



FILED
12/09/21
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SJP/cmf 12/9/2021

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Liberty Utilities
(Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp.
(U346W) for Authority to Increase
Rates Charged for Water Service by
\$2,862,903 or 11.11% in 2022,
\$2,068,273 or 7.18% in 2023, and
\$2,280,637 or 7.35% in 2024.

Application 21-07-003

And Related Matter.

Application 21-07-004

**E-MAIL RULING SETTING REMOTE
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS**

Dated December 9, 2021, at San Francisco, California.

 /s/ SOPHIA J. PARK

Sophia J. Park
Administrative Law Judge

A.21-07-003 et al. SJP/cmf

From: Park, Sophia <sophia.park@cpuc.ca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:05 PM
To: VFu@ProsperaLaw.com; Zarchy, Daniel <Daniel.Zarchy@cpuc.ca.gov>; Sorensen, Cortney <Cortney.Sorensen@cpuc.ca.gov>; Moussa, Hani <hani.moussa@cpuc.ca.gov>; JTempleton@ProsperaLaw.com; AnnMarie.Lett@LibertyUtilities.com; Dan.Marsh@libertyutilities.com; Edward.Jackson@LibertyUtilities.com; Tiffany.Thong@LibertyUtilities.com; Hancock, Jefferson <Jefferson.Hancock@cpuc.ca.gov>; Rauschmeier, Richard <richard.rauschmeier@cpuc.ca.gov>; Park, Sophia <sophia.park@cpuc.ca.gov>
Cc: ALJ_Support ID <alj_supportid@cpuc.ca.gov>; ALJ Docket Office <ALJ_Docket_Office@cpuc.ca.gov>; ALJ Process <alj_process@cpuc.ca.gov>; Sawyer, Eric <Eric.Sawyer@cpuc.ca.gov>; Sanchez, Claudia <Claudia.Sanchez@cpuc.ca.gov>
Subject: A.21-07-003 et al.: Email Ruling Setting Remote Public Participation Hearings

To Parties to A.21-07-003 et al.:

This email ruling sets remote public participation hearings (PPHs) in Liberty Utilities (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp.'s and Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp.'s General Rate Case (GRC) Applications using live streaming and telephonic services, and directs each utility to provide customer notice of the remote PPHs. The PPHs are an opportunity for the utilities' customers to communicate directly with the Commission regarding the revenue and rate base changes proposed in the utilities' GRC Applications.

While the Commission remains committed to providing customers with a variety of accessible forums to provide input regarding the GRC Applications, at this time it remains unclear when it will be safe to resume public gatherings. With due consideration to these safety concerns, this ruling sets remote PPHs in these consolidated proceedings. Details regarding how to participate in these remote PPHs are described below. Written public comments may also be provided at any time during the proceedings using the "Add Public Comment" button on the "Public Comment" tab of the Docket Card for A.21-07-003 et al. The direct link to the "Add Public Comment" section of the Docket Card can be found here: <https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/apex/f?p=401:65:0::NO::>.

PPHs for customers of Liberty Utilities (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp. will be held as follows:

Date	Time	Meeting Access Information
March 8, 2022	2:00 pm	Phone number: 1-800-857-1917
March 8, 2022	6:00 pm	Passcode: 6032788 Webcast: www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/

PPHs for customers of Liberty Utilities (Park Water) Corp. will be held as follows:

Date	Time	Meeting Access Information
March 9, 2022	2:00 pm	Phone number: 1-800-857-1917
March 9, 2022	6:00 pm	Passcode: 6032788 Webcast: www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/

Participants may observe the PPHs 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 Administrative Law Judge will make an announcement through the telephone line for those who wish to speak. Participants who wish to speak must then press “star one” to alert the operator, who will then queue the speakers one-at-a-time and announce each speaker’s name at the allotted time.

1. Billing Notice

Each utility shall prepare a bill insert notice informing its customers of the PPHs and provide a draft of the notice to the Commission’s Public Advisor’s Office. The draft notice shall inform customers about the upcoming remote PPHs, including the purpose of the PPHs, a summary of the relief that the utility is requesting in its 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 bill insert notice.

After the Public Advisor's Office approves the language in the bill insert notice, each utility shall include the notice in the bills of 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, each utility shall also provide the notice through direct email communication.

2. Public Notice

Pursuant to Rule 13.1(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, each utility shall also cause the approved notice to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the utility's general service area not less than five nor more than 30 days before the first PPH. Each utility shall also prominently post a notice of the PPHs on its website and in all its offices where customers come into contact with a utility customer service representative.

Each utility 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.

3. Party Participation in PPHs

Each party to the consolidated proceedings may make a brief presentation at the start of each PPH, which shall be no longer than five minutes. Each party may also prepare no more than two slides each for use during their presentations. Parties wishing to participate in the PPHs shall provide the name, position, email address, and phone number of the individual who will be conducting the presentation, and any slides to be used during the presentation. This information shall be emailed to the service list and to Eric Sawyer at Eric.Sawyer@cpuc.ca.gov no later than five days prior to the PPH in which the party seeks to present. A separate WebEx link and speaker code will be emailed to each designated party presenter prior to the PPHs.

Each utility shall identify and have available at least one employee knowledgeable about its Application and at least one senior customer service representative who shall be observing the PPHs and standing by during and after the PPHs to receive and respond to calls, if needed, to address individual customers' billing or service questions. Each utility shall provide the name, position, phone number, and email address of these employees via email to the service list and to Eric Sawyer at Eric.Sawyer@cpuc.ca.gov no later than five days prior to each utility's scheduled PPH.

IT IS SO RULED.

THE DOCKET OFFICE SHALL FORMALLY FILE THIS RULING.

Sophia J. Park
Administrative Law Judge
California Public Utilities Commission
Sophia.Park@cpuc.ca.gov