

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

**Advice Letter Cover Sheet**

**Utility Name:** Searles Domestic Water Company  
**District:** N/A  
**CPUC Utility #:** WTC-368  
**Advice Letter #:** 68-W  
**Tier:**  1    2    3    Compliance  
**Authorization:** M-4841  
**Description:** 2020 CPUC Reimbursement Fee 1.43%

**Date Mailed to Service List:** Aug. 10, 2020  
**Protest Deadline (20<sup>th</sup> Day):** Aug. 30, 2020  
**Review Deadline (30<sup>th</sup> Day):** Sept. 9, 2020  
**Requested Effective Date:** Oct. 1, 2020  
**Rate Impact:** N/A

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:** Frank Brommenschenkel  
**Phone:** 805-525-4200  
**Email:** [Frank.brommen@verizon.net](mailto:Frank.brommen@verizon.net)

**Utility Contact:** Audrey Schuyler  
**Phone:** 760-372-5326  
**Email:** [schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

**DWA Contact:** Tariff Unit  
**Phone:** (415) 703-1133  
**Email:** [Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov)

**DWA USE ONLY**

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

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# SEARLES DOMESTIC WATER COMPANY

P.O. Box 577, Trona CA 93592, 760-372-5326, schuylea@svminerals.com

August 10, 2020

Advice Letter No. 68-W

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Searles Domestic Water Company (Searles) hereby transmits for filing one digital copy of this advice letter 68-W and the following tariff sheets:

<u>NEW SHEET #</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CANCELLING SHEET #</u>
449-W	Schedule No. UF	416-W
450-W	Table of Contents	448-W

## REQUEST

To adopt the surcharge rate to fund the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee pursuant to Resolution (Res.) M-4841 issued July 17, 2020.

## BACKGROUND

By Res. M-4841, the Commission authorized the Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account User Fees that will become effective October 1, 2020.

As indicated in Res. M-4841, the Water and Sewer user fee rate which was previously 1.23% will be 1.43% effective October 1, 2020.

## TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE

This AL and the enclosed tariff sheets are submitted pursuant to General Order (GO.) 96-B. AL 68-W is designated as a Tier 1 AL and the enclosed tariff sheets will become effective October 1, 2020.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1

# SEARLES DOMESTIC WATER COMPANY

P.O. Box 577, Trona CA 93592, 760-372-5326, schuylea@svminerals.com

## **NOTICE**

A copy of this AL has been served to all parties listed on the service list<sup>2</sup> on the last page of this AL. This filing will not cause withdrawal of service nor conflict with any other schedule or rule.

## **RESPONSE OR PROTEST**<sup>3</sup>

Anyone may respond to or protest this AL. 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 grounds 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.

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.

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<sup>2</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 4.1

<sup>3</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.1

# SEARLES DOMESTIC WATER COMPANY

P.O. Box 577, Trona CA 93592, 760-372-5326, [schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

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 (or postal mail) within 20 days of the date the AL is filed. The addresses for submitting a response or protest are:

**Email Address:**

[Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov)

**Mailing Address:**

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

On the same day the response or protest is submitted to Water Division (WD), the respondent or protestant shall send a copy of the protest to Audrey Schuylar at: Searles Domestic Water Company

**Email Address:**

[schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

**Mailing Address:**

Searles Domestic Water Company  
P.O. Box 577  
Trona, CA 93592

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform WD, 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. Any reply must be received by WD 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.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

# SEARLES DOMESTIC WATER COMPANY

P.O. Box 577, Trona CA 93592, 760-372-5326, [schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

## SERVICE LIST

Recipient 1 Indian Wells Valley Water District  
Attn: Ty Staheli  
P.O. Box 1329  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
[iwwvd@iwwvd.com](mailto:iwwvd@iwwvd.com)

Recipient 2 Robert A. Lovingood  
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors  
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110  
[supervisorlovingood@SBCounty.gov](mailto:supervisorlovingood@SBCounty.gov)

I hereby certify that the above service list has been served a copy of AL 68-W on August 10, 2020.

Executed in Santa Paula, California on the August 10, 2020.

Searles Domestic Water Company

By: /s/Frank Brommenschenkel  
Audrey Schuyler  
Manager

Enclosures

Schedule No. UF

SURCHARGE TO FUND  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
REIMBURSEMENT FEE

APPLICABILITY

This surcharge applies to all water and sewer bills rendered under all tariff rate schedules authorized by the Commission, with the exception of resale rate schedule where the customer is a public utility.

TERRITORY

This schedule is applicable within the entire territory served by the utility.

RATES

A 1.43% surcharge shall be added to all customer bills. (I)

In 1982, the Legislature established the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee to be paid by utilities to fund their regulation by the Commission (Public Utilities (PU) Code Section 401-433). The surcharge to recover the cost of that fee is ordered by the Commission under authority granted by the PU Code Section 433.

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter No. 68-W

Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

Issued by

Avinash Puri

President

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

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. M-4841

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

	Cal.
P.U.C.	<u>Sheet No.</u>
Subject Matter of sheet	
Title page	15-W
Table of Contents	450-W, 426-W (T)
Preliminary Statement	407-W - 409-W, 81-W
Service Area Map	115-W
 Rate Schedules:	
Schedule No. 1, General Metered Service	418-W, 388-W
Schedule No. 4, Private Fire Protection Service	419-W, 390-W
Schedule No. 7M, Public School Metered Service	420-W, 392-W
Schedule No. 9-MLZ, Surplus Water Hauling Schedule	421-W, 394-W
Schedule No. LC, Late Payment Charge	375-W
Schedule UF, Surcharge to Fund PUC Reimbursement Fee	449-W (C)
 Rules:	
No. 1 Definitions	428-W, 429-W
No. 2 Description of Service	98-W
No. 3 Application for Service	24-W
No. 4 Contracts	25-W
No. 5 Special Information Required on Forms	430-W - 432-W
No. 6 Establishment & Re-establishment of Credit	27-W
No. 7 Deposits	299-W, 423-W
No. 8 Notices	433-W - 435-W
No. 9 Rendering and Payment of Bills	30(A)-W, 30(B)-W
No. 10 Disputed Bills	436-W, 437-W
No. 11 Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	438-W - 447-W
No. 12 Information Available to Public	33-W
No. 13 Temporary Service	34-W
No. 14 Continuity of Service	35-W
No. 15 Main Extensions	247-W – 259-W, 237-W
No. 16 Service Connections, Meters, and Customer's Facilities	260-W, 266-W
No. 17 Measurement of Service	181-W
No. 18 Service to Separate Premises and Multiple Units, and Resale of Water	207-W, 208-W

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

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

Advice Letter No. 68-WAvinash Puri

Date Filed \_\_\_\_\_

Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

President

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. M-4841