



January 27, 2020

**Advice Letter #27  
(WTD 215-W)**

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California  
Division of Water and Audits  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

**Subject: Spreckels Water Company (WTD 215-W), a Class D Water Company, Tier 1  
Advice Letter #27 to Comply with the requirements of SB 998.**

**PURPOSE**

Spreckels Water Company (SWC) hereby submits revised tariff sheets to comply with the requirements of SB 998, as directed by the Water Division on December 10, 2019.

<b><u>New Sheet No.</u></b>	<b><u>Title of Sheet</u></b>	<b><u>Cancelling Sheet No.</u></b>
309-W	Table of Contents	279-W
283-W – 285-W	Tariff Rule No. 1	110-W – 111-W
286-W – 289-W	Tariff Rule No. 5	241-W – 243-W
290-W – 293-W	Tariff Rule No. 8	222-W – 223-W
294-W – 295-W	Tariff Rule No. 10	117-W, 247-W/254-W
296-W – 308-W	Tariff Rule No. 11	224-W – 227-W, 248-W, 229-W, 249-W, 231-W

**TIER DESIGNATION AND REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Tier 1 Advice Letter (“AL”) and attached revised tariff sheets are submitted pursuant to General Order (GO.) 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1(3) in order to comply with the requirements of SB 998, as directed by the Water Division on December 10, 2019, with an effective date of February 1, 2020.

Notice is not required, per GO 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1.

**SERVICE LIST**<sup>1</sup>

Attached.

I hereby certify that the attached service list has been served a copy of AL 27 on January 27, 2020.

Dated: January 27, 2020.

Spreckels Water Company

By: \_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Kerry L. Varney  
Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer  
Spreckels Water Company

Attachments

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<sup>1</sup> GO. 96-B, Water Industry Rule 4.1.

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

**Advice Letter Cover Sheet**

**Utility Name:** Spreckels Water Company

**Date Mailed to Service List:** 1/27/2020

**CPUC Utility #:** WTD 215

**Protest Deadline (20<sup>th</sup> Day):** N/A

**Advice Letter #:** 27

**Review Deadline (30<sup>th</sup> Day):** N/A

**Tier**    1    2    3     Compliance

**Requested Effective Date:** February 1, 2020

**Authorization**

**Rate Impact:** \$0  
0%

**Description:** Advice Letter #27, Spreckels' Revised Tariff sheets in compliance with requirements of SB 998

**Utility Contact:** Kerry L. Varney

**Utility Contact 2:** Ronald Liebert

**Phone:** 831-455-4005

**Phone 2:** 916-447-2166

**Email:** [Kerry@taproduce.com](mailto:Kerry@taproduce.com)

**Email 2:** [rl@eslawfirm.com](mailto:rl@eslawfirm.com)

**DWA Contact:** Tariff Unit

**Phone:** (415) 703-1133

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

**DWA USE ONLY**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Spreckels Water Company  
Advice Letter #27

Attachment 1

Revised Tariff Sheets

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following listed tariff sheets contain all effective rates and affecting rates and service of the Utility, together with information relating thereto:

SUBJECT MATTER OF SHEET	Cal. P.U.C. SHEET NO.	SYMBOL
Title Page	260-W	
Table of Contents	309-W, 257-W	
Preliminary Statement	236-W - 238-W	
Service Area Map	8-W	
<u>Rate Schedules:</u>		
Schedule No. 1, General Metered Service	280-W	
Schedule No. 4, Private Fire Protection Service	281-W	
Schedule No. 5, Public Fire Hydrant Service	282-W	
Schedule No. UF, Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission Reimbursement Fee	274-W	
<u>Rules:</u>		
No. 1 - Definitions	283-W - 285-W	(T)
No. 2 - Description of Service	92-W	
No. 3 - Application for Service	240-W, 12-W	
No. 4 - Contracts	13-W	
No. 5 - Special Information Required on Forms	286-W - 289-W	(T)
No. 6 - Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	16-W	
No. 7 - Deposits	244-W, 245-W	
No. 8 - Notices	290-W - 293-W	(T)
No. 9 - Rendering and Payment of Bills	246-W, 20-W, 21-W	
No. 10 - Disputed Bills	294-W - 295-W	(T)
No. 11 - Discontinuance and Restoration of Services	296-W - 308-W	(T)
No. 12 - Information Available to Public	27-W, 28-W	
No. 13 - Temporary Service	29-W, 30-W	
No. 14 - Continuity of Service	31-W	
No. 15 - Main Extensions	196-W - 208-W	
No. 16 - Service Connections, Meters, and Customer's Facilities	209-W - 215-W	
No. 17 - Measurement of Service	144-W	
No. 18 - Meter Tests and Adjustment of Bills for Meter Error	45-W - 47-W	
No. 19 - Service to Separate Premises and Multiple Units, And Resale of Water	145-W, 146-W	
No. 20 - Water Conservation	249-W	
No. 21 - Fire Protection	250-W	

