



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

**FILED**  
08/03/21  
10:50 AM

Application of Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. (U314W) for Authority to Increase Rates Charged for Water Service by \$5,475,273 or 15.10% in 2022, \$1,820,970 or 4.35% in 2023, and \$1,752,224 or 4.00% in 2024.

Application 21-07-004

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE RULING  
ON MOTION FOR REASSIGNMENT ON PEREMPTORY CHALLENGE**

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Article 9, Rules 9.2 - 9.8 specify the exclusive means for a party to a proceeding to request reassignment of that proceeding to another Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). These rules provide for three forms of Motion for Reassignment: peremptory challenge (Rule 9.2), prior service (Rule 9.3), and cause (Rule 9.4). The first two, peremptory challenge and prior service, are only available in proceedings categorized as adjudicatory or ratesetting.

On July 23, 2021, Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. (Liberty Park Water) filed a Motion for Reassignment of the Proceeding Pursuant to Rule 9.2 to another ALJ. As provided in Rule 9.2(d), I am issuing a ruling on that Motion.

A properly supported Motion seeking reassignment on peremptory challenge can only be filed by a party or a person or entity declaring the intention in good faith to become a party to a ratesetting proceeding. A party is entitled to file a motion only once for reassignment of peremptory challenge. Further, no

more than two reassignments per ratesetting proceeding are permitted (Rule 9.2(b)). Finally, any such motion must be filed timely.

**Timely Filed**

The Rules require this motion to be filed no later than 10 days after the date of the notice. In this proceeding, notice of the assignment occurred for purposes of Rule 9.2(c) on July 16, 2021. Since the Motion was filed on July 23, 2021, it was timely filed.

**Available Procedure**

Liberty Park Water is a party to this proceeding. This is the first petition filed in this proceeding so the procedure is available. This proceeding is categorized as “ratesetting.” Reassignment on Peremptory Challenge is a form of motion for reassignment appropriate to the category of this proceeding.

**Properly Supported**

The Rules require that a Motion be supported by a declaration under penalty of perjury (or affidavit by out-of-state person). This Motion is so supported by Joni A. Templeton, Attorney at Law for Liberty Park Water.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that the Motion for Reassignment on Peremptory Challenge, filed by Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. is granted. This proceeding is reassigned to Administrative Law Judge Sophia J. Park.

Dated August 3, 2021, at San Francisco, California.

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/s/ ANNE E. SIMON  
Anne E. Simon  
Chief Administrative Law Judge