



**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FILED

01/02/24

04:59 PM

A2401002

Application of Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.
(U 314-W) for Authority to Increase Rates
Charged for Water Service by \$9,260,000 or
22.08% in 2025, \$2,182,928 or 4.24% in 2026,
and \$2,139,448 or 3.96% in 2027.

Application No. _____

**TEST YEAR 2025 GENERAL RATE CASE APPLICATION OF
LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP. (U 314-W)**

MANASA RAO
Senior Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Liberty (West Region)
9750 Washburn Road
P.O. Box 7002
Downey, CA 90241-7002
Telephone: (562) 923-0711
Facsimile: (562) 861-5902
Email: Manasa.Rao@libertyutilities.com

VICTOR T. FU
Prospera Law, LLP
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 480
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Telephone: (424) 239-1890
Facsimile: (424) 239-1882
E-mail: vfu@prosperalaw.com
Attorneys for Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.

Dated: January 2, 2024

Table of Contents

	Section	Page
I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	PRELIMINARY MATTERS.....	3
	A. Test Period	3
	B. SB 960 Scoping Memorandum.....	3
	C. Summary of Requested Increase and Rate Base Changes	3
	D. Results of Operation	4
	E. Primary Cost Increases	6
	F. List of Issues of Controversy	6
III.	SUMMARY OF CONTENTS.....	8
	A. Basic Information.....	8
	B. Regulated Plant in Service	8
	C. Revenue Requirement: Operations and Maintenance, Administrative and General, General Office	8
	D. Revenue Requirement: Water Sales and Production	8
	E. Rate Base	8
	F. Supply and Distribution Infrastructure Status and Planning.....	9
	G. Conservation and Efficiency	9
	H. Water Quality.....	9
	I. Service Quality.....	9
	J. Transactions with Corporate Affiliates	9
	K. Unregulated Transactions	9
	L. Real Property Subject to Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 1996	10
	M. Rate Design.....	10
	N. Low-Income Assistance Program	11
	O. Balancing Accounts	11
	1. Water Consumption Plan	11
	2. CAP Revenue Reallocation Balancing Account.....	11
	3. Consolidated Expense Balancing Account	12
	4. Conservation One-Way Balancing Account.....	12
	5. Incremental Cost Balancing Account	12
	P. Memorandum Accounts.....	12
	1. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Memorandum Account	12
	2. Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account.....	12

Table of Contents

	Section	Page
	3. Sativa Revenue Memorandum Account	12
	4. Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Memorandum Account Modification.....	13
	5. Conservation Memorandum Account	13
Q.	Cost of Capital	13
R.	Special Requests	14
	1. Expense Offset Advice Letters	14
IV.	PROCEDURAL MATTERS	15
	A. Filings	15
	B. Proposed Schedule	15
	C. Proposed Notice to Customers.....	15
	D. Inquiries	15
V.	REQUEST FOR RELIEF	17
Appendix A Proposed Schedule		
Appendix B Notice of Application for a GRC.....		

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.
(U 314-W) for Authority to Increase Rates
Charged for Water Service by \$9,260,000 or
22.08% in 2025, \$2,182,928 or 4.24% in 2026,
and \$2,139,448 or 3.96% in 2027.

Application No. _____

**TEST YEAR 2025 GENERAL RATE CASE APPLICATION OF
LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP. (U 314-W)**

I. INTRODUCTION

Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. (U 314 W) (“Liberty Park Water” or “Applicant”) hereby files its Test Year 2025 General Rate Case (“GRC”) application (“Application”). Liberty Park Water, a California corporation, is a Class A Public Utility Water Company regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) providing regulated water utility service in and near Los Angeles County. A general description of Liberty Park Water’s property and its field of operations, the original cost of its property and equipment, by class, and the cost thereof, to Liberty Park Water and the depreciation and amortization reserves applicable to such property and equipment, by class, are contained in Liberty Park Water’s Annual Reports to the Commission. A certified copy of the Amended Articles of Incorporation of Liberty Park Water is attached to this application as Exhibit G.