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

(To be inserted by CPUC)

Advice Letter No. 27

Kerry Varney  
Name

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

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

Vice-President  
Title

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

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

RULE NO. 1

**DEFINITIONS**

Applicant: The person, association, corporation or governmental agency applying for water service.

Business Service: Provision of water for use in connection with commercial premises devoted primarily to operations for profit including offices, stores, markets, apartments, hotels, motels, automobile trailer parks or courts, service stations and the like. (L)

Commercial Service: Provision of water to residential premises or business premises. (L)

Customer: Any person, association, corporation or governmental agency supplied or entitled to be supplied with water service. However, account information can only be discussed with the Customer of Record or their authorized representative. (C)  
(C)

Customer of Record: The person, association, corporation or governmental agency who is obligated to pay the water bill. (N)  
(N)

Date of Presentation: The date upon which a bill or notice is mailed or delivered by the utility to the Customer of Record. (L)  
(T)(L)

Disabled Customer: Any residential customer whose certified health or physical condition may qualify her or him for special consideration. Proof of disability must be by certification from any internist, general practitioner, obstetrician-gynecologist, pediatrician, family practice physician, nonphysician medical practitioner, or any primary care clinic, rural health clinic, community clinic or hospital outpatient clinic currently enrolled in the Medi-Cal program, which agrees to provide case management to Medi-Cal beneficiaries as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 14088 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. (T)(L)  
(N)

Electronic Transfer: Paperless exchange of data and /or funds, usually involving computer and telecommunications technology. (N)

Flat Rate Service: Service for which the charges are based upon the types and number of units served. (L)  
(L)

Industrial Service: Provision of water to industrial premises where the water is used primarily in manufacturing or processing activities. (L)  
(L)

(To be inserted by utility)  
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Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

RULE NO. 1

**DEFINITIONS**

Irrigation Service: Provision of water for commercial agricultural, floricultural or horticultural use and billed under distinct irrigation rates. (L)  
(L)

Main Extension: The extension of water distribution mains beyond existing facilities in accordance with the provisions of the rule applicable to main extensions filed as part of these tariff schedules.

Metered Service: Service for which the charges are computed on the basis of measured quantities of water. (L)  
(L)

Occupant: Any adult person demonstrably residing on premises actively served by the utility. However, account information can only be discussed with the Customer of Record or their authorized representative. (N)  
|  
(N)

Older Adult Customer: Any residential customer who is age 62 or over. (T)(L)

Premises: The integral property or area, including improvements thereon, to which water service is, or is to be, provided. (L)  
(L)

Public Utilities Commission: In these rules the word "Commission" or words "Public Utilities Commission" shall be construed to mean the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California. (L)  
|  
(L)

Residential Service: Water service to a residential connection that includes single-family residences, multifamily residences, mobilehomes, including, but not limited to, mobilehomes in mobilehome parks, or farmworker housing. (C)  
|  
(C)

Service Address: Address of the property to which water service is provided. (N)

Service Connection: The point of connection of the customer's piping or ditch with the meter, service pipe or ditch owned by the utility. (L)  
|

Service Pipe: The connection between the utility's mains and the service connection, including all the pipe, fittings and valves necessary to make the connection. (L)  
|  
(L)

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RULE NO. 1

**DEFINITIONS**

Tariff Schedules or Tariff Schedule Book: The entire body of effective rates, rentals, charges, rules, and sample forms collectively, as set forth herein.

