

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

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: California American Water	Date Mailed to Service List: December 22, 2022
District: Monterey & Dunnigan WW	
CPUC Utility #: U210W	Protest Deadline (20th Day): January 11, 2023
Advice Letter #: 74-S	Review Deadline (30th Day): January 21, 2023
Tier <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliance	Requested Effective Date: January 1, 2023
Authorization Resolution M-4866	
Description: Update CPUC User Fee - WW	Rate Impact: \$See AL See AL%

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: Chase Grady

Phone:

Email: chase.grady@amwater.com

Utility Contact: Jonathan Morse

Phone: 916-568-4237

Email: Jonathan.morse@amwater.com

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

DATE

STAFF

COMMENTS

APPROVED

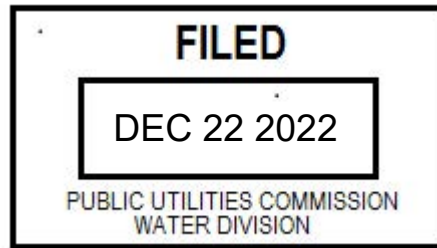
WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____



520 Capitol Mall, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.amwater.com

P (916) 568-4237

December 22, 2022

ADVICE LETTER NO. 74-S

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

California-American Water Company (U210W) (California American Water) submits this advice letter applicable to its Wastewater customers.

Purpose:

By this advice letter, California American Water requests to revise Schedule No. UF, Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee.

Background:

On December 15, 2022 the Public Utilities Commission issued Resolution M-4866 which adopted the following Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account ("PUCURA) user fees as follows:

Electric Corporations	0.0013	\$/kwh
Gas Corporations	0.003	\$/therm
Heat Corporations	0.005	\$/thousands lbs. steam
Water System Corporations	0.008 (0.8 percent)	x Revenue
Sewer System Corporations	0.008 (0.8 percent)	x Revenue
Telecommunications Corporations	0.0075 (0.75 percent)	X Revenue

Request:

This advice letter requests a decrease to the surcharge from 1.43% to 0.8% per Resolution M-4866.

Tier Designation:

This advice letter is submitted pursuant to General Order No. 96-B and Resolution M-4866 and is designated as a Tier 1 filing.

Effective Date:

California American Water requests an effective date of January 1, 2023.

Notice:

Pursuant to Section 4.3 of General Order No. 96-B, a copy of this advice letter is being provided to those entities listed in the attached "SERVICE LIST PURSUANT TO SECTION 4.3 OF G.O. NO. 96-B." Per guidance from the California Public Utilities Commission's Water

Division, during the COVID-19 pandemic, advice letters will only be delivered electronically to the service list.

RESPONSE OR PROTEST¹

Anyone may submit a response or protest for this AL. When submitting a response or protest, **please include the utility name and advice letter number in the subject line.**

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 grounds² 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. 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. When submitting a response or protest, **please include the utility name and advice letter number in the subject line.**

The addresses for submitting a response or protest are:

Email Address:
Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

Mailing Address:
CA Public Utilities Commission
Division of Water and Audits
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

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

Email Address:
chase.grady@amwater.com

Mailing Address:
520 Capital Mall, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

¹ G.O. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.1

² G.O. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.2

sarah.leeper@amwater.com

555 Montgomery Street, Suite 816
San Francisco, CA 94111

jonathan.morse@amwater.com

520 Capital Mall, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

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.

REPLIES³

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

The actions requested in this advice letter are not now the subject of any formal filings with the California Public Utilities Commission, including a formal complaint, nor action in any court of law.

This filing will not cause the withdrawal of service, nor conflict with other schedules or rules.

If you have not received a reply to your protest within 10 business days, please contact Jonathan Morse at (916) 568-4237.

CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

/s/ Chase Grady

Chase Grady
Associate Rates & Regulatory Analyst

³ G.O. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

**Cal P.U.C.
Sheet No.**

Title of Sheet

**Cancelling
Cal P.U.C.
Sheet No.**

XXX-S

Schedule No. UF
SURCHARGE TO FUND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
REIMBURSEMENT FEE
Sheet 1

212-S

Schedule No. UF
SURCHARGE TO FUND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
REIMBURSEMENT FEE

Sheet 1

APPLICABILITY

This surcharge applies to all water bills rendered under all tariff rate schedules authorized by the Commission.