Liberty Park Water continuously evaluates and undertakes measures to avoid increases in its cost of providing service to its customers by improving operational efficiencies. The operational efficiencies achieved are offset by needed capital improvements and the replacement of aging infrastructure

dedicated to providing water service. The rates proposed in this Application are necessary to recover the reasonable costs of providing high quality water and reliable service on a sustained basis that is essential for the health, safety, and well-being of the communities served by Liberty Park Water.

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Test Period

The period for this GRC Application is Test Year 2025, with post-Test Years 2026 and 2027 selected as the Escalation Years. This is consistent with the rate case plan adopted by the Commission in D.07-05-062 (“RCP”).

B. SB 960 Scoping Memorandum

This Application is a general rate increase proceeding and is therefore a “Rate Setting” proceeding. Evidentiary hearings may be necessary because of factual disputes that may arise on material issues such as water sales, operating revenue, operation and maintenance expenses, utility plant, depreciation, taxes, and revenue requirements. A proposed schedule for completing the proceeding is contained in Appendix A.¹

C. Summary of Requested Increase and Rate Base Changes

The requested 2025 revenue increase for Liberty Park Water above revenues generated by present rates is \$9,260,000, or 22.08%. At this time, Liberty Park Water is only requesting specific rates for Test Year 2025. Pursuant to the escalation year increase methodology adopted by the RCP (D.07-05-062, Appendix A, p. A-19), Liberty Park Water will file advice letters setting out its calculations and supporting analysis for the escalation year rates 45 days prior to the first day of each escalation year. For the sole purpose of providing customer notification, Liberty Park Water has estimated the impact of the escalation methodology for 2026 and 2027. The revenue increase estimate for 2026 is \$2,182,928 or 4.24% above the proposed revenue increase for Test Year 2025. The estimated revenue increase for 2027 is \$2,139,448, or 3.96% above the estimated revenue requirement for 2026.

¹ Liberty Park Water’s subsidiary – Liberty Utilities (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp. (“Liberty Apple Valley”) – is concurrently filing its GRC. Liberty Park Water and Liberty Apple Valley shall move to consolidate the two GRC proceedings to achieve efficiencies and avoid any inconsistent resolutions of similar issues in the two proceedings.

Liberty Park Water estimates that the requested increase will produce a rate of return on equity of 9.35% and a return on Liberty Park Water's estimated rate base for Test Year 2025 of 7.35%. The requested return on equity and return on rate base is based on the cost of capital adopted by the Commission for Liberty Park Water in the most recent Cost of Capital decision (D.18-12-002). The requested rate increase is necessary because Liberty Park Water's present rates do not produce sufficient revenue to yield to Liberty Park Water a fair, just, and reasonable return on capital invested and to be invested in plant, property, and other equipment devoted to providing utility service.

Pursuant to the RCP (Appendix A, p. A-22), the following table compares the proposed test year data (Test Year 2025) to the last adopted test year (Test Year 2022) and the last recorded year (2022) data.

Comparison Between Proposed Test Year and Last Test Year Adopted and Last Recorded Year			
	Last Test Year	Last Recorded Year	Proposed Test Year
Total Rev Req \$	40,319,100	36,268,800	49,446,430
Rate Base \$	127,467,400	132,163,100	164,266,834
Rate Base %	28.87%	24.29%	
Operating Expenses \$	30,952,300	27,388,500	37,718,661
Operating Expenses %	21.86%	37.72%	
Rate of Return	7.35%	6.72%	7.35%

D. Results of Operation

The Application exhibits consist of the following:

- Financial Statements as of September 30, 2023 (Exhibit A);
- Liberty Park Water – Revenue Requirements Report (Exhibit B);
- Liberty Park Water – General Office Report (Exhibit C);
- Urban Water Management Plan Liberty Park Water (Exhibit D);
- Qualifications and Prepared Testimony (Exhibit E);

- Liberty Park Water – Response to Minimum Data Requirements (Exhibit F);
- Amended Articles of Incorporation (Exhibit G);
- Testimony of Timothy S. Lyons (Exhibit H);
- Testimony of Keith Switzer (Exhibit I);
- Testimony of Talha Shikh (Exhibit J);
- Affordability Metrics (Exhibit K); and
- Comparison Exhibit (Exhibit L)