Tariff Sheet: An individual sheet of the tariff schedule book.

Utility: The public utility named herein. (L)

(To be inserted by utility)  
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**RULE NO. 5**

**SPECIAL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON FORMS**

A. Contracts

Each contract for service will contain essentially the following provisions:

“This contract shall at all times be subject to such changes or modifications by the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California as said Commission may, from time to time, direct in the exercise of its jurisdiction.”

“It is the understanding of the parties to this contract that it shall not become effective until the authorization of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California has been first obtained.”

B. Bill for Service

On each bill for service will be printed essentially the following language:

“This bill is due and payable upon date of presentation. It will become past due if not paid within 19 days from the date of mailing.

If you believe there is an error on your bill or have a question about your service, please call Customer support at #####. We welcome the opportunity to assist you. (T)

If after contacting us, you are still not satisfied with the company’s response, you may submit a complaint to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) by visiting <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/complaints/>. Billing and service complaints are handled by the CPUC’s Consumer Affairs Branch (CAB), which can be reached by the following means if you prefer not to submit your complaint online:

**Telephone:** 1-800-649-7570 (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday)

**Mail:** California Public Utilities Commission, Consumer Affairs Branch  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2003, San Francisco, California 94102.

If you have limitations hearing or speaking, dial 711 to reach the California Relay Service, which is for those needing direct assistance relaying telephone conversations, as well their friends, family, and business contacts. (T)

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)  
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Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**RULE NO. 5**  
**(continued)**

**SPECIAL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON FORMS**

B. Bill for Service (continued)

If you prefer having your calls immediately answered in your mode of communication, dial one of the toll-free language-specific numbers below to be routed to the California Relay Service provider.

(N)

Type of Call	Language	Toll-free 800 Number
TTY/VCO/HCO to Voice	English	1-800-735-2929
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
Voice to TTY/VCO/HCO Voice	English	1-800-735-2922
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
From or to Speech-to-Speech	English	1-800-854-7784
	Spanish	

To avoid having service turned off while you wait for the outcome of a complaint to the CPUC specifically regarding the accuracy of your bill, please contact CAB for assistance. If your case meets the eligibility criteria, CAB will provide you with instructions on how to mail a check or money order to be impounded pending resolution of your case. You must continue to pay your current charges while your complaint is under review to keep your service turned on.

(N)

The Commission will not, however, accept deposit when the dispute appears to be over matters that do not directly relate to the accuracy of the bill. Such matters include the quality of a utility's service, general level of rates, pending rate applications, and sources of fuel or power."

(T)

C. Discontinuance of Service for Nonpayment – Notice

(D)

(T)

Every written notice of discontinuance of service for nonpayment of bills shall include all of the following information.

(C)

- (1) The name and address of the customer whose account is delinquent.
- (2) The amount of the delinquency.

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)  
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**RULE NO. 5**  
**(continued)**

**SPECIAL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON FORMS**

- C. Discontinuance of Service for Nonpayment – Notice (continued) (N)
  - (3) The date by which payment or arrangements for payment is required in order to avoid discontinuance. (L)  
(L)
  - (4) A description of the process to apply for an extension of time to pay delinquent unpaid charges. (C)  
(T)
  - (5) The procedures to petition for bill review and appeal to the Commission (N)
  - (6) The procedure by which the customer may request a deferred (paying at a later date), reduced (spreading payments out over an agreed upon period of time not to exceed 12 months), or some other alternative payment schedule, including an amortization of the unpaid charges. (N)  
|  
(N)
  - (7) The procedure for the customer to obtain information on the availability of financial assistance, including private, local, state, or federal sources, if applicable. (T)
  - (8) The name, address, and telephone number of a representative of the utility who can provide additional information and assist customers in continuing service or in making arrangements for payment. (T)  
(T)
  - (9) The telephone numbers of the Commission (Consumer Affairs Branch) (800) 649-7570 or TTY (800) 735-2929/22 English or (800) 855-3000 Spanish or (800) 854-7784 to which inquiries by the customer may be directed. (C)  
|  
(C)
- Residential Customers. Where water service is provided to residential users in a multi-unit residential structure, mobilehome park, or permanent residential structures in a labor camp, where the owner, manager or operator is listed by the utility as the customer of record, the notice of discontinuance shall further include: (C)  
|  
(C)
- (a) The date on which service will be discontinued. (T)
  - (b) What the occupants are required to do in order to prevent the discontinuance or to re-establish service. (T)

