

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 11, 2021

Edward N. Jackson
Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.
9750 Washburn Road
Downey, CA 90241

Dear Mr. Jackson,

The Commission has approved Liberty Utilities' (Park Water) Advice Letter No. 313, filed on March 31, 2021, regarding authorization to implement an 18-month temporary surcharge to recover the undercollection recorded in its 2020 WRAM and MCBA.

Enclosed are copies of the following revised tariff sheets, effective July 1, 2021, for the utility's files:

P.U.C.	
Sheet No.	Title of Sheet
1515-W	Schedule No. PR-1-R, Page 2
1516-W	Schedule No. PR-1-NR, Page 2
1517-W	Table of Contents, Page 1

Please contact Carmen Rocha at MDC@cpuc.ca.gov or 415-703-2162, if you have any questions.

Thank you,

/s/ROBIN BRYANT

Robin Bryant
Water Division

Enclosures

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

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.

Date Mailed to Service List: March 31, 2021

District: N/A

CPUC Utility #: U 314-W

Protest Deadline (20th Day): April 20, 2021

Advice Letter #: 313-W

Review Deadline (30th Day): April 30, 2021

Tier 1 2 3 Compliance

Requested Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Authorization D.12-04-048

Rate Impact: \$768,451

2.20%

Description: Liberty Park Water requests authorization to implement an 18-month temporary surcharge to recover the under-collection recorded in its 2020 WRAM and MCBA.

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: Edward N. Jackson

Utility Contact: AnnMarie Lett

Phone: 562.923.0711

Phone: 562.923.0711

Email: Edward.Jackson@LibertyUtilities.com

Email: AnnMarie.Lett@libertyutilities.com

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

DATE

STAFF

COMMENTS

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____



Liberty Utilities (Liberty Park Water) Corp.
9750 Washburn Road
Downey, CA 92308-6533
Tel: 562-923-0711
Fax: 562-861-5902

Advice Letter No. 313-W

March 31, 2021

TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. (U 314 W) (“Liberty Park Water”) hereby transmits the following revised tariff sheets applicable to water service in its service territory:

CPUC Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Canceling Sheet No.
1515-W	Schedule No. PR-1-R, Page 2	1510-W
1516-W	Schedule No. PR-1-NR, Page 2	1511-W
1517-W	Table of Contents, Page 1	1514-W

Summary

This advice letter filing requests authorization to implement a temporary surcharge to the water rates in Liberty Park Water’s Service Area. Liberty Park Water is seeking a temporary surcharge of \$0.128 per Ccf for domestic metered customers for an 18-month period. The surcharge is designed to recover the combined under-collection recorded in the 2020 Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (“WRAM”) and the Modified Production Cost Balancing Account (“MCBA”). This request is made pursuant to the Commission’s direction in Decision 08-02-036, dated February 28, 2008 and Decision 12-04-048, dated April 19, 2012.

Background and Discussion

Test Year 2019 General Rate Case Proceeding

On January 2, 2018, Liberty Park Water filed a Test Year 2019 GRC application (A.18-01-003) with an effective date of July 1, 2019. Liberty (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp. (“Liberty Apple Valley”) similarly filed a GRC application (A.18-01-002). On February 13, 2018, Liberty Park Water and Liberty Apple Valley filed a motion to consolidate these proceedings. On March 16, 2018, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) issued a ruling granting the motion to consolidate the proceedings. On June 13, 2018, the assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo and Ruling that authorized a 20-month deadline of September 2, 2019 to resolve these consolidated proceeding. Public participation hearings were held on October 28, 2018. Evidentiary hearings were held during the week of November 5, 2018. Liberty Park Water filed its opening and reply briefs on December 12, 2018 and January 11, 2019 respectively. Liberty Park Water and the Public Advocates Office (previously known as the Office of Ratepayer Advocates) filed the Joint Comparison Exhibit on January 25, 2019. On March 19, 2019, the ALJ granted interim rate relief and the establishment of a memorandum account to track the difference between interim rates and the final approved rates. On August 15, 2019, the Commission issued D.19-08-036 extending the statutory deadline from September 2, 2019 to March 2, 2020. On February 27, 2020, the Commission issued D. 20-02-067 extending the

statutory deadline from March 2, 2020 to September 2, 2020. On August 27, 2020, the Commission issued D.20-08-049 extending the statutory deadline from September 2, 2020 to October 10, 2020. On September 24, 2020, the Commission issued D.20-09-019 authorizing the 2019 revenue requirements for Liberty Park Water and Liberty Apple Valley.