The above-referenced exhibits and the workpapers for this Application detail Liberty Park Water's overall results of operations and contain explanations of significant changes from the last adopted and recorded plant amounts and capital related costs, as well as an explanation of significant changes in circumstances or assumptions affecting the expenses and customer growth. A detailed reconciliation of significant changes between the proposed Test Year 2025 expenses and the last adopted and recorded expenses has not been prepared because Liberty Park Water does not believe that this would provide any useful information. Specifically, the adopted expenses for Test Year 2022 were prepared during calendar year 2020 while the expenses proposed in this Application for Test Year 2025 were prepared during calendar year 2023. Liberty Park Water does not believe that an analysis of expense estimates prepared three years apart for differing test periods is useful. Liberty Park Water likewise does not believe that an analysis of the recorded expenses for year 2022, which is three years removed from the Test Year in this Application, is helpful. The workpapers contain a comparison of the proposed Test Year 2025 expenses and the five-year average of recorded expenses (2018 – 2022), escalated to Test Year 2025.

E. Primary Cost Increases

Liberty Park Water's rates were last reviewed in Application 21-07-004 filed on July 2, 2021, which requested rates for 2022, 2023, and 2024 and resulted in D.23-02-003 (February 2, 2023). The rates for Liberty Park Water also reflect the cost of capital, last reviewed in Application 18-05-006, filed May 1, 2018. That application requested cost of capital in rates for 2019, 2020, and 2021, and resulted in D.18-12-002, dated December 20, 2018. This Application proposes the rates required for Test Year 2025, including the cost of capital adopted by D.18-12-002. The proposed rates are above those presently in effect for the following primary reasons:

- Additional revenues to produce a fair rate of return on capital invested in property dedicated to providing utility service;
- Increased capital-related costs resulting from necessary infrastructure investments;
- Increases in unit costs of production;
- Inflationary increases anticipated during 2024 and the Test Year;
- Increases in payroll expense; and
- Increases in health and liability insurance
- Lower water sales forecast

Detailed discussions of the above are contained in Exhibit B, the Revenue Requirements Report.

F. List of Issues of Controversy

The contested issues decided by the Commission in the previous GRC included employee positions, vacancy adjustments, overtime, home office expenses, allocation factors, incentive pay, and capital related projects (PFOA/PFOS treatment, water rights, mains, and meters). In the previous GRC, the Commission addressed issues relating to customers, water sales, operating revenue, rate design, and rate base. Liberty Park Water has no way of anticipating the positions the Public Advocates Office ("Cal

Advocates”) will take in Liberty Park Water’s proposed Test Year 2025 revenue requirement. It has been Liberty Park Water’s experience that each GRC is unique with respect to the issues raised by Cal Advocates. Liberty Park Water anticipates, however, that Cal Advocates may oppose Liberty Park Water’s proposed capital projects (\$17,954,251 in 2025, \$19,253,376 in 2026, and \$19,092,547) and payroll budget (\$4,362,090 in 2025 and 4,536,604 in 2026). Based on Cal Advocates’ positions in prior GRCs, Liberty Park Water also anticipates that Cal Advocates may take issue with Liberty Park Water’s requested memorandum accounts (\$218,411 over-collection) (*see* Memorandum Accounts below) and balancing accounts (\$1,067,594 over-collection) (*see* Balancing Accounts below).

III. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

A. Basic Information

Testimony describing the basic information required by the RCP is contained in Exhibits B, C, and F.

B. Regulated Plant in Service

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's regulated plant in service is provided in Exhibits B (Chapter VI) and C (Chapter V). The workpapers cover all capital additions and include analysis, evaluation, and overall budget. A comparison of the forecasted capital additions adopted in the last GRC and actual capital additions is contained in the accompanying workpapers. The calculation of the forecasted capital additions is based on the five-year average of recorded plant additions, and the explanation of significant changes from the last adopted and recorded regulated plant in service is contained in the accompanying workpapers.

C. Revenue Requirement: Operations and Maintenance, Administrative and General, General Office

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's revenue requirement related to Operations and Maintenance expense, Administrative and General expense, and General Office expense is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter IV), C (Chapter III), and F, respectively.

D. Revenue Requirement: Water Sales and Production

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's water sales and production is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter III), F, and H.

E. Rate Base

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's rate base is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter VIII), C (Chapter V), and F.