(continued)

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**RULE NO. 5**  
**(continued)**

**SPECIAL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON FORMS**

- C. Discontinuance of Service for Nonpayment – Notice (continued) (N)
- (c) The estimated monthly cost of service (where service is master-metered). (L)(C)
- (d) The address and telephone number of a legal services project, as defined in Section 6213 of the Business and Professions Code, which has been recommended by the local county bar association, which will assist the occupants (where service is master-metered). (L)(T)  
(L)  
(L)(C)

(To be inserted by utility)

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**RULE NO. 8**

**NOTICES**

A. Notice to Customers

1. In Writing

Notice to a customer will normally be in writing. Depending on the type of notice, written notice will either be delivered or mailed to the customer's last known address, except as otherwise specified by the utility's tariffs. (T)

2. Exception

In emergencies or when circumstances warrant, the utility, where feasible, will endeavor to promptly notify the customer affected and may make such notification orally, either in person or by telephone.

3. Notice of Discontinuance of Residential Water Service for Nonpayment (T)

a. The utility shall contact the residential customer of record at least 10 days prior to discontinuance by telephone or written notice. (C)

(1) Written notice shall be mailed to the address of the customer of residence to which the residential service is provided. If the customer's address is not the address of the property to which residential service is provided, the notice also shall be sent to the service address with "Occupant" as the addressee. The notice shall include the information prescribed in Rule No. 5. C.

(2) Telephone notice shall be to the customer named on the account. In providing such notice by telephone, the utility shall offer to: (i) provide customer with a written copy of the utility's policy on discontinuation of service due to nonpayment; and (ii) discuss options available to customer to avert discontinuance including alternative payment schedules, deferred payments, minimum payments, procedures for requesting amortization of the unpaid balance, and procedures to petition for bill review and appeal. (C)

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)  
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**RULE NO. 8**

**NOTICES**

A. Notice to Customers (Continued)

3. Notice of Discontinuance of Residential Water Service for Nonpayment (continued)

a. The utility shall contact the residential customer of record at least 10 days prior to discontinuance by telephone or written notice. (cont.)

(3) If the utility is unable to make contact with the customer or an adult occupying the residence by telephone, and written notice is returned as undeliverable, the utility will make a good faith effort to visit the residence and leave (or make other arrangements for placement in a conspicuous place) a notice as prescribed herein, along with a written copy of the utility's policy on discontinuation of service for nonpayment. (C)

b. The utility shall contact the residential occupants of a detached single-family dwelling, multi-unit residential structure, mobilehome park, or permanent residential structures in a labor camp, where the owner, manager, or operator is listed by the utility as the customer of record, as follows:

(1) Where individually metered water service is provided, the utility will make every good faith effort to inform the occupants by means of a notice at least 10 days prior to any discontinuance, when the account is in arrears, that service will be discontinued. In addition to including the information prescribed in Rule No. 5, the notice will inform the occupants that, if the utility's verification and other requirements are met, they have the right to become a customer, to whom the service will then be billed, without being required to pay any amount which may be due to the delinquent account. (C)

(continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice Letter No. 27

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Name

(To be inserted by CPUC)

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

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

Vice-President  
Title

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

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

**RULE NO. 8**

**NOTICES**

A. Notice to Customers (Continued)

3. Notice of Discontinuance of Residential Water Service for Nonpayment (continued)

b. (continued)

(2) Where master metered service is provided, the written notice will be at least 15 days prior to discontinuance of service. The notice will be posted on the door of each residential unit. If it is not reasonable or practical to post the notice on the door of each residential unit, the utility will post two copies of the notice in each accessible common area and at each point of access to the structure or structures. (C)

(3) Notice to occupants shall be independent of, and in addition to, other notice(s) as may be prescribed in the utility's tariffs.

c. All notices of discontinuance for nonpayment relating to residential services will be in English, the languages listed in Section 1632 of the Civil Code, and any other language spoken by 10 percent or more of the customers in the utility's service area. The notice will include the information prescribed in Rule No. 5.C.

d. Procedures for the discontinuance and restoration of service are specified in Rule No. 11.