TERRITORY

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

RATES*

A 0.8% surcharge shall be added to all customer bills.

(R)

*In 1982 the Legislature established a Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee to be paid by all water and sewer system corporations to fund their regulation by the Commission. Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 401-442. The surcharge to defray the cost of that fee is ordered by the Commission under authority granted by PU Code section 403.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)

Advice 74-S
Decision

ISSUED BY

J. T. LINAM
DIRECTOR - Rates & Regulatory

(TO BE INSERTED BY C.P.U.C.)

Date Filed _____
Effective _____
Resolution _____

MONTEREY WASTEWATER DISTRICT SERVICE LIST
CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
ADVICE LETTER 74-S

BY MAIL:

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Monterey, CA 93940

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California Public Utilities Commission
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Los Angeles, CA 90013

Alco Water Service
249 Williams Road
Salinas, CA 93901

Monterey Regional Water Pollution
Control Agency (MRWPCA)
5 Harris Court Road. Bldg D.
Monterey, CA 93940

Monterey Peninsula Water Mgmt Dist.
Chief Financial Officer
P.O. Box 85
Monterey, CA 93942

Yazdan Emrani, P.E.
Deputy Pub Works Director – Operations
Monterey County DPW
168 W. Alisal Street, 2nd floor
Salinas, CA 93901-2680

City of Pacific Grove
c/o Community Development Department
Attention: Sarah Hardgrave
300 Forest Ave., 2nd floor
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

City of Pacific Grove
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City Hall
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Sand City, CA 93955
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MONTEREY WASTEWATER DISTRICT SERVICE LIST
CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
ADVICE LETTER 74-S

By E-MAIL:

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**CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY
ADVICE LETTER 74-S
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR STAFF**

**Update CPUC User Fee - Wastewater
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Date of Issuance
December 16, 2022

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

RESOLUTION M-4866
December 15, 2022

R E S O L U T I O N

Resolution M-4866. Adopts Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account User Fees, effective January 1, 2023.

SUMMARY

This Resolution adopts Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account (PUCURA), Fund 0462, user fees as follows:

Electric Corporations	0.0013	\$/kwh
Gas Corporations	0.003	\$/therm
Heat Corporations	0.005	\$/thousands lbs. steam
Water System Corporations	0.008 (0.8 percent)	x Revenue
Sewer System Corporations	0.008 (0.8 percent)	x Revenue
Telecommunication Corporations	0.0075 (0.75 percent)	x Revenue

BACKGROUND

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission) uses Public Utilities Code as the basis for its methodology to annually assess user fees for energy, water, sewer, and telecommunication utilities.

Public Utilities Code Section 431:

- (a) The commission shall annually determine a fee to be paid by every electrical, gas, telephone, telegraph, water, sewer system, and heat corporation and every other public utility providing service directly to customers or subscribers and subject to the jurisdiction of the commission other than a railroad, except as otherwise provided in Article 2 (commencing with Section 421)
- (b) The annual fee shall be established to produce a total amount equal to that amount established in the authorized commission budget for the same year, including adjustments for increases in employee compensation, other increases appropriated by the Legislature, and an appropriate reserve to regulate public utilities less the amount to be paid from special accounts or funds pursuant to

Section 402, reimbursements, federal funds, and any other revenues, and the amount of unencumbered funds from the preceding year.

(c) This article shall not apply to any electrical cooperative as defined in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2776) of Part 2.

(d) On and after January 1, 1985, this article shall apply to radiotelephone utilities as defined in Section 4902 as those provisions read on December 31, 1984.

(e) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2020.

Public Utilities Code Section 432:

The commission shall establish the fee pursuant to Section 431 with the approval of the Department of Finance and in accordance with all of the following:

(a) In its annual budget request, the commission shall specify both of the following:

(1) The amount of its budget to be financed by the fee.

