



**FILED**  
10/12/21  
03:56 PM

ALJ/MLC/mef 10/12/2021

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

Application of SAN GABRIEL  
VALLEY WATER COMPANY  
(U337W) for an Order Authorizing the  
Purchase of the City of Montebello's  
Water System Assets and related  
Approvals.

Application 20-10-004

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING  
PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF AND  
SETTING SCHEDULE TO RESOLVE THE MERITS**

On October 8, 2021 Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 850 (Gallagher, Stats. 2021, Ch. 705). This bill amended Gov. Code § 37420.5(a) to remove the prior requirement that the water system assets San Gabriel Valley Water Company proposes to acquire from the City of Montebello (Montebello) be wholly within the boundaries of Montebello to qualify for the treatment established by that code section. Montebello's City Council adopted Resolution No. 20-68 on August 26, 2020 that made the requisite findings required under Gov. Code § 37420.5, as modified by AB 850.

Given this change of law I intend to withdraw my proposed decision issued July 2, 2021 (and modified August 12, 2021) prior to the October 21, 2021 Commission Meeting and proceed to the hear the merits of the case under the schedule set forth below. If any party believes that the recent change in the law does not resolve the statutory ambiguity that required us to decide whether the Proposed Acquisition is authorized by law, they may file a brief setting forth

their argument no later than October 25, 2021. If a brief is filed, a reply brief may be filed by opposing parties by November 1, 2021.

**1. Schedule**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
Cal Advocates' prepared direct testimony served	January 13, 2022
Joint Applicants' prepared rebuttal testimony served	February 14, 2022
PPH	Targeted for February 2022
Status conference	February 22, 2022
Evidentiary hearing	Targeted for week of February 28-March 4
Concurrent Opening briefs	April 11, 2022
Concurrent Reply briefs	April 25, 2022
Proposed decision	Targeted for July 2022

**IT IS RULED that:**

1. Any party that believes that the recent change in the law does not resolve the statutory ambiguity that previously required us to decide whether the Proposed Acquisition is authorized by law may file a brief setting forth their argument no later than October 25, 2021.

2. Reply briefs may be filed no later than November 1, 2021.

Dated October 12, 2021, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MICHELLE COOKE  
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Michelle Cooke  
Administrative Law Judge