F. Supply and Distribution Infrastructure Status and Planning

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's supply and distribution infrastructure status and planning is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter II), E, and F.

G. Conservation and Efficiency

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's conservation and efficiency measures is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter II) and F.

H. Water Quality

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's water quality is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter X) and F. Liberty Park Water requests a Commission finding that the water service provided meets or exceeds State and Federal drinking water standards and meets the requirements of General Order 103-A.

I. Service Quality

Testimony describing Liberty Park Water's service quality is contained in Exhibit B (Chapter II).

J. Transactions with Corporate Affiliates

Testimony describing Liberty Park Water's transactions with corporate affiliates is contained in Exhibit C (Chapter I).

K. Unregulated Transactions

Liberty Park Water currently has three contracts that are subject to the Commission's Non-Tariffed Products & Services ("NTPS") Rules established in D.10-10-019 (Appendix A, Rule X). One contract is with HomeServe, a provider of service line emergency repairs insurance. The contract is for the use of Liberty Park Water's marks in HomeServe's marketing communications to Liberty Park Water's customers. The second contract is with the City of Bell Gardens where Liberty Park Water maintains and operates the City's water system. The other contract is with Suburban Water Systems

(SWS) where Liberty Park Water provides water service to SWS through an inter-connect as needed. Testimony describing Liberty Park Water's NTPS is provided in Exhibit B (Chapter XII).

L. Real Property Subject to Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 1996

Since the last GRC application, no real property has been determined to be no longer necessary or useful. There is also no real property to report under the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 1996.

M. Rate Design

Liberty Park Water requests Commission authorization to continue its existing conservation rate design program supporting water conservation by our customers. For residential customers, the proposed conservation rate design consists of increasing block rates of three tiers. Liberty Park Water requests changes in the monthly service charges and rate differential. In addition, Liberty Park Water requests special rates for those residential customers who require a larger meter size due to having a fire sprinkler system. Due to the different characteristics of its non-residential customers, Liberty Park Water proposed to retain the single quantity conservation rate for non-residential customers. An increasing block rate design for non-residential classes, which encourages conservation but is not punitive to the business, industrial, and public authority customer classes, requires multiple rate designs applied to subclasses and is not practicable or feasible. Liberty Park Water proposes to continue implementing other measures to promote conservation to non-residential customers.

Liberty Park Water requests approval to increase the reconnection charge.

Liberty Park Water requests approval to increase the temporary metered service fees and deposits.

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water's proposed rate design is contained in Exhibits B (Chapter XII) and H.

N. Low-Income Assistance Program

In D.06-10.036, the Commission authorized Liberty Park Water to establish a low-income ratepayer assistance program, now known as the Customer Assistance Program (“CAP”). Liberty Park Water proposes continuing its existing CAP program. The CAP program authorized for Liberty Park Water consists of a \$10.00 per month service charge discount for qualifying customers who meet the income eligibility requirements established annually by the Commission. Liberty Park Water proposes to increase the current monthly service charge discount to \$12.21. Liberty Park Water also proposes decreasing the existing monthly surcharge of \$7.23 to \$6.63. The surcharge offsets the CAP discounts provided to qualifying customers.

O. Balancing Accounts

1. Water Consumption Plan

Liberty Park Water requests Commission authorization to establish and implement two new balancing accounts: Consumption Revenue Balancing Account (CRBA) and Consumption Cost Balancing Account (CCBA).

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, describing Liberty Park Water’s request for the CRBA and CCBA are contained in Exhibit I.

2. CAP Revenue Reallocation Balancing Account

Liberty Park Water requests that the Commission authorize continuation of the CAP Revenue Reallocation Balancing Account. This account remains necessary to track the difference between the recorded discounts provided by the CAP program and the surcharge collected to fund the CAP program. Liberty Park Water also requests that the Commission review the CAP Revenue Reallocation Balancing Account for approval of the application of the over-collected balance in developing the surcharge rate to fund its CAP program.

3. Consolidated Expense Balancing Account

Liberty Park Water requests that the Commission review its Consolidated Expense Balancing Account for approval to refund the over-collected balance and to authorize continuation of this account.

4. Conservation One-Way Balancing Account

Liberty Park Water requests Commission approval to transfer the over-collected balance recorded in its Conservation Expense One-Way Balancing Account to its Consolidated Expense Balancing Account.