4. Notice of Discontinuance of All Other Services (Nonresidential) for Nonpayment

The utility shall make a reasonable attempt to contact: (i) the customer of record by mailing a separate notice at least 10 days prior to discontinuance, or (ii) an adult person on the customer's premises by telephone or in person at least 24 hours prior to any discontinuance. (C)

(continued)

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

**RULE NO. 8**

**NOTICES**

A. Notice to Customers (Continued)

5. Discontinuance of Service for Reasons Other Than Nonpayment (C)

The utility may discontinue service for reasons not related to payment. Rule No. 11 provides additional examples of circumstances resulting in discontinuation of service and related notice, if any, associated with the specific situation.

(C)

6. Third-Party Notification (T)

Notice of availability of third-party notification shall be given annually to all residential customers.

(D)

B. Notice from Customers (L)

1. A customer may make notification in person, by telephone or by letter to the utility at its commercial office, or to an authorized representative of the utility. (L)

2. Customers who wish to qualify for consideration under Rule No. 11.B.1.e. must have presented evidence to the utility establishing their status. (L)(T)

3. Older Adult or disabled customers who desire third-party notification must so inform the utility with certification of status and with a letter from the third party accepting the responsibility. (L)(T)

4. Proof of age must be supported by certificate of birth, driver's license, passport or other reliable document. Proof of handicap must be by certification from a licensed physician, public health nurse or social worker. (L)

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**Rule No. 10**

**DISPUTED BILLS**

A. Correctness of Bill

Any customer (or adult occupant of a residential service address) who has initiated a complaint to the utility or requested an investigation by the utility within five days of receiving a contested bill shall be given an opportunity for review of such complaint or investigation by a review manager of the utility. The review shall include consideration of whether the customer should be permitted to amortize the unpaid balance of her or his account over a reasonable period of time. (C)  
(T)

B. Notice of Deposit to Avoid Discontinuance

If an explanation satisfactory to the customer is not made by the utility and the bill is not paid within 19 days after its presentation, or at the time the explanation is made, whichever is longer, the utility will notify the customer in writing substantially as follows:

1. To avoid discontinuance of service, in lieu of paying the bill in question, the residential customer within 15 days and the non-residential customer within 7 days of the date of this notice, must deposit with the California Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102, the amount of the bill claimed by the utility to be due.

C. Commission Appeal

When a customer and the utility fail to agree on a bill for service:

1. To avoid discontinuance of service, in lieu of paying the disputed bill the customer may deposit, with the California Public Utilities Commission at its office in 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102, the amount claimed by the utility to be due.
2. Checks or other forms of remittance for such deposit should be made payable to the California Public Utilities Commission and should be accompanied with the bill in question and a statement setting forth the basis for the dispute of the amount of the bill.
3. Upon receipt of the deposit, the bill and customer's statement of the dispute, the Commission will notify the utility, will review the basis of the billed amount, and will advise both parties of its findings disburse the deposit in accordance therewith.

(continued)

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**Rule No. 10**

**DISPUTED BILLS**

C. Commission Appeal (Continued)

- 4. Service will not be discontinued for nonpayment of the disputed bill when deposit has been made with the Commission (Consumer Affairs Branch), pending the outcome of the Commission's review.
- 5. Failure of the customer to make such deposit prior to the expiration of the discontinuance of service notice as given in Rule No. 10B.1. will warrant discontinuance of service. (T)
- 6. If before the completion of the Commission's review, additional bills become due which the customer wishes to dispute, she or he shall also deposit with the Commission the additional amounts claimed by the utility to be due for such additional bills before they become past due and failure to do so will warrant discontinuance of her or his service in accordance with Rule No. 11. (T)

(To be inserted by utility)

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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

A. Customer's Request for Discontinuance of Service

- 1. A customer may have service discontinued by giving not less than two days' advance notice thereof to the utility. Charges for service may be required to be paid until the requested date of discontinuance or such later date as will provide not less than the required two days' advance notice.
- 2. When such notice is not given, the customer may be required to pay for service until two days after the utility has knowledge that the customer has vacated the premises or otherwise has discontinued water service. (T)

B. Discontinuance of Service by Utility

1. For Nonpayment of Bills

a. Past-Due Bills.

