



# Sonora Water Company

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: [brown.bev@gmail.com](mailto:brown.bev@gmail.com)

March 30, 2021

Advice Letter No. 79-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 79-W, SONORA requests permission to increase its revenues (based on increase to the present monthly quantity rate and service charge) by 1.4%, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for 2020. The projected revenue increase of \$3,348 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 #79-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

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: [brown.bev@gmail.com](mailto:brown.bev@gmail.com)

## **TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE**

This AL and the enclosed tariff sheets are submitted pursuant to General Order (GO.) 96-B. AL 79-W is designated as a Tier 1 AL and the enclosed tariff sheets will become effective upon filing.<sup>1</sup>

## **NOTICE**

This AL does not require notice;<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> A copy of this AL has been served to all parties listed on the service list<sup>4</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>5</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.

---

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

<sup>2</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 4.2

<sup>3</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 3.2

<sup>4</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 4.1

<sup>5</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.1

# Sonora Water Company

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: [brown.bev@gmail.com](mailto:brown.bev@gmail.com)

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](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 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](mailto: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.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>6</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

# Sonora Water Company

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: [brown.bev@gmail.com](mailto:brown.bev@gmail.com)

I hereby certify that the service list from Advice Letter 79-W has been served a copy of this Advice Letter on March 30, 2021.

Executed in Columbia, California on March 30, 2021.

SONORA Water Company

By: /s/ BEVERLY BROWN

Beverly Brown

Manager

Enclosures

# Sonora Water Company

P.O. Box 2196, Columbia, CA 95310

Telephone (209) 532-4806

Email: [brown.bev@gmail.com](mailto:brown.bev@gmail.com)

Advice Letter #79-W

## 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

## AL #79-W Earnings Test

### Sonora Water Company Summary of Earnings

Category	Most Recent Adopted in Resolution W-5147 Sept. 14, 2017 a	Actual 2020 b	CPI Increase @1.4% on Adopted Revenue Only c=a*1.4%	Revenue After CPI Increase, Actual Expenses, & Actual Rate Base (Revenues) d=b + c
<b>Operatine Revenues:</b>				
Flat Rate			-	0
Metered	237,889	267,144	3,330	270,474
Approved Total Surcharge Revenue(s)		0	-	0
Private Fire Protection	1,251	1,324	18	1,342
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>239,140</b>	<b>268,468</b>	<b>3,348</b>	<b>271,816</b>
<b>Operatine Expenses:</b>				
Purchased Water	115,798	183,532		183,532
Purchased Power		-		-
Purchased Chemicals	-	-		-
Other Volume Related Expenses	-	-		-
Employee Labor	-	-		-
Materials	-	-		-
Contract Work	-	-		-
Water Testing	4,731	-		-
Transportation Expense	3,026	485		485
Other Plant Maintenance	18,671	90,562		90,562
Office Salaries	-	-		-
Management Salaries	24,000	36,670		36,670
Employee Pension and Benefits	-	-		-
Uncollectibles	997	-		-
Office Service and Rentals	-	-		-
Office Supplies and Expenses	6,721	5,587		5,587
Professional Services	6,296	9,892		9,892
Insurance	2,859	2,566		2,566
Regulatorv Commission Expense	2,000	3,450		3,450
General Expenses	3,811	963		963
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>188,910</b>	<b>333,707</b>		<b>333,707</b>
Depreciation	5,916	6,025		6,025
Taxes Other than Income	2,106	1,699		1,699
State and Federal Income Taxes	7,430	800		800
Interest	8,649	3,399		3,399
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b>213,011</b>	<b>345,630</b>		<b>345,630</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>	<b>26,129</b>	<b>(77,162)</b>		<b>(73,814)</b>
<b>RATE BASE</b>				
Average Plant	322,139	323,466		323,466
Less: Average Accumulated Depreciation	67,880	67,087		67,087
<b>NET PLANT</b>	<b>254,259</b>	<b>256,380</b>		<b>256,380</b>
Less: Advances & Contributions	-	-		-
Plus: Working Cash	15,743	54,400		54,400
Materials & Supplies		-		-
<b>RATE BASE</b>	<b>270,002</b>	<b>256,380</b>		<b>258,174</b>
<b>RATE OF MARGIN</b>	<b>17.85%</b>	<b>-30.10%</b>		<b>-28.59%</b>
<b>Earnings Test:</b>	<b>-28.59%</b>	<b>&lt;</b>	<b>17.85%</b>	

**AL #79-W Working Cash  
Sonora Water Company**

SIMPLIFIED BASIS DETERMINATION OF WORKING CASH ALLOWANCE

(A utility operating as an individual or partnership using monthly billing at meter rates)

1 Operating Expenses, Excluding Taxes and Depreciation	325,983
2 Purchased Power and/or Purchased Commodity for Resale*	0
3 Two Months' Average Operating Expenses (1/6 x Line 1)	54,331
4 One Month's Average Purchased Power and/or Purchased Commodity* (1/12 x Line 2)	0
5 Average Tax Accruals Available	
6 Working Cash Allowance (Line 3 - Line 4 - Line 5)	54,331
7 Use	54,400

\* Electric power, gas or other fuel purchased for pumping and or purchased water or gas or electricity for resale billed after receipt (metered).