5. Incremental Cost Balancing Account

Liberty Park Water requests Commission review of the balance recorded in the Incremental Cost Balancing Account (ICBA), approval to recover the balance, and authorization to continue using the account.

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, on Liberty Park Water's balancing accounts is provided in Exhibit B (Chapter XI).

P. Memorandum Accounts

1. Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Memorandum Account

Liberty Park Water requests Commission approval to transfer the residual balance recorded in its Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts Memorandum Account to the Consolidated Expense Balancing Account.

2. Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account

Liberty Park Water requests that the Commission review and approve the recovery of the under-collection-balance recorded in the Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account and to authorize continuation of this account.

3. Sativa Revenue Memorandum Account

Liberty Park Water requests Commission approval to refund the balance recorded in the Sativa Revenue Memorandum Account and to terminate the account.

4. Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Memorandum Account Modification

Liberty Park Water requests authorization to modify its existing Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Memorandum Account (PFASMA) to allow for the inclusion of carrying costs at Liberty Park Water's authorized rate of return on all incremental plant investments to address treatment for PFAS, once a maximum contaminant level has been set.

5. Conservation Memorandum Account

Liberty Park Water requests approval for the establishment of a memorandum account to track the incremental costs associated with the compliance of the new conservation regulations proposed by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board).

Testimony, with supporting analysis and documentation, on Liberty Park Water's memorandum accounts is provided in Exhibit B (Chapter XI).

Q. Cost of Capital

Pursuant to D.07-05-062, Liberty Park Water's cost of capital is determined in separate proceedings, not in applications for a general rate increase. Accordingly, Liberty Park Water has not included in this Application testimony regarding its cost of capital. For purposes of determining the revenue requirement, Liberty Park Water has based its capital structure and cost of capital on the most recent Commission Decision for Liberty Park Water's cost of capital, D.18-12-002.² On May 1, 2023, Liberty Park Water filed its latest cost of capital application for the 2024-2027 period (A.23-05-004).³

² In D.18-12-002, the Commission issued Decision on Liberty Park Water's cost of capital applications for 2019-2021.

³ Pursuant to the RCP, Liberty Park Water was scheduled to file its cost of capital application on May 1, 2021 for the 2022-2024 period. By letters of the Executive Director dated March 12, 2020 and May 28, 2020, the Commission granted a one-year delay of the cost of capital filing for those water companies scheduled to file in 2020 and 2021. By letter of the Executive Director dated March 25, 2022, the commission granted an additional one-year delay of the cost of capital filing for those water companies scheduled to file on May 1, 2022 to May 1, 2023 for the 2024-2026 period. Accordingly, Liberty Park Water's authorized cost of capital for 2022-2023 remains as authorized in D.18-12-002.

R. Special Requests

1. Expense Offset Advice Letters

Liberty Park Water anticipates filing purchased water/replenishment offset advice letters after filing this Application but before the Test Year. Liberty Park Water proposes that the Commission recognize any subsequent offsets prior to the issuance of a final decision in this GRC. A final decision in this proceeding should reflect the change in revenue requirement caused by any expense offset advice letters. Offsetable expense price changes are not forecast in a GRC. Liberty Park Water's proposal would minimize any potential customer confusion from repeated customer notices and additional workload for the Commission's staff and Liberty Park Water that would be caused by repeated advice letter filings to implement the expense offset increases.

IV. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

A. Filings

The proposed Application and supporting testimony, and the workpapers, will be concurrently served to Cal Advocates. In addition, the proposed Application and supporting testimony will be provided to the Commission's Legal Division and the Water Division.

B. Proposed Schedule

The proposed Schedule is attached hereto as Appendix A. This timetable corresponds to RCP's multi-district filings schedule.

C. Proposed Notice to Customers

A Proposed Notice to Customers is attached hereto as Appendix B. The proposed notice describes the reasons for the requested increase and estimates the average bill increase for a typical customer by customer class. The proposed notice has been submitted for review to the Commission's Public Advisor office.

