

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

**Advice Letter Cover Sheet**

**Utility Name:** Searles Domestic Water Company

**Dated Mailed to Service List:** 1/27/2023

**District:** N/A

**CPUC Utility #:** WTC-368

**Protest Deadline (20th Day):** 2/16/2023

**Advice Letter #:** 73

**Review Deadline (30th Day):** 2/26/2023

**Tier:**  1    2    3    Compliance

**Requested Effective Date:** 1/1/2023

**Authorization:** Res. M-4866

**Rate Impact:** N/A

**Description:** 2023 CPUC Reimbursement Fee 0.8%

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:** Audrey Schuyler

**Utility Contact:** Christian L. Aldinger

**Phone:** 760-372-5326

**Phone:** 714-536-4418

**Email:** [schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

**Email:** [chris@paocpas.com](mailto:chris@paocpas.com)

**WD Contact:** Tariff Unit

**Phone:** 415-703-1133

**Email:** [Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov)

WD USE ONLY		
DATE	STAFF	COMMENTS

APPROVED       WITHDRAWN       REJECTED

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Searles Domestic Water Company

P.O. Box 577  
Trona, CA 93592  
Telephone: 760-372-5326  
Email: [schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

January 27, 2023

Advice Letter No.: 73

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Searles Domestic Water Company (WTC-368) 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>
466-W	Schedule No. UF, Commission Reimbursement Fee	449-W
467-W	Table of Contents	465-W

## REQUEST

To adopt the surcharge rate to fund the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee pursuant to Resolution (Res.) M-4866 issued December 16, 2022.

## BACKGROUND

By Res. M-4866, the Commission authorized the Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account User Fees that will become effective January 1, 2023.

As indicated in Res. M-4866, the Water and Sewer user fee rate which was previously 1.43% will be 0.8% effective January 1, 2023.

## TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE

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

## NOTICE

A copy of this AL has been served to all parties listed on the service list<sup>2</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>3</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:

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

<sup>2</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 4.1

<sup>3</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.4.1

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## **RESPONSE OR PROTEST<sup>3</sup> (continued)**

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 omission;
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. WD must receive a response or protest via email (or postal mail) within 20 days of the date this 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 Water Division (WD), the respondent or protestant shall send a copy of the protest to Audrey Schuyler at:

**Email Address:**  
[schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

**Mailing Address:**  
Searles Domestic Water Company  
P.O. Box 577  
Trona, CA 93592

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform WD, 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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<sup>3</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.4.1

<sup>4</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.4.3

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## **REPLIES**

The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Any reply must be received by WD 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>4</sup>

Searles Domestic Water Company

By: Audrey Schuyler  
Audrey Schuyler  
Manager

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<sup>4</sup> GO. 96-B, General Rule 7.4.3

# Searles Domestic Water Company

P.O. Box 577  
Trona, CA 93592  
Telephone: 760-372-5326  
Email: [schuylea@svminerals.com](mailto:schuylea@svminerals.com)

## SERVICE LIST

Indian Wells Valley Water District  
Attn: Don Zdeba  
P.O. Box 1329  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
[iwvwd@iwvwd.com](mailto:iwvwd@iwvwd.com)  
760-384-5555

Tim Itnyre  
Chief of Staff to Supervisor Paul Cook  
385 N. Arrowhead Avenue, 5th Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110  
[tim.itnyre@sbccounty.gov](mailto:tim.itnyre@sbccounty.gov)

Corporal Brian Woytovich  
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office  
Trona Substation  
[bwoytovich@sbcasd.org](mailto:bwoytovich@sbcasd.org)

I hereby certify that the above service list has been served a copy of AL 73 on January 27, 2023

Executed in Trona, California on January 27, 2023

Searles Domestic Water Company

By: Audrey Schuyler  
Audrey Schuyler  
Manager

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

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to metered water service for domestic household purposes for commercial or retail establishments and small industrial enterprises.

TERRITORY

Within Argus, Trona, Pioneer Point (Point of Rocks), Borosolvay, South Trona and Westend, unincorporated communities and territory along the westerly shore of Searles Lake, San Bernardino County.

RATES

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

In 1982 the Legislature established the Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee to be paid by utilities to fund their regulation by the Commission, Public Utilities (PU) Code Section 401-443. The surcharge to recover the cost of that fee is ordered by the Commission under authority granted by the PU Code Section 433.

(To be inserted by utility)

*Issued By*

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

Advice Letter No. 73

Chris Douville

Date Filed

Name

Effective

Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

President

Title

Resolution No.

M-4866

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following listed tariff sheets contain all effective rates and rules affecting the charges and service of the utility, together with other pertinent information.

<u>Subject Matter of Sheet</u>	<u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>
Title Page	15-W
Table of Contents	467-W, 426-W (T)
Preliminary Statement	407-W - 409-W, 81-W
 Service Area Map	 115-W
 Rate Schedules:	
Schedule No. 1, General Metered Service	461-W, 456-W
Schedule No. 4, Private Fire Protection Service	462-W, 457-W
Schedule No. 7M, Public School Metered Service	463-W, 458-W
Schedule No. 9-MLZ, Surplus Water Hauling Schedule	464-W, 459-W
Schedule No. LC, Late Payment Charge	375-W
Schedule No. UF, Surcharge to Fund PUC Reimbursement Fee	466-W ( C)
 Rules:	
No. 1    Definitions	428-W, 429-W
No. 2    Description of Service	98-W
No. 3    Application for Service	24-W
No. 4    Contracts	25-W
No. 5    Special Information Required on Forms	430-W - 432-W
No. 6    Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	27-W
No. 7    Deposits	299-W, 423-W
No. 8    Notices	433-W - 435-W
No. 9    Rendering and Payment of Bills	30(A)-W, 30(B)-W
No. 10   Disputed Bills	436-W, 437-W
No. 11   Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	438-W - 447-W
No. 12   Information Available to Public	33-W
No. 13   Temporary Service	34-W
No. 14   Continuity of Service	35-W
No. 15   Main Extensions	247-W - 259-W, 237-W
No. 16   Service Connections, Meters, & Customer Facilities	260-W, 266-W
No. 17   Measurement of Service	181-W
No. 18   Service to Separate Premises & Multiple Units, & Resale of Water	207-W, 208-W

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

*Issued By*

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

Advice Letter No. 73

Chris Douville  
Name

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

Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

President  
Title

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution No. M-4866