On February 1, 2021, Liberty Park Water filed Advice Letter 310-W requesting amortization of the under-collection recorded in the Interim Rates Memorandum Account. The advice letter was approved on March 15, 2021 with an effective date of March 4, 2021.

WRAM and MCBA

In D.08-02-036 the Commission adopted the Settlement Agreement between Park and the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (“DRA”) on WRAM and Conservation Rate Design Issues dated June 15, 2007. D.08-02-036 adopted a Trial Program for Liberty Park Water consisting of a conservation rate design and related mechanisms for decoupling sales and revenue (WRAM and MCBA). The Trial Program was implemented on September 15, 2008 with Commission approval of Park Advice Letter No. 200-W. In D.12-04-048 the Commission modified D.08-02-026 by authorizing an 18-month amortization schedule for the net balance recorded in the WRAM and MCBA.

The purpose of the WRAM is to track the difference between adopted and actual commodity rate revenue excluding revenue for fire service, reclaimed water, and miscellaneous fees. The purpose of the MCBA is to track the difference between adopted and actual costs for the following variable costs: purchased water, purchased power, pump tax, and chemicals. The MCBA captures variations in production costs due to either changes in unit price or changes in consumption.

The combined balance recorded in the WRAM and MCBA for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 including interest through February 28, 2021, is an under-collection of \$768,451.

Liberty Park Water filed an information-only report with Water Division for the amounts recorded in the WRAM and MCBA during calendar year 2020 on November 30, 2020 detailing the WRAM and MCBA data for nine months, ending September 30, 2020. As compared to the information-only report, this filing includes an updated twelve months of WRAM and MCBA data, ending December 31, 2020, reflecting an adjustment of the Interim Rates Memorandum Account authorized in Liberty Park Water’s GRC (D.20-09-019, issued October 2, 2020), with a total net under-collected balance of \$768,336. The purpose of this adjustment is to ensure that revenues tracked in the Interim Rates Memorandum Account are excluded from the WRAM. With interest through February 28, 2021, the under-collection is \$768,451.

Liberty Park Water is therefore requesting recovery of \$768,451 or 2.2% of its adopted 2020 revenue requirement. Liberty Park Water proposes to recover the under-collection recorded in the WRAM and MCBA through an 18-month surcharge of \$0.128 per Ccf applicable to domestic service for schedules PR-1-R, residential metered service and PR-1-NR, non-residential metered service.

The Commission Staff has been provided with workpapers developing the balances in the WRAM and MCBA. The calculation of the surcharges is included in the workpapers.

Tier Designation

Pursuant to D.07-01-024, this advice letter is submitted with a Tier 1 designation.

Requested Effective Date

Pursuant to General Rule 7.3.2 of General Order 96-B, Liberty Park Water requests this filing become effective on July 1, 2021.

Notice and Service

In accordance with General Order 96-B, General Rules 4.3 and 7.2 and Water Industry Rule 4.1, a copy of this advice letter will be mailed or electronically transmitted on March 31, 2021 to competing and adjacent utilities and other utilities or interested parties having requested such notification.

In accordance with Resolution W-4664, notice is not required. Liberty Park Water will include notice of the rate change within the bill during the first billing period the increase is in effect.

Response or Protest

Anyone may respond to or protest this advice letter. When submitting a response or protest, please include the utility name and advice letter number in the subject line. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the Commission in evaluating the advice letter. A protest objects to the advice letter 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 advice letter;
- (2) The relief requested in the advice letter 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 advice letter contain material error or omissions;
- (4) The relief requested in the advice letter is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding; or
- (5) The relief requested in the advice letter requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the advice letter process; or
- (6) The relief requested in the advice letter is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided that such a protest may not be made where it would require re-litigating a prior order of the Commission).

A protest shall provide citations or proofs where available to allow staff to properly consider the protest.