When bills are rendered monthly or bimonthly, they will be considered past due if not paid within 19 days from the date of mailing.

- (1) Residential Service (C)
  - For the purposes of this rule, residential service means water service to a residential connection that includes single-family residences, multifamily residences, mobilehomes, including, but not limited to, mobilehomes in mobilehome parks, or farmworker housing. When bills are rendered monthly or bimonthly, they will be considered past due if not paid within 19 days from the date of mailing. The utility shall allow every residential customer a total of 79 days from the date of mailing its bill for services, postage prepaid, to make payment of the bill prior to discontinuance of service. The utility shall not discontinue residential service for nonpayment of a delinquent account unless the utility first gives notice of the delinquency and impending discontinuance, in conformance with Rule No. 8.A.3, which establishes notice periods ranging from 7 to 15 days, depending on the occupancy type. The utility will provide notices timely to ensure that the applicable notice period is included in the total 79-day period referenced above and does not provide additional time to pay. (C)

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)  
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Vice-President  
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Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

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

RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Service by Utility (continued)

(C)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

a. Past-Due Bills. (continued)

(2) All Other Service (nonresidential)

The utility shall not discontinue nonresidential service for nonpayment of a delinquent account unless the utility first gives notice of the delinquency and impending discontinuance in conformance with Rule No. 8.A.4.

b. When a bill for water service has become past due and a discontinuance of service notice for nonpayment has been issued, service may be discontinued if bill is not paid in full (or alternative payment arrangements acceptable to the utility have not been made) within the time required by such notice. The customer's service, however, will not be discontinued for nonpayment until the amount of any deposit made to establish credit for that service has been fully absorbed.

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c. Petition for Utility Review.

(1) Any customer (or adult occupant of a residential service address) may petition the utility for review of a bill for water service in accordance with Rule Nos. 5 and 10.

(2) Such customer shall not have the water service discontinued for nonpayment during the pendency of an investigation by the utility of a complaint or request and shall be given an opportunity for review of the complaint, investigation, or request by a review manager of the utility, if:

(i) The customer who has initiated a billing complaint or requested an investigation within 5 days of receiving a disputed bill, or

(ii) Before discontinuance of service, the customer made payment arrangements for a bill asserted to be beyond the means of the customer to pay in full within the normal period for payment.

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(To be inserted by utility)  
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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Service by Utility (continued)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

c. Petition for Utility Review. (continued)

(3) The review shall include consideration of whether a customer shall be permitted to make installment payments on any unpaid balance of the delinquent account over a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 12 months.

Such service shall not be discontinued for nonpayment for any customer complying with an installment payment agreement entered into with the utility, provided the customer also keeps current her or his account for water service as charges accrue in each subsequent billing period.

If a customer fails to comply with an installment payment agreement the utility will give a discontinuance of service notice no less than 5 business days before discontinuing such service, but such notice shall not entitle the customer to further investigation or alternative payment arrangements by the utility.

d. Appeal to the Commission.

Any customer (or adult occupant of a residential service address) whose complaint or request for an investigation pursuant to subdivision (c) has resulted in a determination by the utility adverse to such customer or adult occupant, may appeal the determination to the Commission in accordance with Rule Nos. 5 and 10 (including depositing the disputed amount with the Commission). Any such appeal of the disputed bill to the Commission shall be in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Written documentation of an appeal filed and diligently pursued with the Commission will prevent discontinuation of residential water service during the official appeal process.

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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Services by Utility (Continued)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

(C)(L)

e. Residential Health and Safety Exception.

