



# SURCHARGE & SURCREDIT GUIDE

## Advice Letter 217-W\*

**Description:** The California Public Utilities Commission has authorized Liberty Utilities to implement a temporary surcharge to recover the balance remaining in the Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (WRAM) and Modified Cost Balancing Account's (MCBA) as of Dec. 31, 2015.

**Bill Impact:** The bi-monthly bill of a typical residential customer with a 5/8 x3/4" meter, using 14,960 gallons (20 Ccf) of water during the two-month billing cycle would increase by 17 cents per 748 gallons (1 Ccf) or approximately one cent for every 44 gallons.

**Expires:** May 2, 2017

## Advice Letter 216-W-A\*

**Description:** The California Public Utilities Commission has authorized Liberty Utilities to implement a temporary surcharge to recover the balance between what customers paid under interim rates during the period of January 2015 to November 2015 and what customers would have paid had the Commission have approved the final rates starting on January 1, 2015.

**Bill Impact:** The bi-monthly bill of a typical residential customer with a 5/8 x 3/4" meter using 14,960 gallons (20 CCF) during the two-month billing cycle would increase by 43 cents per 748 gallons (1 CCF) or approximately one cent for every 17.4 gallons.

**Expires:** Dec. 25, 2017

*\*Please refer to the glossary for additional information*



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## Glossary

**CARW:** The California Alternative Rates for Water Program (CARW) offers a monthly discount to eligible low-income customers. As part of the program, the CPUC authorizes Liberty Utilities to track and recover the difference between recorded discounts provided to qualifying low-income customers and the recorded surcharges used to fund the program. Special conditions apply, for more information click [here](#).

**CPUC:** The California Public Utilities Commission regulates privately owned electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, railroad, rail transit, and passenger transportation companies. The CPUC serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring the provision of safe, reliable utility service and infrastructure at just and reasonable rates, with a commitment to environmental enhancement and a healthy California economy.

**Modified Cost Balancing Account (MCBA):** The MCBA is an annual adjustment mechanism to ensure customers only pay the actual supply costs. The purpose of the MCBA is to track the difference between the CPUC approved variable supply costs and actual supply costs, such as purchased power, replenishment (MWA fees), leased water rights, and chemicals. In instances where customers use less water, resulting in lower supply costs, the MCBA passes the savings to the customers. In instances where customers use more water, resulting in higher supply costs, the MCBA would pass the additional costs to the customers.

**Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (WRAM):** The WRAM is an annual adjustment mechanism to ensure customers only pay CPUC-approved revenue levels (the actual cost of providing water service). The purpose of the WRAM is to track the difference between the CPUC approved operational costs and actuals costs of providing water service, such as maintaining and improving the water system. In instances where Liberty Utilities receives more than the approved cost of providing water service from customers, customers receive a credit. In instances where Liberty Utilities does not recover the full cost of providing water service, customers receive a temporary charge.