(2) The dollar allocation of the amount of its budget shall be financed by the fee by each class of public utility subject to the fee. The fee allocation among classes of public utilities shall reflect expenditures by the commission on regulatory and other authorized activities affecting each respective class, and shall bear the same ratio that the commission's workload for each class of public utility subject to the fee bears to the commission's total workload for all public utilities subject to the fee.

(b) The commission may establish different and distinct methods of assessing fees for each class of public utility, if the revenues collected are consistent with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), except that the commission shall establish a uniform charge per kilowatt hour for sales in kilowatt hours for the class of electrical corporations and a uniform charge per therm for sales in therms for the class of gas corporations.

(c) Within each class of public utility subject to the fee, the commission shall allocate among the members of the class the amount of its budget to be financed by the fee using the following methods:

(1) For electrical corporations, the ratio that each corporation's sales in kilowatt hours bears to the total sales in kilowatt hours for the class.

(2) For gas corporations, the ratio that each corporation's sales in therms bears to the total sales in therms for the class.

(3) For telephone and telegraph corporations, the ratio that each corporation's gross intrastate revenues bears to the total gross intrastate revenues for the class. If the commission determines that there is a need for consultants or advisory services to assist in determining the reasonableness of capital expenditures for a telephone corporation, the commission may adjust the fees within the class so that the expenses for the consultants and advisory services are fully allocated to that telephone corporation.

- (4) For water and sewer system corporations, the ratio that each corporation’s gross intrastate revenues bears to the total gross intrastate revenues for the class.
- (5) For all other public utilities, an appropriate measurement methodology determined by the commission.
- (d) Every public utility belonging to more than one class shall be subject to the fee for each class of which it is a member.
- (e) For every public utility with annual gross intrastate revenues of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) or less, the commission shall annually establish uniform fees to be paid by each such public utility, if the revenues collected thereby are consistent with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) and subdivision (c).

DISCUSSION

Revenue and Expenditure Analysis

The Governor’s Budget structures PUCURA’s authorized expenditures by Program and Subprogram, as shown below in Table 1. Subtasks, the most granular level of detail by utility class (electricity, gas, sewer, steam), are not displayed in the Governor’s Budget but tracked internally by the CPUC.

Table 1: Governor’s budget structure, PUCURA

Program	Subprogram	Subtask (Utility Class)
Regulation of Utilities (6680)	Energy (6680055)	Electric Corporations Gas Corporations Steam Corporations
	Water (6680064)	Water Corporations Sewer Corporations
	Communications (6680073)	Telephone and Telegraph Corporations Video Franchise

In addition to the CPUC’s budgeted expenditures from PUCURA, the fund supports expenditures of the Public Advocate’s Office (PUBADV) within the CPUC, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Org 3355), the Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Org 3360), the Air Resources Board (Org 3900), the Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessment (Org 3980), and statewide fund assessments.

Table 2 shows PUCURA’s 2022-23 current level expenditures and 2022-23 Fund Assessments, distributed by Utility Class per Table 1.

Table 2. PUCURA Expenditures

Utility Class	CPUC Estimated Expenditures ¹	PUBADV Estimated Expenditures ²	Other Departments Estimated Expenditures ³	Total Estimated Expenditures 2022-23
Electric	\$126,925,000	\$33,205,000	\$31,607,000	\$191,737,000
Gas	28,360,000	7,419,000	6,834,000	42,613,000
Steam	3,000	1,000	1,000	5,000
Water	17,154,000	3,593,000	-	20,747,000
Sewer	261,000	55,000	-	316,000
Telco.	41,220,000	9,136,000	-	50,356,000
Total	\$213,923,000	\$53,409,000	\$38,442,000	\$305,774,000

Table 3 shows comparison between 2022-23 estimated user fee revenue at current rates and 2022-23 total estimated expenditures, distributed by Utility Class per Table 1. Assuming no changes are made, the estimated user fee revenue at current rates are not aligned to match the estimated level of expenditures by utility class and maintain the necessary minimum fund reserve balance.

Per Public Utilities Code section 431(a), water companies and sewer companies are recognized as two separate class of utilities. CPUC has determined that separate rates must be established by utility class to maintain equity in the user fees collected for regulation of water systems and sewer systems. For this resolution, the Commission will maintain the same rates for water systems and sewer systems with an intent to calculate separate rates for each utility class in future resolutions.

