



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

In the Matter of the Application of  
CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE  
COMPANY (U-60-W), for Authority to  
Establish its Authorized Cost of Capital for  
the period from January 1, 2018 through  
December 31, 2020.

Application 17-04-006  
Filed April 3, 2017

**PROTEST OF THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD**

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Date: April 27, 2017

**PROTEST OF THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD  
TO CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY'S APPLICATION  
FOR AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH ITS COST OF CAPITAL**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Pursuant to Rule 2.6 of the California Public Utilities Commission's ("CPUC") Rules of Practice and Procedure, the City of Bakersfield ("Bakersfield") files this Protest to the Application of the California Water Service Company ("Applicant" or "Cal Water") for Authority to Establish its Authorized Cost of Capital for the period from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020 ("Application").

The Application first appeared on the CPUC's Daily Calendar on April 6, 2017. This Protest is therefore timely filed, within 30 days.

Through this Protest, Bakersfield respectfully requests that the CPUC deny and reject the Application.

**II. ISSUES IN DISPUTE**

Cal Water provides water service to more than 170,000 residential and commercial customers in Bakersfield. Bakersfield is a charter city, and represents the interests of all residents and businesses located within the City's boundaries.

Bakersfield challenges the sufficiency and adequacy of the Application and supporting materials and disputes Cal Water's request to increase rates in Bakersfield through the Application. Bakersfield further contends that Cal Water's requested rate increase is inequitable, unreasonable, unjustified and burdensome on customers of Cal Water within Bakersfield in addition to and on top of other recent charges and rate increases

The CPUC has already authorized Cal Water to increase its rates for Bakersfield customers through Cal Water's General Rate Case (A. 15-07-015), Advice Letters (see e.g. Advice Letter No. 2226), and drought related surcharges and expenses. Any further rate increases are not reasonable or justified, and the CPUC should reject Cal Water's latest request to once again increase rates for Bakersfield customers.

Bakersfield reserves the right to submit information, including testimony and evidence, regarding the effect of the proposed rate increases on residents and businesses within the City's boundaries, and related factual and legal issues reasonably pertinent to the Applicant's request to

increase rates for Bakersfield residents, and other issues presented in this proceeding. Bakersfield further reserves the right to address additional issues in this proceeding, including issues which later arise in this proceeding.

### **III. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

#### **A. Proceeding Categorization**

Bakersfield agrees with Cal Water's categorization of this proceeding as "ratesetting."

#### **B. Need for Hearings**

Bakersfield agrees that the Application will require evidentiary hearings.

#### **C. Proposed Schedule**

Bakersfield does not in general oppose Cal Water's proposed schedule, but Bakersfield believes the CPUC should conduct a Prehearing Conference in May, instead of April, 2017, and Bakersfield further maintains that the proposed dates should all be continued for at least 30 days.

### **IV. SERVICE AND COMMUNICATION**

Service of any documents, communications, and correspondence in this proceeding should be directed to the following:

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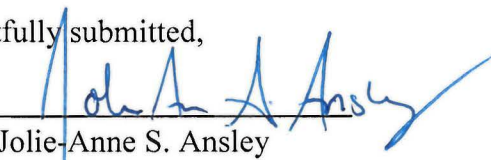
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Bakersfield consents to e-mail service of documents in this proceeding.

April 27, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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