D. Inquiries

Inquiries for clarification or additional data should be addressed to:

Manasa Rao
Senior Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Liberty (West Region)
9750 Washburn Road
P. O. Box 7002
Downey, CA 90241-7002
Phone: (562) 923-0711
Email: Manasa.Rao@LibertyUtilities.com

And

Tiffany Thong
Manager, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.
9750 Washburn Road
P. O. Box 7002
Downey, CA 90241-7002
Phone: (562) 923-0711
Email: Tiffany.Thong@LibertyUtilities.com

And an additional copy to

Victor Fu
Prospera Law, LLP
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 480
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Phone: (424) 239-1926
Fax: (424) 239-1862
Email: VFu@prosperalaw.com

V. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE Applicant Liberty Park Water respectfully requests that the Commission grant this GRC Application and render Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law and issue orders consistent with the following:

- a. The revenue requirements and associated rates proposed and requested by Liberty Park Water are fair, just, and reasonable;
- b. Liberty Park Water be granted its Special Requests and approvals related to Balancing and Memorandum Accounts as set forth in the materials accompanying this submission;
- c. Liberty Park Water be authorized to publish, file, and make effective, as of July 1, 2025, the proposed revenue requirement and associated rates requested or such other revenue requirements and associated rates as will result in the additional gross revenues requested in this Application; and
- d. Granting such further, additional, and other relief as may be deemed reasonable, necessary, and proper by the Commission

Dated at Downey, California, January 2, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP.

By: /s/ Manasa Rao
Manasa Rao
Senior Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Liberty (West Region)

Dated: January 2, 2024

VERIFICATION

I, Edward N. Jackson, hereby declare that I am the President of Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp., and that I have read the foregoing Application; and that the information set forth therein concerning Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 2nd day of January 2024, at Downey, California

/s/ Edward N. Jackson

Edward N. Jackson
President
Liberty (California)

Appendix A
Proposed Schedule

APPENDIX A

LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP. Rate Case Processing Plan (RCPP) Timetable Test Year 2025

Formal RCPP Activities:

1. Proposed Application Tendered	-60	November 1, 2023
2. Deficiency Letter Mailed	-30	December 4, 2023 ¹
3. Appeal to Executive Director	-25	December 8, 2023
4. Executive Director Acts	-20	December 13, 2023
5. Application Filed	0	January 2, 2024
6. Pre-Hearing Conference	10-75	January 12, 2024- March 18, 2024 ¹
7. Public Participation Hearing (as needed)	10-190	January 12, 2024- July 10, 2024
8. Update of Applicant's Showing	100	April 11, 2024
9. DRA and Intervenor(s) distribute Reports	204	July 24, 2024
10. Other Parties Serve Testimony	218	August 7, 2024
11. Rebuttal Testimony	264	September 23, 2024 ¹
12. Formal Settlement Negotiations	270-290	September 28, 2024- October 18, 2024
13. Evidentiary hearings (if required)	290-310	October 18, 2024- November 7, 2024
14. Opening Briefs Filed and Served ²	340	December 6, 2024 ¹
15. Motion for Interim Rates	340	December 6, 2024 ¹
16. Mandatory Status Conference	341	December 9, 2024 ¹
17. Reply Briefs Filed and Served (with Comparison Exhibit)	350	December 17, 2024 ²
18. Water Division Technical Conference	370	January 6, 2025
19. Proposed Decision Mailed	460	April 7, 2025 ¹
20. Comments on Proposed Decision	480	April 25, 2025 ¹
21. Reply Comments	485	May 1, 2025
22. Commission Meeting	500	May 16, 2025

¹ Adjusted not to fall on weekend or holiday.

² The detailed and complete joint comparison exhibit showing all parties' final positions shall also be filed at this time.

Appendix B

Notice of Application for a GRC

Si necesita asistencia en español, tenemos representantes de servicio al cliente disponibles para ayudarlo cuando lo solicite, por favor llame al número 1-800-727-5987

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.'s Request to Increase Water Rates
APPLICATION NO. A.24-xx-xxx

Why am I receiving this notice?

On January 2, 2024, Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. (Liberty Park Water) filed its General Rate Case (GRC) Application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The application filing by Liberty Park Water requests to increase rates over a three-year period, covering the years 2025 through 2027. This request to increase rates would be effective beginning July 1, 2025.

Why is Liberty Park Water requesting this rate increase?