¹ From the 2022-23 Enacted Governor's Budget; estimated expenditures include fund assessments allocated by utility class.

² From the 2022-23 Enacted Governor's Budget; PUBADV (Fund 3089) estimated expenditures includes fund assessments allocated by utility class.

³ From the 2022-23 Enacted Governor's Budget; estimated expenditures for other departments.

Table 3. PUCURA User Fees and Expenditures Projected for 2022-23 (No Fee Change)

Utility Class	Estimated User Fee Revenue 2022-23 (a) ⁴	Total Estimated Expenditures 2022-23 (b)	Estimated Revenues Less Estimated Expenditures (a-b)
Electric	\$206,172,000	\$191,737,000	\$14,435,000
Gas	59,914,000	42,613,000	17,301,000
Heat (Steam)	30,000	5,000	25,000
Water	27,814,000	20,747,000	7,067,000
Sewer	46,000	316,000	(270,000)
Telephone	28,831,000	50,356,000	(21,525,000)
Total	\$322,807,000	\$305,774,000	\$17,033,000

Fund Reserve Analysis

The CPUC's fund reserve policy for PUCURA requires a fund reserve of 25 percent of expenditures. At the expected level of expenditures and projected revenues, FY 2022-23 overall estimated fund reserve is sufficient to meet the minimum requirement. However, when distributed by utility class, a couple utilities classes do not meet the 25 percent fund reserve requirement.

Fee Change Analysis

Based on the analysis the CPUC has completed on revenues to expenditures and fund reserve requirements by utility class, the CPUC proposes the below necessary rate adjustments.

⁴ Amounts in Column (a) represent the estimated user fee revenues using user fee rates from the PUCURA Resolution M-4841.

Table 4. User Fee Rates Comparison, Current vs Proposed

Utility Class	Current User Fee Rates	Proposed User Fee Rates	Base	Difference	percent Change
Electric	0.00130	0.0013	\$/ kwh	0	0 percent
Gas	0.00577	0.003	\$/therm	-0.00277	-48.01 percent
Steam	0.05535	0.005	\$/thousands lbs. steam	-0.05035	-90.97 percent
Water	0.01430	0.008	x Revenue	-0.0063	-44.06 percent
Sewer	0.01430	0.008	x Revenue	-0.0063	-44.06 percent
Telco	0.00519	0.0075	x Revenue	0.00231	44.51 percent

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES ON DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Draft Resolution was mailed or emailed to all affected regulated entities on November 10, 2022 in accordance with Public Utilities Code section 311(g)(1).

On November 30, 2022, California-American Water Company sent a comment via email asking the Commission to revise the Draft Resolution M-4866 to create a combined Water and Sewer System user fee consistent with the CPUC's historical practice.

California American Water Company's comment states that the resolution separates the rates for sewer systems and water systems, contrary to historical practice, which significantly increases the rates applicable to the sewer systems. California American Water Company argues that the Water Division investigates water and sewer system service quality issues, analyzes, and processes utility rate change requests and is responsible for ensuring California investor-owned water utilities deliver clean, safe, and reliable water and sewer service to their customers at reasonable rates. California American Water Company asserts that Water and Sewer Systems have been considered one industry by CPUC and have been regulated as such; therefore, there should be a singular user fee that is applicable to both water and sewer systems.

CPUC recognizes California American Water Company's argument that Water and Sewer Systems are regulated by the Water Division as a combined industry and the proposed change to separate the rates for water systems and sewer systems is contrary to historical practice. However, per Public Utilities Code section 431(a), water companies and sewer companies are recognized as two separate class of utilities. A majority of the water companies and sewer companies are separate entities which do not have combined water and sewer systems. As such, CPUC has determined that separate rates must be

established by utility class to maintain equity in the user fees collected for regulation of water systems and sewer systems.

CPUC recognizes that utilities with combined water and sewer systems may not have been given appropriate time to update practices or billing systems in advance of this proposed change from past practice. In order to give sufficient time, the CPUC will maintain the same rates for water and sewer utilities for this resolution, with an intent to change to two separate rates in future resolutions.

THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Effective January 1, 2023, the current PUCURA user fees shall be revised as follows:

Electric Corporations	0.0013	\$/kwh
Gas Corporations	0.003	\$/therm
Heat Corporations	0.005	\$/thousands lbs. steam
Water System Corporations	0.008 (0.8 percent)	x Revenue
Sewer System Corporations	0.008 (0.8 percent)	x Revenue
Telephone and Telegraph Corporations	0.0075 (0.75 percent)	x Revenue

This Resolution is effective today.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California held on December 15, 2022; the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

/s/ RACHEL PETERSON

Rachel Peterson
Executive Director

ALICE REYNOLDS
President
CLIFFORD RECHTSCHAFFEN
GENEVIEVE SHIROMA
DARCIE HOUCK
JOHN R.D. REYNOLDS
Commissioners

APPENDIX A
0462 Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account
Fund Condition Statement with current rates

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$113,336,000	\$202,276,000
Prior Year Adjustments	13,676,000	-
Adjusted Beginning Balance	127,012,000	202,276,000
REVENUES, TRANSFERS, AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		
Revenues:		
Quarterly Public Utilities Commission Fees	363,423,000	308,482,000
Other Regulatory Fees	3,558,000	1,500,000
Other Regulatory Licenses and Permits	2,000	-
Document Sales	59,000	-
Misc. Services to the Public	-	-
Escheat of Unclaimed Checks, Warrants, Bonds and Coupons	520,000	350,000
Income from Surplus Money Investments	8,000	5,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	10,000	5,000
Transfers:		
Revenue Transfer to Ratepayer Advocate Account (3089) per Item 8660-011-0462, Various Budget Acts	(48,028,000)	(53,409,000)
Operating Transfers from Coronavirus Relief Fund 8505 per EO E20/21-250 CS 11.90	2,351,000	
Transfer to General Fund per EO E 21/22-276, Sec. 20825.1	(5,394,000)	
Revenue Transfer from Propane Safety Inspection and Enforcement Program Trust Fund (0051) to Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account (0462) per Public Utilities code Section 4458	100,000	
Total Revenues, Transfers, and Other Adjustments	316,609,000	256,933,000
Total Resources	443,621,000	459,200,000
EXPENDITURES AND EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS		
Expenditures:		
Public Utilities Commission State Operations	175,462,000	201,268,000
Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (State Ops)	48,661,000	37,006,000
3360 Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (State Operations)	3,069,000	1,020,000
3900 Air Resources Board	118,000	203,000
3980 Office of Environmental Health & Hazard Assessment	198,000	213,000
Supplemental Pension Payments	3,314,000	3,314,000
Statewide General Admin Expense (Pro Rata)	10,532,000	9,341,000
Total Expenditures and Expenditure Adjustments	241,354,000	252,365,000
FUND BALANCE	\$202,267,000	\$206,835,000

The projected Fund Condition Statement is based on estimated used fees revenue based on the rates proposed in this Resolution.

The projected Fund Condition Statement will not match to the 2023-24 Governor's Budget as the updated revenue projections are not reflected in the 2023-24 Governor's Budget.

CALIFORNIA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

655 W. Broadway, Suite 1410
 San Diego, CA 92101

Cancelling Revised
 Revised

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 212-S
 Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 208-S

Schedule No. UF
SURCHARGE TO FUND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
REIMBURSEMENT FEE

Sheet 1

APPLICABILITY

This surcharge applies to all water bills rendered under all tariff rate schedules authorized by the Commission.

TERRITORY

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

RATES*

A 1.40% surcharge shall be added to all customer bills.

(R)

*In 1982 the Legislature established a Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee to be paid by all water and sewer system corporations to fund their regulation by the Commission. Public Utilities (PU) Code Sections 401-442. The surcharge to defray the cost of that fee is ordered by the Commission under authority granted by PU Code section 403.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)		ISSUED BY	(TO BE INSERTED BY C.P.U.C.)	
Advice	50-S	J. T. LINAM	Date Filed	<u>December 20, 2017</u>
Decision		DIRECTOR - Rates & Regulatory	Effective	<u>January 1, 2018</u>
			Resolution	<u>Canceled</u>