

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
WATER DIVISION**

**Advice Letter Cover Sheet**

<b>Utility Name:</b> Foothill Ditch Company	<b>Date Mailed to Service List:</b> Dec. 11, 2024
<b>District:</b> NA	
<b>CPUC Utility #:</b> WTD 248	<b>Protest Deadline (20<sup>th</sup> Day):</b> Dec. 31, 2024
<b>Advice Letter #:</b> 15-W	<b>Review Deadline (30<sup>th</sup> Day):</b> Jan. 10, 2025
<b>Tier</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2    X 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance	<b>Requested Effective Date:</b> Jan. 17, 2025
<b>Authorization</b> GO 96-B	
<b>Description:</b> Request authority for long-term debt	<b>Rate Impact:</b> \$0 %

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:**    Richard C Jacobsen Jr.  
**Phone:**            559-592-2104  
**Email:**            rockyhill592@aol.com

**Utility Contact:**    Mark Pascoe  
**Phone:**            559-592-2104  
**Email:**            rockyhill592@aol.com

**WD Contact:**        Tariff Unit  
**Phone:**            (415) 703-1133  
**Email:**            [Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov)

<b>WD USE ONLY</b>
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<u>DATE</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

[ ] APPROVED	[ ] WITHDRAWN	[ ] REJECTED
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<b>Signature:</b> _____	<b>Comments:</b> _____
<b>Date:</b> _____	_____

# Foothill Ditch Company

P.O. Box 175  
Exeter, CA 93221

December 11, 2024

Advice Letter No. 15-W

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## **REQUEST**

Foothill Ditch Company (FDC) hereby requests authority pursuant to Sections 816 through 851 and other relevant sections of the Public Utilities Code to authorize an unauthorized debt of \$750,000 on June 30, 2023, from Rock Hill Incorporated (RHI).

## **BACKGROUND**

FDC converted \$750,000 of payables to affiliated company (RHI) into a long-term promissory note. The term is 10 years, maturing on June 30, 2033, at a fixed rate of 6.5%. As of December 31, 2023, there was an outstanding loan balance of \$722,914. The payables were accrued rental fees from use of motor vehicles, tractors, farm implements, and tools, together with office space and equipment and fees from operational labor and management services provided by RHI.

FDC was unaware of the omission until it was discovered by the Utility Audit Branch (UAB) in its review of FDC's 2023 Annual Report on September 24, 2024. FDC wishes to comply with UAB's recommendations and is seeking authority for the existing long-term debt.

FDC's system is solely for irrigation purposes. There are no nearby utilities that provide irrigation water. FDC provides water service to 18 metered irrigation customers. Its service area is adjacent to State Highway 108 approximately 21 miles east of Sonora, Tuolumne County.

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This filing will not increase the rates and will not cause the withdrawal of service nor conflict other schedules or rules.

The present rates became effective on May 16, 2023, by approval of AL No. 11-W, which implemented a Consumer Price Index increase of \$5,399 or 6.5%.

The last general rate increase became effective on December 7, 1994, pursuant to Resolution W-3894, which authorized a general rate increase of \$6,250, or 8.9% and a rate of return of 13.85%.

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

These AL and enclosed tariffs are submitted pursuant to Water Industry Rule 7.3.3(5) of General Order (GO.) 96-B and this AL is designated as a Tier 3 filing. This AL will become effective upon approval through a Commission Resolution.<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

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<sup>1</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.3

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

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

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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.

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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 (WD) 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:

**Mailing Address:**

California Public Utilities  
Commission  
Water Division, 3rd Floor  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Email Address:**

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

On the same day the response or protest is submitted to the WD, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy of the protest to FDC at:

**Mailing Address:**

Foothill Ditch Company  
Attn: Richard C. Jacobsen Jr.  
P.O. Box 175  
Exeter, CA 93221

**Email Address:**

[rockyhill592@aol.com](mailto:rockyhill592@aol.com)

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform the 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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## **REPLIES**

The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Each reply must be received by the WD within five business days after the end of the protest period and shall be served on the same day to the person who filed the protest or response.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the service list from this AL has been served a copy of this AL No. 15-W on December 11, 2024.

Executed in Exeter, California on December 11, 2024.

Foothill Ditch Company

By: /s/ RICHARD JACOBSEN, JR.  
Richard C. Jacobsen, Jr.  
President

Enclosures

**Foothill Ditch Company**  
**Advice Letter No. 15-W**  
**Service List**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Wallace Ranch Water Co.<br>P. O. Box 44259<br>Lemoncove, CA 93244-4259                           | 8 Allied Farming<br>P. O. Box 1125<br>Exeter, CA 93221         |
| 2 Rocky Hill, Inc.<br>P. O. Box 175<br>Exeter, CA 93221  | 9 Raul Santellan<br>5686 E. Mustang<br>Clovis, CA 93612        |
| 3 Greg Kirkpatrick<br>23114 Carson Ave.<br>Exeter, CA. 93221                                       | 10 Tashjian Farms<br>P. O. Box 515<br>Exeter, CA 93221         |
| 4 University of California<br>Lindcove Experiment Station<br>22963 Carson Ave.<br>Exeter, CA 93221 | 11 Tom Wirht<br>23 East 37th Street<br>Savannah, Georgia 31401 |
| 5 Nancy Lange<br>125 Carmel St.<br>San Francisco, CA 94117   | 12 Gregory V. Crosson<br>21761 Ave 304<br>Exeter, CA 93221     |
| 6 Mark Lambert<br>22256 Yokohl Dr.<br>Exeter, CA 93221   | 13 Rae Properties LLC<br>31984 Fritz Dr.<br>Exeter, CA 93221   |
| 7 Merryman Ranch<br>150 West Pine<br>Exeter, CA 93221  |  |