

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

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: SONORA Water Company

Date Mailed to Service List: Apr. 20, 2020

CPUC Utility #: WTD 184

Protest Deadline (20th Day): May 10, 2020

Advice Letter #: 74-W

Review Deadline (30th Day): May 20, 2020

Tier 1 2 3 Compliance

Requested Effective Date: Apr. 20, 2020

Authorization D.92-03-093

Rate Impact: \$5,500
2.3%

Description: 2019 CPI-U Rate Adjustment

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: Beverly Brown

Utility Contact 2:

Phone: (209) 532-4806

Phone 2:

Email: brown_bev@gmail.com

Email 2:

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

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

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____

Sonora Water Company

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: brown.bev@gmail.com

April 20, 2020

Advice Letter No. 74-W

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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

<u>NEW SHEET #</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CANCELLING SHEET #</u>
394-W	Schedule 1A, Monthly Metered Service	391-W
395-W	Schedule No. 4, Private Fire Protection Service	392-W
396-W	Table of Contents	393-W

REQUEST

By AL 74-W, SONORA requests permission to increase its revenues (based on increase to the present monthly quantity rate and service charge) by 2.3%, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for 2019. The projected revenue increase of \$5,500 will not result in a rate of return which exceeds the authorized rate of margin of 17.85%. Workpapers justifying this increase are enclosed.

BACKGROUND

The present rates and the last general rate increase became effective on September 14, 2017, pursuant to Resolution W-5147, which authorized a general rate increase of \$10,741, or 4.7% and a rate of margin of 17.85%.

AL #74-W is filed pursuant to Ordering Paragraphs No. 1 of **Decision 92-03-093** and **Resolution W- 4493**, which authorize Class C and D water and sewer utilities to file a request for a CPI increase once a year by AL. The increase is to be passed on to the utility's customers in their quantity rate and service charge.

Sonora Water Company

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TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE

This AL and the enclosed tariff sheets are submitted pursuant to General Order (GO.) 96-B. AL 74-W is designated as a Tier 1 AL and the enclosed tariff sheets will become effective upon filing.¹

NOTICE

This AL does not require notice;² however, the utility shall inform its customers, by bill insert in the first bill that includes the increase, of the amount of the increase expressed in dollar and percentage terms.³ A copy of this AL has been served to all parties listed on the service list⁴ 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 PROTEST⁵

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.

¹GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1

² GO. 96-B, General Rule 4.2

³ GO. 96-B, General Rule 3.2

⁴ GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 4.1

⁵ GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.1

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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.

A protest shall provide citations or proofs where available to allow staff to properly consider the protest. The Water Division (DW) 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

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 DW, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy of the protest to SONORA at:

Mailing Address:

SONORA Water Company
P.O. Box 2196,
Columbia, CA 95310

Email Address:

brown.bev@gmail.com

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform DW, 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 DW 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.⁶

⁶ GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

Sonora Water Company

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I hereby certify that the service list from Advice Letter 74-W has been served a copy of this Advice Letter on April 20, 2020.

Executed in Columbia, California on April 20, 2020.

SONORA Water Company

By: /S/ BEVERLY BROWN

Beverly Brown

Manager

Enclosures

Earnings Test

Sonora Water Company Summary of Earnings

Category	Most Recent Adopted in Resolution W-5147 Sept. 14, 2017 a	Actual 2019 b	CPI Increase @2.3% on Adopted Revenue Only c=a*2.3%	Revenue After CPI Increase, Actual Expenses, & Actual Rate Base (Revenues) d=b + c
Operative Revenues:				
Flat Rate			-	0
Metered	237,889	237,793	5,471	243,264
Approved Total Surcharge Revenue(s)		0	-	0
Private Fire Protection	1,251	1,292	29	1,321
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	239,140	239,085	5,500	244,585
Operative Expenses:				
Purchased Water	115,798	156,818		156,818
Purchased Power		-		-
Purchased Chemicals	-			-
Other Volume Related Expenses	-			-
Employee Labor	-	-		-
Materials	-	-		-
Contract Work	-	-		-
Water Testing	4,731	-		-
Transportation Expense	3,026	3,079		3,079
Other Plant Maintenance	18,671	20,194		20,194
Office Salaries	-	-		-
Management Salaries	24,000	26,805		26,805
Employee Pension and Benefits	-	-		-
Uncollectibles	997	-		-
Office Service and Rentals	-	-		-
Office Supplies and Expenses	6,721	6,756		6,756
Professional Services	6,296	11,971		11,971
Insurance	2,859	1,300		1,300
Regulatory Commission Expense	2,000	-		-
General Expenses	3,811	4,043		4,043
SUBTOTAL	188,910	230,966		230,966
Depreciation	5,916	6,025		6,025
Taxes Other than Income	2,106	2,799		2,799
State and Federal Income Taxes	7,430	800		800
Interest	8,649	1,194		1,194
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	213,011	241,784		241,784
NET REVENUE	26,129	(2,699)		2,801
RATE BASE				
Average Plant	322,139	323,466		323,466
Less: Average Accumulated Depreciation	67,880	61,062		61,062
NET PLANT	254,259	262,405		262,405
Less: Advances & Contributions	-	-		-
Plus: Working Cash	15,743	37,100		37,100
Materials & Supplies		-		-
RATE BASE	270,002	262,405		264,241
RATE OF MARGIN	17.85%	-1.03%		1.06%
Earnings Test:	1.06%	<	17.85%	