The CPUC requires Liberty Park Water to submit a GRC application every three years. Liberty Park Water is requesting authorization to increase revenues by \$9,260,000 (or 22.08%) in 2025, \$2,182,928 (or 4.24%) in 2026, and \$2,139,448 (or 3.96%) in 2027. The total requested increase for all three years combined would be \$13,582,376 (or 30.28%).

The requested increase in this GRC will allow Liberty Park Water to cover its anticipated costs from 2025 through 2027 for improvements to the water supply system, purchased water, property taxes, depreciation expense, other operations expenses, and allocated general office expenses.

How could this affect my monthly water rates?

If the proposed application is approved by the CPUC, the average residential customer with a 5/8 x 3/4" meter using 10 Ccf (1 Ccf = 748 gallons) would see a monthly bill increase of \$21.53 (or 24.15%) from \$89.16 to \$110.69 in 2025, \$4.64 (or 4.19%), from \$110.69 to \$115.33 in 2026, and \$4.51 (or 3.91%), from \$115.33 to \$119.84 in 2027 (excluding any applicable taxes and surcharges).

Monthly Meter Charge Schedule

	2024 (Current)	2025 (Proposed)	2025 (Decrease)	2026 (Proposed)	Increase	2027 (Proposed)	Increase
5/8	\$39.05	\$34.39	(11.93%)	\$35.90	4.39%	\$37.38	4.12%
3/4	\$58.58	\$51.59	(11.93%)	\$53.85	4.39%	\$56.07	4.12%
1	\$97.63	\$85.98	(11.93%)	\$89.75	4.39%	\$93.45	4.12%
1 1/2	\$195.25	\$171.95	(11.93%)	\$179.50	4.39%	\$186.90	4.12%
2	\$312.40	\$275.12	(11.93%)	\$287.20	4.39%	\$299.04	4.12%
3	\$585.75	\$515.85	(11.93%)	\$538.50	4.39%	\$560.70	4.12%
4	\$976.25	\$859.75	(11.93%)	\$897.50	4.39%	\$934.50	4.12%
6	\$1,952.50	\$1,719.50	(11.93%)	\$1,795.00	4.39%	\$1,869.00	4.12%
8	\$3,124.00	\$2,751.20	(11.93%)	\$2,872.00	4.39%	\$2,990.40	4.12%
10	\$4,490.75	\$3,954.85	(11.93%)	\$4,128.50	4.39%	\$4,298.70	4.12%
12	\$6,443.25	\$5,674.35	(11.93%)	\$5,923.50	4.39%	\$6,167.70	4.12%

Commodity Rates Schedule

Residential Customers		Rates Proposed in Application					
Usage	Current Rates	2025 Rates	Increase	2026 Rates	Increase	2027 Rates	Increase
0 to 6 Ccf	\$4.421	\$6.278	42.00%	\$6.535	4.10%	\$6.785	3.82%
7 to 18 Ccf	\$5.895	\$9.658	63.83%	\$10.054	4.10%	\$10.438	3.82%
Over 18 Ccf	\$9.963	\$15.453	55.10%	\$16.086	4.10%	\$16.701	3.82%
Other Customers: (Business, Industrial, Public Authority)	\$5.895	\$9.658	63.83%	\$10.054	4.10%	\$10.438	3.82%
Reclaimed	\$4.555	\$8.198	79.97%	\$8.594	4.83%	\$8.978	4.47%

How does the rest of this process work?

This application will be assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt Liberty Park Water's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding may review Liberty Park Water's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information regarding the Public Advocates Office, please call 1-415-703-1584, email PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov, or visit PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov.

Where can I get more information?

Contact Liberty Park Water

Phone: (800) 727-5987
Email: CustomerServicePark@libertyutilities.com
Mail: Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.
Attention: Regulatory Department
9750 Washburn Road, Downey, CA 90241

A copy of the Application and any related documents may also be reviewed at www.libertyutilities.com.

Contact CPUC

Please visit apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A24xxxxx to submit a comment about this proceeding on the CPUC Docket Card. Here you can also view documents and other public comments related to this proceeding.

If you have questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at:

Phone: 1-866-849-8390
Email: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov
Mail: CPUC Public Advisor's Office
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Please reference **Application 24-xx-xxx** in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.