

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of SAN JOSE WATER COMPANY (U168W) for an Order authorizing it to increase rates charged for water service by \$51,585,000 or 13.35% in 2022, by \$16,932,000 or 3.88% in 2023, and by \$19,195,000 or 4.24% in 2024.

Application 21-01-003

E-MAIL RULING SETTING LIVE STREAM AND TELEPHONIC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS

Dated April 7, 2021, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ DAPHNE LEE

Daphne Lee

Administrative Law Judge

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Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 11:03 AM

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Subject: A.21-01-003 Email Ruling Setting Live Stream and Telephonic PPH

Attention All Parties to the Service List of A.21-01-003:

This email ruling sets the remote public participation hearings (PPHs) in San Jose Water Company (SJWC) General Rate Case Application (GRC Application), Application (A.) 21-01-003, using live streaming and telephonic services, and directs SJWC to provide customer notice of the remote PPHs.

PPHs provide an opportunity for customers of SJWC to communicate directly with the Commission, SJWC, and others regarding the SJWC GRC Application. PPHs are official Commission proceedings at which members of the public can make comments on a utility's Application. An Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) presides over the hearing and the comments are recorded by a court reporter. The transcript from the PPH is part of the record of the proceeding.

Availability of Documents for Public Inspection

The Application including Exhibits A through D is available on the Commission's website at the following link:

https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=ALL&DocID=359001507

Members of the public wishing to review the full application, including the remaining exhibits, should contact John Tang, VP of Government Relations at SJWC at (john.tang@sjwater.com) or (4082797933).

Major Increase Expenditure:

SJWC's proposed major increase expenditure for years 2022-2024:

| Capital Budget for infrastructure replacements | \$117,300,000 3-year capex | |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| | budget increase | |
| Outside Services in the areas of information | \$5,195,000 | |
| governance, IT, data and customer privacy | | |
| Pension and Benefit Costs for addition of staff for | \$2,726,000 | |
| compliance with cybersecurity, data privacy, and | | |
| operation needs and regulations | | |
| 29 new positions to comply with regulations and | \$1,891,000 | |
| cybersecurity, data privacy, health and safety, and | | |
| water quality | | |

PPH DATE AND TIME

Details regarding how to participate in these remote PPHs are described below. Written public comments may also be provided at any time during the proceeding using the "Add Public Comment" button on the "Public Comment" tab of the Docket Card for A. 21-01-003.

Public Participation Hearing Details

| Date | Time | Call-In Information |
|--------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| May 13, 2021 | 1:30 PM | Phone Number: 800-857-1917 |
| | | Passcode for English: 7218384 |
| May 13, 2021 | 6:00 PM | Passcode for Spanish: 8147204 |
| | | Webcast: |
| | | http://www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/ |
| | | |

Instructions to Participate

- Participants may observe the PPH via the webcast information provided above.
- To provide public comment, participants should use the toll-free telephone number and participant code noted above.
- When it is time for public comment, the ALJ will make an announcement through the telephone line for those who wish to speak.
- Participants who wish to speak must then press "star one" (*1) to alert the operator, who will then put the speakers into a queue, and who will then announce each speaker's name one at a time.
- When it is your opportunity to speak, identify yourself and spell your first and last name slowly. If you are a public official, please advise the operator of your position.
- A Spanish language interpreter will be available for those who wish to listen to the hearing or provide comment in Spanish. If you need an interpreter in a language besides Spanish, please contact the Public Advisor's Office at least five (5) business days before the PPH, at 866-849-8390 or 866-836-7825 (TTY), or send an e-mail to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.

Instructions When Speaking:

- The court reporters will be relying on the audio from the telephone line to transcribe the PPH. To ensure a complete and accurate record, participants should comply with the following instructions:
 - Speakers must identify themselves and spell the first and last name slowly before speaking;

- Speakers must speak slowly, clearly, and pause between statements during the course of the PPH; and,
- When speaking in a language using the assistance of an interpreter, please pause after each statement to allow the interpreter the opportunity to interpret each statement into English.
- As this is a remote PPH reliant on technology to relay statements in verbatim format by those in attendance to the court reporter, (1) the reporter will be interrupting the speakers when possible to do so without disrupting the proceeding, when there is/are inaudible statement(s) or portions thereof, and (2) the reporter will be inserting the word "inaudible" in the transcript when there is dropped, garbled, or otherwise indecipherable audio.

Direct Mailing Notice

SJWC shall prepare a direct mail notice informing its customers of these PPHs and provide a draft of the notice to the Commission's Public Advisor's Office. The draft notice shall inform SJWC's customers about the upcoming remote PPHs, including the purpose of the PPHs, a summary of the relief that SJWC is requesting in this Application, as well as the date, time, and how to participate in the streaming and telephonic services for the remote PPHs. The Public Advisor's Office may alter or require changes to the direct mail notice. After the Public Advisor's Office approves the language in the direct mail notice, SJWC shall mail the notice to all its customers. To the extent that any customers are billed electronically via the Internet, notice to those customers may be given electronically. Where customer email addresses are available, SJWC shall also provide the notice through direct email communication.

Public Notice

Pursuant to Rule 13.1(c) of the California Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, SJWC shall also cause the approved notice to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in SJWC's general service area not less than five days before the PPHs.

At a minimum, the approved notice shall be posted in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the: (1) SJWC utility service area; and (2) the South Bay Area. SJWC shall also prominently post a notice of the PPHs on its website and in all of their offices where customers come into contact with a SJWC customer service representative.

SJWC shall provide the Public Advisor's Office, not later than five days prior to the first PPH, a letter verifying that it has complied with the customer notice requirement. The compliance letter shall state the date(s) notices were sent to customers, the method used, and the approximate number of customers notified. One copy of the actual notice shall be attached. The compliance letter shall also provide the dates and locations of publication and posting.

IT IS SO RULED.

THE DOCKET OFFICE SHALL FORMALLY FILE THIS RULING.

Daphne Lee

Administrative Law Judge II
California Public Utilities Commission
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