## AL #79-W Metered Rates Sonora Water Company

**METERED RATES:**

1.40%

Service Charge:	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>	
	<u>Per Meter</u>	<u>Per Meter Per</u>	<u>Per Meter</u>	<u>Per Meter</u>	
	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Annually</u>	<u>Annually</u>	
<u>QR</u>	\$4.19	\$ 4.25	\$ 4.19	\$ 4.25	(I)
5/8 x 3/4-inch meter .....	\$ 38.67	\$ 39.21	\$ 464.04	\$ 470.54	(I)
3/4-inch meter .....	\$ 58.02	\$ 58.83	\$ 696.24	\$ 705.99	(I)
1-inch meter .....	\$ 96.70	\$ 98.05	\$ 1,160.40	\$ 1,176.65	(I)
1-1/2 inch meter .....	\$ 193.42	\$ 196.13	\$ 2,321.04	\$ 2,353.53	(I)
2-inch meter .....	\$ 309.46	\$ 313.79	\$ 3,713.52	\$ 3,765.51	(I)
3-inch meter .....	\$ 580.23	\$ 588.35	\$ 6,962.76	\$ 7,060.24	(I)
4-inch meter .....	\$ 967.05	\$ 980.59	\$ 11,604.60	\$ 11,767.06	(I)

FIRE PROTECTION:	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	
	\$ 11.10	\$ 11.26	(I)

**Sonora Water Company**

Schedule No. 1A

GENERAL METERED SERVICE

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to all water service furnished on a metered basis.

TERRITORY

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

RATES

Quantity Rate:

For all water, per 100 cu. ft. .... \$4.25 (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	.....	\$ 39.21	\$ 470.54	(I)
For	3/4-inch meter	.....	\$ 58.83	\$ 705.99	(I)
For	1-inch meter	.....	\$ 98.05	\$ 1,176.65	(I)
For	1-1/2 inch meter	.....	\$196.13	\$ 2,353.53	(I)
For	2-inch meter	.....	\$313.79	\$ 3,765.51	(I)
For	3-inch meter	.....	\$588.35	\$ 7,060.24	(I)
For	4-inch meter	.....	\$980.59	\$11,767.06	(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)

Advice Letter No. 79-W

Decision No. D.92-03-093

*Issued By*

**Beverly A. Brown**

**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.

<b><u>SUBJECT MATTER OF SHEET</u></b>	<b><u>P.U.C. SHEET NO.</u></b>
<b>Title Page</b>	351-W
<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>399-W</b> , 321-W (T)
<b>Preliminary Statements</b>	7-W, 8-W, 309-W 310-W, 337-W, 338-W
<b>Service Area Map</b>	177-W
<b>Rate Schedules:</b>	
Schedule No. 1A – Monthly Metered Service	<b>397-W</b> , 367-W (I)
Schedule No. 4 – Private Fire Protection Service	<b>398-W</b> (I)
Schedule No. LC – Late Payment Charge	234-W
Schedule No. UF – PUC Reimbursement Fee	394-W
Schedule F, Facilities Fees	381-W
<b>Rules:</b>	
No. 1 – Definitions	142-W, 143-W
No. 2 – Description of Service	8-W
No. 3 – Application for Service	313-W
No. 4 – Contracts	14-W
No. 5 – Special Information Required on Forms	314-W - 316-W
No. 6 – Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	17-W
No. 7 – Deposits	279-W, 280-W
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
No. 11 – Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	237-W – 244-W
No. 12 – Information Available to Public	28-W, 29-W
No. 13 – Temporary Service	30-W, 31-W
No. 14 – Continuity of Service	32-W
No. 14.1 – Water Conservation & Rationing Plan	355-W – 359-W
No. 15 – Main Extensions	202-W – 214-W; 179-W
No. 16 – Service Connections, Meters, & Customer’s Facilities	215-W – 221-W
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*

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

Advice Letter No. 79-W

**Beverly A. Brown**

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

Decision No. D.92-03-093

**Manager**

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_