

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

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: THE SEA RANCH WATER COMPANY, INC. Date Mailed to Service List: 03/23/20

District: _____

CPUC Utility #: WTC - 126 Protest Deadline (20th Day): 04/12/20

Advice Letter #: 104-A Review Deadline (30th Day): 04/22/20

Tier 1 2 3 Compliance Requested Effective Date: ASAP

Authorization _____ Rate Impact: \$0

Description: Informs CPUC of policy taken by utility in response to COVID-19. 0%

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: Ellen Buechner Utility Contact: Marino Rodriguez

Phone: (707) 785-2444 Phone: (831) 809-2074

Email: ebuechner@tsra.org Email: marinorod@aol.com

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

| DATE | STAFF | COMMENTS |
|-------|-------|----------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

APPROVED WITHDRAWN REJECTED

Signature: _____ Comments: _____

Date: _____

THE SEA RANCH WATER COMPANY, INC.
Sonoma County

March 23, 2020

ADVICE LETTER No. 104-A

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

THE SEA RANCH WATER COMPANY (TSRWC) hereby transmits for filing one original and one copy each of the following tariffs schedules which are attached hereto:

The present rates of TSRWC became effective on December 18, 2019, through Advice letter No. 101, which approved a Consumer Price Index Increase of \$47,222 for year 2018. The last general rate increase was effective on October 11, 2012 pursuant to Resolution No.W-4931, which authorized a general rate increase of \$697,677 or 57.08% for test year 2012, an increase of \$577,647 or 30.09% for escalation year 2013, and a revenue decrease of \$63,415 or -2.54% for escalation year 2014.

Summary

This advice letter is filed to inform the California Public Utilities Commission of TSRWC's policy in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and request to activate the Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account (CEMA).

Background

On March 4, 2019 the Governor of California issued a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. TSRWC received an email on March 17, 2020 to report to the CPUC on all customer protection measures they implement in response to COVID-19 as soon as they are implemented.

To protect the Public Health, TSRWC will suspend disconnection of water service for delinquent accounts. Customers that are unable to pay their water bill as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic State of Emergency, should contact the Water Company. These customers will still be responsible for paying their water bills once the current public health crisis has passed. Normal procedures will be restored, including those for addressing nonpayment of accrued amounts owed for past service. These customer protections will be retroactively applied to March 4, 2020. Additionally, TSRWC requests to activate its CEMA to track any costs related to COVID-19.

Enclosed as Attachment A is a copy of the informational flyer that TSRWC will circulate to its customers, with the next two billing cycles, about customer protections for COVID-19. Additionally, TSRWC has also posted the flyer to the top of the water company webpage so that its customers may access it online as well.

Requested Effective Date

This filing is a Tier 1 advice letter and is effective the date of filing. TSRWC respectfully requests approval of AL - 104-A be March 23, 2020.

Notice

In compliance with Section 4.3 of General Order No. 96-B, a copy of this advice letter has been mailed to all parties listed on the enclosed service list. In conformance with Ordering Paragraph No. 3 of Resolution No. W-4664, TSRWC will provide notice to its customers of the increase in dollar and percentage terms with the first bill that includes the increase.

This filing is made under the provisions of General Order No. 96-B.

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 the Water Division within 20 days of the date this advice letter is filed. The address for mailing or delivering a protest is:

Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd Floor
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
E-Mail: water_division@cpuc.ca.gov

On the same day the response or protest is submitted to the Water Division, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy of the protest by mail or e-mail to us, addressed to:

The Sea Ranch Water Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 16
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497
Fax No. (707) 785-3555

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

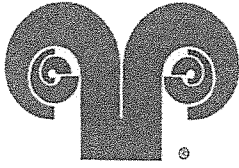
Replies: The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Each reply must be received by the Division of Water and Audits within five business days after the end of the protest period, and shall be served on the same day to the person who filed the protest or response.

The Sea Ranch Water Company, Inc.

By 

Frank Bell
Chief Executive Officer

Attachments



The Sea Ranch Water Company

35600 Verdant View Drive
P.O. Box 16
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497-0016

tel: 707-785-2411
fax: 707-785-9756

3/19/20

**RE: CPUC Customer Protections COVID-19, California State of
Emergency**

On March 4, 2019 the Governor of California issued a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In response, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has asked the water utilities under their jurisdiction to develop policy to ensure continued water service during the COVID-19 crisis.

To protect the Public Health, The Sea Ranch Water Company will suspend disconnections of water service for delinquent accounts. Customers that are unable to pay their water bill as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic State of Emergency, should contact the Water Company. These customers will still be responsible for paying their water bills once the current public health crisis has passed. Normal procedures will be restored, including those for addressing nonpayment of accrued amounts owed for past service.

Other Actions:

- The Water Company Office is closed to the public to protect our staff. Please call (707)785-2411 X1 or email kciabatti@tsra.org
- Our operators and staff continue to perform the essential functions necessary to ensure the safe and continued operation of the water and wastewater systems.
- For more information on the COVID- 19 and the Shelter in Place Order go to the Sonoma County web page. <http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Home/>

The Sea Ranch Water Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 16
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy via first class United States mail and electronic mail of the following document, The Sea Ranch Water Company, Inc. Advice Letter No. 104-A, upon the California Public Utilities Commission as shown on the Service List attached hereto, a copy thereof properly addressed to each party. Additionally, I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy via first class United States mail of the following document, The Sea Ranch Water Company, Inc. Advice Letter No. 104-A, upon all additional parties as shown on the Service List attached hereto, a copy thereof properly addressed to each party.

Executed in The Sea Ranch, California on the 29th day of April, 2020.



Kathleen Ciabatti
Finance and Customer Service Specialist

The Sea Ranch Water Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 16
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497

THE SEA RANCH WATER COMPANY, INC.
ADVICE LETTER No. 104-A
SERVICE LIST
(AS PER SECTIONS 4.3 AND 7.2 OF GENERAL ORDER No. 96-B)

Via First Class United States Mail and Email

Bruce DeBerry, Program Manager
Division of Water and Audits
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Via First Class United States Mail
Without Attachments

North Gualala Water Company
P.O. Box 1000
Gualala, CA 95445

Point Arena Water Works, Inc.
P.O. Box 205
Point Arena, CA 95468