Sonora Water Company				
Schedule No. 1A				
<u>GENERAL METERED SERVICE</u>				
<u>APPLICABILITY</u>				
Applicable to all water service furnished on a metered basis.				
<u>TERRITORY</u>				
Fairway Acres and vicinity, located approximately one mile east of Jamestown in Tuolumne County				
<u>RATES</u>				
Quantity Rate:				
	For all water, per 100 cu. ft.	.....	\$4.19	(I)
Service Charge:				
			<u>Per Meter Per</u> <u>Monthly</u>	<u>Per Meter Per</u> <u>Annually</u>
For	5/8 x 3/4-inch meter	.....	\$ 38.67	\$ 464.03 (I)
For	3/4-inch meter	.....	\$ 58.02	\$ 696.29 (I)
For	1-inch meter	.....	\$ 96.70	\$ 1,160.45 (I)
For	1-1/2 inch meter	.....	\$ 193.42	\$ 2,321.02 (I)
For	2-inch meter	.....	\$ 309.46	\$ 3,713.49 (I)
For	3-inch meter	.....	\$ 580.23	\$ 6,962.70 (I)
For	4-inch meter	.....	\$ 967.05	\$ 11,604.63 (I)
The Service Charge is a readiness-to-serve charge which is applicable to all metered service and to which is added the charge for water used computed at the Quantity Rate				
(continued)				

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued By

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

Advice Letter No. 74-W

Beverly A. Brown

Date Filed _____

Decision No. 92-03-093

Manager

Effective _____

Resolution No. W- 4493

Sonora Water Company
Schedule No. 4
PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to water service furnished to privately owned fire protection systems.)

TERRITORY

Fairway Acres and vicinity, located approximately one mile east of Jamestown in Tuolumne County.

<u>RATE</u>	<u>Per Month</u>
For each inch of diameter of service connection	\$ 11.10 (I)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The fire protection service connection shall be installed by the utility and the cost paid by the applicant. Such payment shall not be subject to refund.
2. The minimum diameter for the private service connection shall be four inches and the maximum diameter shall not be more than the diameter of the water main to which the service is connected.
3. If a distribution main of adequate size to serve a private fire protection system in addition to all other normal service, does not exist in the street or alley adjacent to the premises to be served, then a service main from the nearest existing main of adequate capacity shall be installed by the utility and the cost paid by the applicant. Such cost will not be subject to refund.
4. Service hereunder is for private fire protection systems to which no connections for other than fire protection purposes are allowed and which are regularly inspected by the underwriters having jurisdiction are installed according to specifications of the utility, and are maintained to the satisfaction of the utility. The utility may install the standard detector type meter approved by the Board of Fire Underwriters for protection against theft, leakage, or waste of water and with cost paid by the applicant. Such payment shall not be subject to refund.

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued By

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

Advice Letter No. 74-W

Beverly A. Brown

Date Filed _____

Decision No. 92-03-093

Manager

Effective _____

Resolution No. W- 4493

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>
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Preliminary Statements	7-W, 8-W, 309-W 310-W, 337-W, 338-W
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Schedule No. LC – Late Payment Charge	234-W
Schedule No. UF – PUC Reimbursement Fee	394-W
Schedule F, Facilities Fees	381-W
Rules:	
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No. 8 – Notices	252-W, 253-W
No. 9 – Rendering and Payment of Bills	235-W, 236-W
No. 10 – Disputed Bills	317-W, 318-W
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No. 12 – Information Available to Public	28-W, 29-W
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No. 17 – Standards for Measurements of Service	131-W
No. 18 – Meter Tests & Adjustment of Bills for Meter Error	51-W, 53-W
No. 19 – Service to Separate Premises & Multiple Units and Resale of Water	160-W, 161-W
No. 20 – Fire Protection	55-W
No. 21 – Water Conservation	190-W

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued By

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Manager

Effective _____

Resolution No. W- 4493

Sonora Water Company

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: brown.bev@gmail.com

SERVICE LIST:

Jamestown Sanitary District
18351 Main Street
Jamestown, CA 95327

Tuolumne County
Department of Environmental Health
48 W. Yaney Street
Sonora, CA 95370

Tuolumne Utilities District
18885 Nugget Blvd
Sonora, CA 95370