of Bills	230-W, 231-W	
No. 10 – Disputed Bills	375-W, 249-W	
No. 11 – Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	232-W – 239-W	
No. 12 – Information Available to Public	45-W, 46-W	
No. 13 – Temporary Service	47-W, 48-W	
No. 14 – Continuity of Service	49-W	
No. 14.1 – Water Conservation & Rationing Plan	325-W – 332-W	
No. 16 – Service Connections, Meters, & Customer’s Facilities	264-W – 270-W	
No. 17 – Standards for Measurements of Service	167-W	
No. 18 – Meter Tests & Adjustment of Bills for Meter Error	69-W – 71-W	
No. 19 – Service to Separate Premises & Multiple Units and Resale of Water	131-W, 134-W	
No. 20 – Water Conservation	272-W	
No. 21 – Fire Protection	139-W	

(To be inserted by utility)

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Effective _____

Resolution No. _____

Big Basin Water Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 197 Boulder Creek, CA 95006
Telephone (831) 338-2645
AL #73-W Service List

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