

North Gualala Water Company, Inc.

P.O. Box 1000
Gualala, CA 95445
Telephone: 707-884-3579

March 28, 2024

Advice Letter No. 143-W

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

NORTH GUALALA Water Company, Inc. (NORTH GUALALA) 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>
514-W	Schedule No. 1, General Metered Service	511-W
515-W	Schedule F, Facilities Fees	512-W
516-W	Table of Contents	513-W

REQUEST

By AL No. 143-W, NORTH GUALALA requests permission to increase its revenues (based on increase to the present monthly quantity rate and service charge) by 3.4%, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for 2023. The projected revenue increase of \$42,899 will not result in a rate of margin which exceeds the authorized rate of margin of 20.21%. Workpapers justifying this increase are enclosed.

BACKGROUND

The present rates became effective on April 14, 2023, by approval of AL No. 139-W, which implemented a Consumer Price Index increase of \$77,008 or 6.5%.

The last general rate increase became effective on June 25, 2015, pursuant to Resolution W-5045, which authorized a general rate increase of \$190,390, or 20.77% and a rate of margin of 20.21%.

AL No. 143-W is filed pursuant to Ordering Paragraphs No. 1 of Decision 92-03-093 and

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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.

TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE

This AL and the enclosed tariff sheets are submitted pursuant to General Order (GO.) 96-B. AL No. 143-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.

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

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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.

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.

⁵ GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.1

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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 NORTH GUALALA at:

Mailing Address:

North Gualala Water Company, Inc.
Attn: David Bower
P.O. Box 1000
Gualala, CA 95445

Email Address:

office@ngwco.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.

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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

SERVICE LIST

Point Arena Water
P.O. Box 205
Point Arena, CA 95468-0205
paww@mcn.org

Sea Ranch Water Company
P.O. Box 16
The Sea Ranch, CA 95497-0016

Sahil Pathak
Division of Water Rights
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812

I hereby certify that the service list from Advice Letter No. 143-W has been served a copy of this Advice Letter on March 28, 2024.

Executed in North Gualala, California on March 28, 2024.

By: /S/ SUZETTE Y. EISSLER
Suzette Eisler
Office Manager

⁶ GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

Schedule No. 1
GENERAL METERED SERVICE

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to all metered service.

TERRITORY

Gualala and vicinity located approximately 15 miles south of Point Arena, Mendocino County.

RATES

5/8 x 3/4-inch meter		
First 300 cu. Ft. of water, per 100 cu. ft.	\$8.96	(I)
Over 300 cu. Ft. of water, per 100 cu. ft.	\$11.37	(I)
All other meter sizes		
All water per 100 cu. ft.	\$11.37	(I)

	<u>Per Meter Per Month</u>	
	<u>Service Charge</u>	<u>SDWBA Surcharge</u>
5/8 x 3/4-inch meter	\$ 54.25	(I) \$ 15.91
3/4-inch meter	\$ 81.36	(I) \$ 23.87
1-inch meter	\$ 135.63	(I) \$ 39.78
1-1/2 inch meter	\$ 271.22	(I) \$ 79.55
2-inch meter	\$ 433.95	(I) \$ 127.28
3-inch meter	\$ 813.69	(I) \$ 238.65
4-inch meter	\$1,356.14	(I) \$ 397.75

The service charge is a readiness to service charge, which is applicable to all metered service and to which is added the monthly charges computed at Quantity Rates.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

1. All bills are subject to the reimbursement fee set forth on Schedule UF.
2. The SDWBA (Safe Drinking Water Bond Act) surcharge is in addition to the water bill. This surcharge must be identified on each bill. The surcharge is specifically for the repayment of the California SDWBA loan authorized by Resolution F-645 and Resolution W-4108.
3. A late charge will be imposed per Schedule No. LC.
4. In accordance with Section 2714 of the Public Utilities Code, if a tenant in a rental unit leaves owing the company, service to subsequent tenants in that unit will, at the company's option, be furnished on the account of the landlord or property owner.

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter No. 143-W

Decision No. 92-03-093

Issued By

David Bower

President

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

Date Filed _____

Effective _____

Resolution No. _____

Schedule No. F

FACILITIES FEES

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to all customers applying for service from the Utility in the territory served for premises not previously connected to its distribution mains for additional service connections to existing premises, and for increases in size of service connections to existing premises.

TERRITORY

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

RATES

Initial Fee for each Service Connection

For	5/8 x 3/4 -inch meter	\$	5,427	(I)
For	3/4-inch meter	\$	8,140	(I)
For	1-inch meter	\$	13,570	(I)
For	1 1/2 -inch meter	\$	27,140	(I)
For	2-inch meter	\$	43,425	(I)
For	3-inch meter	\$	81,422	(I)
For	4-inch meter	\$	135,704	(I)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Facilities are payable in addition to and do not limit any charges for extensions of mains that may be applicable under Rule 15, Main Extensions, and Rule 16, Service Connections, Meters, and Customer's Facilities.
2. Payments made under this schedule **are not** subject to the reimbursement fee set forth in Schedule No. UF.

