



ALJ/SRM/cmf 10/5/2026

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Kimberly Graves,

Complainant,

vs.

California Water Service Company
(U60W),

Defendant.

Case 25-05-021

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS
FOR ADDITIONAL EVIDENTIARY HEARING SCHEDULED FOR
OCTOBER 29, 2026**

Background

On September 15, 2026, a status conference was held in this matter to obtain information and clarification from California Water Service Company (Cal Water) about its communications with the State Water Board regarding 1) a July 16, 2026 letter the State Water Board sent to the Commission that constituted an ex parte communication (the "State Water Board letter") and 2) the Presiding Officer's Decision in this matter. The discussion at the status conference regarding the origins of the State Water Board letter and the State Water Board's policies as they affect this proceeding made it necessary to reopen the record so that the parties may present additional evidence related to the issues in this case.

Accordingly, on September 21, 2026, an Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Reopening the Record for Further Evidentiary Hearing and to Accept

Additional Evidence was issued to allow for additional evidentiary hearing in this matter. This ruling provides instructions on the additional evidentiary hearing.

1. Hearing Information

A remote Webex hearing will be held on October 29, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Non-speaking party representatives and any interested persons may appear virtually via Webex using the following information:

- **Join link:**
<https://cpuc.webex.com/cpuc/j.php?MTID=m2f8c065e382feed67a020369f1237d8f>
- **Meeting password:** 102026
- **Meeting number (access code):** 2481 140 4409
- **Join by phone:**
 - **+1-855-282-6330 United States Toll Free**
 - **+1-415-655-0002 United States Toll**
- **Access code:** 2481 140 4409

The proceeding analyst assigned to this proceeding is: Nicholas Bonino - nicholas.bonino@cpuc.ca.gov.

Please contact the proceeding analyst with any technical questions regarding complying with this ruling.

All parties shall closely monitor emails and other communications related to the scheduled hearing to ensure awareness of schedule changes, additional instructions, and other issues that may arise

2. Schedule of the Evidentiary Hearing

The remote evidentiary hearing for this proceeding will be held for one day on Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All participants

should be logged by 9:30 a.m. to test their audio and visual connections and address any other technical issues.

At the beginning of the hearing day, I will address housekeeping issues (e.g., witness order, exhibits, and other similar issues to move the proceeding efficiently). Complainant will conduct her cross-examination first. I plan to take a one-hour break around 12:30 p.m., a natural break point, and short breaks during the day as appropriate. I will address remaining procedural issues at the end of the day. The hearing day will end at approximately 3:00 p.m.

3. Speakers/Witnesses/Participants

Parties are directed to provide the following information to the proceeding analyst no later than Monday, October 26, 2026.

1. Name of the Party;
2. Lead representative/primary speaker: Name, position/title, email address, and telephone number;
3. Additional individuals expected to speak at the hearing: Name, position/title, role (witness/counsel/other (specify)), email address, and telephone number; and
4. Estimated speaking time of individuals identified in Number 3.

Participants will be emailed a Webex panelist link prior to the hearing. Parties are advised that participants who have been emailed a panelist link may not be able to join using the public Webex link above. All participants are advised to monitor their email prior to the hearing to make sure that they receive the panelist link to log onto the hearing.

Non-speaking attendees using the public Webex link provided above will not appear on the screen and will not be audible during the hearing.

4. Advanced Distribution of Exhibits and Additional Exhibit Instructions

Prior to the hearing, the parties should work together to prepare a final list of exhibits that includes a proposed exhibit number, sponsoring witness, brief description of each exhibit, indication whether parties stipulate to the admission of the exhibit, and a link to the uploaded exhibit (for non-confidential exhibits only) on the Commission's Supporting Documents Platform.

An example of an Exhibit List is shown below:

Exhibit No.	Sponsoring Witness	Description (& Document Date)	Parties Stipulate Admission? (Y/N)	Link to Supporting Documents Platform

As to exhibit numbers, the parties should follow the naming and numbering convention used during the previous evidentiary hearing held on January 30, 2026. Numbering shall continue consecutively from the last exhibit produced in the January 30, 2026 hearing. For example, if the last Graves exhibit produced in the January 30, 2026 hearing was "Graves-10", then the next exhibit for use in the upcoming evidentiary hearing shall be named and numbered "Graves-11". Similarly, if the last Cal Water exhibit produced in the January 30, 2026 hearing was "CalWater-10", then the next exhibit for use in the upcoming evidentiary hearing shall be named and numbered "CalWater-11".

Parties shall pre-mark their exhibits so that each piece of testimony includes the proposed exhibit number following the naming convention described above.

Cal Water shall coordinate and assemble the exhibit list. Cal Water shall email the exhibit list to the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026. Cal Water shall also transmit a PDF and an editable MS Word version of the final exhibit list to the proceeding analyst.

Cross-examination exhibits shall be served on the service list and uploaded to the Supporting Documents Platform no later than 1:00 p.m. on the day before the hearing. If this deadline is missed and a party still seeks to use the exhibit, the party will be required to show good cause as to why the deadline was not met. Such requests may be denied at the ALJ's discretion if the delay is deemed prejudicial.

Cross-examination exhibits intended for use as impeachment exhibits must be sent no later than 8:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. If this deadline is missed and a party still wants to use the impeachment exhibit, the party will be required to show good cause why they could not meet the 8:00 a.m. deadline. Such requests may be denied at the ALJ's discretion if the delay is deemed prejudicial.

Generally, corrections to an exhibit should be made in advance and not orally from the witness stand. Corrections should be made immediately following identification of the need for correction. The corrected exhibit and a redlined version should be served on the service list and uploaded to the Supporting Documents Platform. In the redlined copy, the original text to be deleted should be lined out and substitute or added text should be underlined. Each correction page should be marked with the word "revised" and the revision date. The Exhibit List should link to the final version of the exhibit and the redlined version.

Partial documents or excerpts from documents must include a title page or first page from the source document; excerpts from lengthy documents should include a table of contents page covering the excerpted material. It may be helpful to include language before and after the excerpt to provide clarity or context.

5. Confidential Materials

If any party anticipates referring to confidential materials during the hearing, the party shall email a notice to the ALJ and the service list no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 to ensure the necessary arrangements can be made for a confidential session. The requesting party shall consult with other parties to compile a list of the names and email addresses of persons who wish to participate in the confidential session and are authorized to access the confidential materials to be referenced and shall include the list in its notice to the ALJ and the service list. The requesting party shall also email the list to the proceeding analyst.

6. Prehearing Motions

Any remaining prehearing motions shall be filed by October 23, 2026. Any response to a prehearing motion filed after the date of this ruling shall be filed no later than October 27, 2026. Any motions not filed by this date must be raised orally at the hearing.

7. Other Matters

If necessary, I may modify these instructions either before or during the hearing as needed to facilitate an efficient and effective hearing.

IT IS RULED that:

1. An evidentiary hearing for Complaint 25-05-021 is set for Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
2. The parties shall comply with the procedural instructions for the evidentiary hearing set forth in this ruling.

Dated October 5, 2026, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ SUMAN MATHEWS

Suman Mathews
Administrative Law Judge