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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (U346W) for Authority to Increase Rates Charged for Water Service by $3,896,586 or 20.0% in 2012, $547,241 or 2.35% in 2013, and $786,254 or 3.32% in 2014.	Application 11-01-001 (Filed January 3, 2011)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING GRANTING MOTION FOR PARTY STATUS

On March 7, 2011, Apple Valley Unified School District (AVUSD) moved to become a party in this proceeding in order to protest the proposed rate increases of Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (AVR). AVUSD acknowledges that the deadline to protest the rate increase has passed,[1] but nevertheless requests party status. AVUSD states that it does not request any changes in the proceeding schedule and that AVUSD is one of the largest customers of AVR. AVUSD further states that it seeks to represent its interests in this proceeding.

[1] Rule 2.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure provides that protests must be filed within 30 days of the date the notice of the filing of the application first appears in the Commission's Daily Calendar. As this application was filed on January 3, 2011, the 30-day protest period has passed.

As AVUSD has significant interests in this proceeding and as granting its motion for party status will not prejudice any other party, its motion for party status is granted.

In its March 7, 2011 motion AVUSD indicates that it wishes to reserve the right for intervenor compensation under the Commission's Intervenor Compensation Program. However, AVUSD is advised that Pub. Util. Code Section 1802(b)(C)(2) prohibits state, federal or local government agencies from qualifying as customers for the purposes of intervenor compensation. Therefore, AVUSD would be unable to qualify for intervenor compensation.

IT IS RULED that:

1. Apple Valley Unified School District's motion for party status is granted.
2. Apple Valley Unified School District shall abide by the schedule previously set.

Dated March 9, 2011, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ BRUCE DeBERRY
Bruce DeBerry
Administrative Law Judge