(To be inserted by utility)

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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>
Title Page	408-W
Table of Contents	516-W , 470-W (T)
Preliminary Statements	56-W, 355-W, 388-W, 419-W, 459-W
Service Area Map	244-W
Rate Schedules:	
Schedule No. 1, General Metered Service	514-W , 500-W (I)
Schedule No. 3, State Bond Act Load Fee -Inactive & New Matter	315-W
Schedule F, Facilities Fees	515-W (I)
Schedule No. LC, Late Payment Charge	295-W
Schedule No. UF, PUC Reimbursement Fee	498-W
List of Contract Deviations	266-W
Rules:	
No. 1 – Definitions	476-W, 477-W
No. 2 – Description of Service	116-W
No. 3 – Application for Service	62-W, 357-W
No. 4 – Contracts	63-W
No. 5 – Special Information Required on Forms	478-W - 480-W
No. 6 – Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	66-W
No. 7 – Deposits	327-W, 328-W
No. 8 – Notices	481-W - 483-W
No. 9 – Rendering and Payment of Bills	296-W, 297-W
No. 10 – Disputed Bills	484-W, 485-W
No. 11 – Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	486-W - 496-W
No. 12 – Information Available to Public	77-W, 78-W
No. 13 – Temporary Service	79-W, 80-W
No. 14 – Continuity of Service	81-W
No. 14.1 – Mandatory Water Conservation Program	420-W – 424-W
No. 15 – Main Extensions	217-W – 229-W, 504-W
No. 16 – Service Connections, Meters, & Customer’s Facilities	230-W – 236-W
No. 17 – Standards for Measurements of Service	153-W
No. 18 – Meter Tests & Adjustment of Bills for Meter Error	90-W - 92-W
No. 19 – Service to Separate Premises & Multiple Units and Resale of Water	184-W, 185-W
No. 20 – Water Conservation	369-W
No. 21 – Fire Protection	370-W

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

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Earnings Test

North Gualala Water Company, Inc.
Summary of Earnings

Category	Most Recent Adopted in Resolution W-5045 June 25, 2015			Total Adopted Revenue d=a+b+c	Actual 2023 e	CPI	Revenue After CPI
	TY2015 a	AL #133- W CPI 7% b	AL #139- W CPI 6.5% c			Increase @3.4% on Adopted Revenue f=d*3.4%	Increase, Actual Expenses, & Actual Rate Base (Revenues) f=d + e
Operating Revenues:							
Flat Rate							
Metered	1,107,225	77,506	77,008	1,261,739	1,430,617	42,899	1,473,516
Private Fire Protection							
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	1,107,225	77,506	77,008	1,261,739	1,430,617	42,899	1,473,516
Operating Expenses:							
Purchased Water	-				0		0
Purchased Power	74,610				119,576		119,576
Purchased Chemicals	-				0		0
Other Volume Related Expenses	4,055				11,540		11,540
Employee Labor	151,657				169,049		169,049
Materials	23,001				74,217		74,217
Contract Work	44,444				81,919		81,919
Water Testing							0
Transportation Expense	36,763				34,805		34,805
Other Plant Maintenance	-				38,073		38,073
Office Salaries	75,000				96,119		96,119
Management Salaries	87,333				123,537		123,537
Employee Pension and Benefits	55,757				83,968		83,968
Uncollectibles	1,233				0		0
Office Service and Rentals	6,000				12,750		12,750
Office Supplies and Expenses	41,976				108,551		108,551
Professional Services	87,277				30,361		30,361
Insurance	33,802				55,610		55,610
Regulatory Compliance Expense	8,817				11,424		11,424
General Expenses	5,840				9,861		9,861
Capitalized Expense	(14,212)				0		0
SUBTOTAL	723,353				1,061,359		1,061,359
Depreciation	55,640				69,842		69,842
Taxes Other than Income	75,231				82,741		82,741
State and Federal Income Taxes	95,563				800		800
Interest	-				62,732		62,732
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	949,787				1,277,474		1,277,474
NET REVENUE	157,438				153,143		196,042
RATE BASE							
Average Plant	8,260,577				3,884,944		3,884,944
Less: Average Accumulated Dep	1,720,035				2,737,541		2,737,541
NET PLANT	6,540,542				1,147,404		1,147,404
Less: Advances & Contributions	5,523,714				460,159		460,159
Plus: Construction Work in Progress					754,057		754,057
Working Cash	60,279				88,447		88,447
Materials & Supplies	16,557				54,161		54,161
RATE BASE	1,093,664				1,583,909		1,583,909
RATE OF MARGIN	20.21%				13.54%		17.33%
Earnings Test:	17.33%	<			20.21%		