A response or protest must be made in writing or by electronic mail and must be received by the Division of Water and Audits within 20 days of the date this advice letter is filed. The address for mailing or delivering a protest is:

Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd floor
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
water.division@cpuc.ca.gov

On the same date, the response or protest is submitted to the Water Division, the respondent or protestant shall send a copy by mail (or e-mail) to us, addressed to:

Edward N. Jackson
Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Liberty Utilities (West Region)
9750 Washburn Road
P. O. Box 7002
Downey, CA 90241
Phone: (562) 923-0711
Fax: (562) 861-5902
E-Mail: AdviceLetterService@libertyutilities.com

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform the Division of Water and Audits 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.

If you have not received a reply to your protest within 10 business days, contact Edward Jackson at (562) 923-0711.

Very truly yours,

LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP.

/s/ Edward N. Jackson

EDWARD N. JACKSON
Director, Rates and Regulatory Affairs

ENJ/al
Attachments

LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP.
9750 WASHBURN ROAD
P. O. BOX 7002
DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90241-7002

REVISED Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1515-W
Canceling REVISED Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1510-W

SCHEDULE NO. PR-1-R

RESIDENTIAL METERED SERVICE

- 5. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$ 0.543 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 18 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 289-W. This surcharge will recover the under-collection in the WRAM and MCBA as of December 31, 2018. (L)
- 6. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$0.120 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 12 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 309-W. This surcharge will recover the under collection in the Consolidated Expense Balancing Account as of December 31, 2020.
- 7. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$2.63 surcredit per customer is to be added to the Customer's bill for a period of 12 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 309-W. This surcredit will refund the over collection in the Conservation Expense One-Way Balancing Account and the Tangible Property Regulations Consequences Memorandum as of December 31, 2018.
- 8. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$5.46 surcredit per customer is to be added to the Customer's bill for a period of 12 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 309-W. This surcredit will refund the over collection in the Pension Expense Balancing Account as of December 31, 2017.
- 9. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$0.126 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 16 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 310-W. This surcharge will recover the under collection in the Interim Rates Memorandum Account as of November 19, 2020. (L)
- 10. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$0.128 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 18 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 313-W. This surcharge will recover the under-collection in the WRAM and MCBA as of December 31, 2020. (N)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued By

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

Advice No. 313-W CHRISTOPHER G. ALARIO
Name

Date Filed 03/31/2021

Dec. No. D.12-04-048 PRESIDENT
Title

Effective 07/01/2021

Resolution No. _____

LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP.
9750 WASHBURN ROAD
P. O. BOX 7002
DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90241-7002

REVISED Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1516-W
Canceling REVISED Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1511-W

Page 2

SCHEDULE NO. PR-1-NR

NON-RESIDENTIAL METERED SERVICE

- 5. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$ 0.543 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 18 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 289-W. This surcharge will recover the under-collection in the WRAM and MCBA as of December 31, 2018. (L)
- 6. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$0.120 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 12 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 309-W. This surcharge will recover the under collection in the Consolidated Expense Balancing Account as of December 31, 2020.
- 7. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$2.63 surcredit per customer is to be added to the Customer's bill for a period of 12 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 309-W. This surcredit will refund the over collection in the Conservation Expense One-Way Balancing Account and the Tangible Property Regulations Consequences Memorandum as of December 31, 2018.
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- 10. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission, an amount of \$0.128 per Ccf is to be added to the quantity rate for a period of 18 months, beginning on the effective date of Advice Letter 313-W. This surcharge will recover the under-collection in the WRAM and MCBA as of December 31, 2020. (N)
(N)

(To be inserted by utility)	Issued By	(To be inserted by Cal. P.U.C.)
Advice No. <u>313-W</u>	<u>CHRISTOPHER G. ALARIO</u> Name	Date Filed <u>03/31/2021</u>
Dec. No. <u>D.12-04-048</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u> Title	Effective <u>07/01/2021</u>
		Resolution No. _____

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>C.P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>	
Title Page	1407-W	
Table of Contents	1517-W, 1497-W	(T)
Preliminary Statement.....	1408-W, 1274-W, 1316-W, 1275-W, 1276-W, 1421-W, 1029-W, 1071-W, 1504-W, 1505-W, 1297-W, 1506-W, 1507-W, 1508-W, 1309-W, 1336-W, 1415-W, 1424-W, 1464-W, 1476-W, 1477-W	
Service Area Map Los Angeles County	914-W, 499-W, 1498-W, 1410-W	