(1) Service to a residential water customer will not be discontinued for nonpayment when such customer establishes to the satisfaction of the utility that **all** three of the following conditions are met:

(i) The residential customer submits certification from a primary care provider\*, as defined by the Water Shutoff Protection Act, that discontinuation of residential water service will be life threatening to, or pose a serious threat to the health and safety of, a resident of the premises where residential service is provided;

\*Proof must be by certification from any internist, general practitioner, obstetrician-gynecologist, pediatrician, family practice physician, nonphysician medical practitioner, or primary care clinic, rural health clinic, community clinic or hospital outpatient clinic. A “nonphysician medical practitioner” means a physician assistant or certified nurse-midwife performing services under physician supervision, or a nurse practitioner performing services in collaboration with a physician. (See Section 14088(b)(1)(A) and (c) of the California Welfare and Institutions Code.)

(ii) The residential customer demonstrates that she or he is financially unable to pay for residential service within the urban and community water system’s normal billing cycle. The customer shall be deemed financially unable to pay for residential service within the urban and community water system’s normal billing cycle if any member of the customer’s household is a current recipient of CalWORKs, CalFresh, general assistance, Medi-Cal, Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment Program, or California Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, or the customer declares that the household’s annual income is less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level; and,

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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Services by Utility (Continued)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

(C)(L)

e. Residential Health and Safety Exception. (continued)

(iii) The residential customer is willing to enter into an amortization agreement, alternative payment schedule, or a plan for deferred or reduced payment.

(2) If all three of the above conditions are met, the utility shall offer the customer one or more of the following options:

- a. Amortization of the unpaid balance.
- b. Participation in an alternative payment schedule.
- c. A partial or full reduction of the unpaid balance financed without additional charges to other ratepayers.
- d. Temporary deferral of payment.

(3) The utility may choose which of the payment options the customer undertakes and may set the parameters of that payment option. The repayment option offered should result in repayment of any remaining outstanding balance within 12 months.

(4) Notwithstanding the above, residential service may be discontinued to any customer meeting the conditions above who:

(i) Does not agree to or comply with an amortization agreement, an alternative payment schedule, or a plan for deferred or reduced payment after incurring delinquent charges for 60 days or more,  
OR

(ii) After agreeing to an amortization agreement, an alternative payment schedule, or a plan for deferred or reduced payment for delinquent charges, the customer does not pay her or his current residential service charges for 60 days or more.

Notice of discontinuation for either of these reasons will be posted in a prominent and conspicuous location no less than 5 business days before discontinuing such service, but such notice shall not entitle the customer to further investigation or alternative payment arrangements by the utility.

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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Services by Utility (Continued)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

(C)(L)

f. Other Disconnection Terms

A customer's residential service may be discontinued for nonpayment of a bill for residential service previously rendered her or him at any location served by the utility.

A nonresidential service may be discontinued for nonpayment of a bill for residential as well as nonresidential service previously rendered her or him at any location served by the utility.

The discontinuance of service notice as set forth in subdivision (b) will be given in both cases stated above before discontinuance of service takes place.

Residential services will not, however, be discontinued for nonpayment of bills for separate nonresidential service.

g. Timing of Disconnection

Service will not be discontinued by reason of delinquency in payment for service on any Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday, or at any time during which the business offices of the utility are not open to the public. The utility will avoid disconnection of service on Fridays and a day prior to a holiday. The utility will inform customers of the option to reconnect during regular business hours to avoid the more costly fees associated with after-hours service.

h. Where the owner, manager, or operator of the dwelling, structure, or park is listed by the utility as the customer of record, and water service is provided to residential occupants in a detached single-family dwelling, a multi-unit residential structure, mobilehome park, or permanent residential structure in a labor camp the utility will make every good faith effort to inform the residential occupants, by written notice in conformance with Rule No. 8.A.3.b.

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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Services by Utility (Continued)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

h. (continued)

(L)

(1) Where said occupants are individually metered.

The utility is not required to make service available to these occupants unless each user agrees to the terms and conditions of service and meets the requirement of the law and the utility's rules and tariffs.

