



California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact: Terrie Prosper, 415.703.1366, news@cpuc.ca.gov

CPUC TO REVIEW CONSISTENCY OF WATER LOW INCOME PROGRAMS

SAN FRANCISCO, June 29, 2017 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today said it will review low income rate assistance programs of large water utilities to help ensure consistency across all the companies. In addition, the CPUC will investigate assistance to low income customers of smaller water utilities, sales forecasting, water affordability, and whether other public revenue sources can be generated to contribute to affordability.

In its Water Action Plan, the CPUC committed to applying regulatory best practices from the energy utilities to the water utilities. These best practices include assisting low income consumers struggling with payments for basic monthly water service.

Currently, there are nine large (Class A) water utilities under the CPUC's jurisdiction, each with its own low income assistance program. The CPUC will explore the feasibility of achieving a consistent low income rate assistance program for all Class A water utilities. Currently there are no rate assistance programs for low income customers of smaller water companies (Class B, C, and D).

The CPUC will consider which water companies qualify as a "water corporation" that owns controls, operates, or manages a "water system"; performs a service, or delivers a commodity to, the public; and dedicates its water supply or water system to public use. In addition, the CPUC intends to consider whether these additional water companies should support low income water programs.

Once the proceeding number is assigned, interested parties can subscribe to proceeding documents at <http://subscribecpuc.cpuc.ca.gov>.



The proposal voted on is available at

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M191/K483/191483898.pdf>.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

###