Rate Schedules:

Schedule No. PR-1-R	Residential Metered Service	1479-W, 1515-W	(T)
Schedule No. ME-1-R	General Metered Service	1430-W	
Schedule No. PR-1-NR	Nonresidential Metered Service.....	1480-W, 1516-W	(T)
Schedule No. PR-4F	Non-Metered Fire Sprinkler Service.....	1481-W, 1512-W	
Schedule No. PR-5	Fire Flow Testing Charge	1155-W	
Schedule No. PR-6	Reclaimed Water Service.....	1482-W, 1513-W	
Schedule No. PR-9CM	Construction & Other Temporary Meter Service.....	1158-W	
Schedule No. 14.1	Water Shortage Contingency Plan.....	1233-W through 1238-W	
Schedule No. LC	Late Payment Charge.....	1459-W	
Schedule No. UF	Surcharge to Fund PUC Reimbursement Fee	1462-W	
Schedule No. CARW	California Alternative Rates for Water	1484-W	
Schedule No. CARW-SC	California Alternative Rates for Water Surcharge.....	1485-W	

LIST OF CONTRACTS AND DEVIATIONS: 723-W

Rules:

No. 1	Definitions	1432-W, 1433-W
No. 2	Description of Service.....	400-W
No. 3	Application for Service	345-W, 916-W
No. 4	Contracts	346-W
No. 5	Special Information Required on Forms	1453-W, 1454-W, 1434-W, 1435-W
No. 6	Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	347-W
No. 7	Deposits.....	1014-W, 1161-W
No. 8	Notices	1436-W through 1439-W
No. 9	Rendering and Payment of Bills	1097-W through 1099-W, 1467-W
No. 10	Disputed Bills.....	1440-W, 1441-W
No. 11	Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	1460-W, 1443-W through 1452-W
No. 12	Information Available to Public.....	353-W, 354-W
No. 13	Temporary Service	355-W, 356-W

(Continued)

LIBERTY UTILITIES (PARK WATER) CORP.
ADVICE LETTER 313-W
SERVICE LIST

City of Artesia
18747 Clarkdale Avenue
Artesia, CA 90701

City of Santa Fe Springs Water Dept.
11710 Telegraph Road
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Suburban Water Systems
Attention: Kiki Carlson
1325 N. Grand Avenue, Suite 100
Covina, CA 91724-4044
kcarlson@swwc.com

Suburban Water Systems
Attention: Robert Kelly
1325 N. Grand Avenue, Suite 100
Covina, CA 91724-4044

City of Cerritos Water Department
18125 Bloomfield Avenue
Cerritos, CA 90703

Bellflower Somerset Mutual Water Co.
10016 E. Flower St.
P. O. Box 1697 (90707)
Bellflower, CA 90706

City of Norwalk Water Department
12700 S. Norwalk Boulevard
Norwalk, CA 90650

City of Compton Water Department
205 W. Willowbrook
Compton, CA 90220

Golden State Water Company
Ronald Moore, Regulatory Affairs
630 E. Foothill Blvd
San Dimas, CA 91773

City of Lynwood Water Department
Attention: Joseph Kekula
11330 Bullis Road
Lynwood, CA 90262

City of Paramount Water Department
16400 Colorado Avenue
Paramount, CA 90723

City of Bell Gardens
Attention: Steve Steinbrecher
7100 Garfield Avenue
Bell Gardens, CA 90201

Dominguez/California Water Service
2632 W. 237th Street
Torrance, CA 90505-5272

Calif. Public Utilities Commission
Attention: Ting-Pong Yuen
ORA Water
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

California Water Service Company
Attention: Daniel Armendariz
East Los Angeles District
2000 S. Tubeway Avenue
Commerce, CA 90040

Central Basin Municipal Water District
6252 Telegraph Road
Commerce, CA 90040

City of Bellflower
Attention: Jeff Stewart, City Manager
16600 Civic Center Drive
Bellflower, CA 90706

San Gabriel Valley Water Company
Christina Sluss, Rate Analyst
csluss@sgvwater.com

Nina Jazmadarian
General Manager
Foothill Municipal Water District
4536 Hampton Road
La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011

City of LaCanada Flintridge
Mark Alexander
City Manager
malexander@lcf.ca.gov