However, if one or more occupants are willing and able to assume responsibility for subsequent charges by these occupants to the account to the satisfaction of the utility, or if there is a practical physical means, legally available to the utility of selectively providing services to these occupants who have met the requirements of the utility's rules and tariffs, the utility will make service available to these occupants.

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For these selected occupants establishment of credit may be as prescribed in Rule No. 6, except that where prior service for a period of time is a condition for establishing credit with the utility, proof that is acceptable to the utility of residence and prompt payment of rent or other credit obligation during that period of time is a satisfactory equivalent.

(T)

(2) Where said occupants are master metered.

The utility is not required to make service available to these occupants unless each occupant agrees to the terms and conditions of service, and meets the requirements of the law and the utility's rules and tariffs and the following:

(T)

The same Rule No. 11, item B.1.h. (1) above which applies to individually metered occupants also applies to master metered occupants, except a representative may act on the behalf of a master metered occupant, and the utility will not discontinue service in any of the following situations:

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RULE NO. 11

**DISCONTINUANCE AND RESTORATION OF SERVICE**

B. Discontinuance of Services by Utility (Continued)

1. For Nonpayment of Bills (continued)

h. (continued)

(2) Where said occupants are master metered. (continued)

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(a) During the pendency of an investigation by the utility of a master-meter customer dispute or complaint.

(b) When the master-metered customer has been granted an extension of the period for repayment of a bill.

(c) For an indebtedness owed by the master metered customer to any other person or corporation or when the obligation represented by the delinquent account or any other indebtedness was incurred with a person or corporation other than the utility demanding payment therefor.

(d) When a delinquent account relates to another property owned, managed, or operated by the master-metered customer.

(e) When a public health or building officer certifies that discontinuance would result in a significant threat to the health or safety of the residential occupants or the public. Proof of age or disability are described in Rule No. 11.B.1.e.

i. Residential Customer's Remedies Upon Receipt of Discontinuance Notice for Nonpayment.

(C)

(1) If upon receipt of a discontinuance notice, a residential customer is unable to pay, she or he must contact the utility before discontinuance of service to make payment arrangements to avoid discontinuance of service. Information pertaining to alternative payment options and other options for averting discontinuation of residential service for nonpayment will be provided on the discontinuance notice as described in Rule No. 5, or can be obtained by calling 800-999-4033.

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Spreckels Water Company  
Advice Letter #27

Attachment 2

Service List

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of “Spreckels Water Company (WTD 215-W), a Class D Water Company, Tier 1 Advice Letter #27 to Comply with the requirements of SB 998” on the following parties by email, overnight mail, or first-class US mail with postage prepaid, as specified below.

Executed on January 27, 2020 at Sacramento, California

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric Janssen', written over a horizontal line.

Eric Janssen

Spreckels Water Company Advice Letter #26  
Service List  
January 27, 2020

Overnight Mail Recipients:

California Public Utilities  
Commission  
Division of Water and Audits  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Email Recipients:

California Public Utilities  
Commission  
Division of Water and Audits  
[water.division@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:water.division@cpuc.ca.gov)

Kerry L. Varney  
Spreckels Water Company  
[Kerry@taproduce.com](mailto:Kerry@taproduce.com)

Stephen Bachman  
[Sbachman123@gmail.com](mailto:Sbachman123@gmail.com)

Brenda Granillo  
California Water Service Co.  
[BGranillo@calwater.com](mailto:BGranillo@calwater.com)

US Mail Recipients:

Craig Anthony  
California-American Water Co.  
511 Forest Lodge Road, Suite 100  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

David Stephenson  
California American Water Company  
4701 Beloit Drive  
Sacramento, CA 95838

President, Board of Directors  
Spreckels Community Services  
District  
P.O. Box 7432  
Spreckels, CA 93962

Clerk to the Board  
Monterey County Board of  
Supervisors  
168 West Alisal Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Jan Sweigart  
California Department of Health  
Services  
#1 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 120  
Monterey, CA 93940

Luciano and Julita Galleguillos  
P.O. Box 7338  
Spreckels, CA 93962

Ken Dursa  
145 Harvest Street  
Salinas, CA 93901

Ron Eastwood  
P.O. Box 7381  
Spreckels, CA 93962