Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Kimberly Graves, Complainant, vs. California Water Service Company (U60W), Defendant.	Case 25-05-021

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline for completion of this proceeding until May 30, 2027.

1. Background

Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code) § 1701.2(i) provides that adjudicatory proceedings shall be resolved within 12 months of the date the proceeding is initiated, unless the Commission makes a written determination that the deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending the deadline. The current statutory deadline for this proceeding is November 30, 2026.

On May 30, 2025, Kimberly Graves (Complainant) filed Complaint (C.) 25-05-021 (Complaint) against California Water Service Company (Cal Water) regarding Cal Water's alleged legal requirement that Complainant must install multiple backflow prevention assemblies on the multiple service connections on Complainant's property. Cal Water filed its answer to the Complaint on July 18, 2025.

On August 20, 2025, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) held a telephonic prehearing conference to determine issues of law and fact, determine the need for hearing, set the schedule for resolving the matter, and address other matters as necessary.

On November 20, 2025, the assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo and Ruling setting forth the issues, need for evidentiary hearing, schedule, category, and other matters necessary to scope this proceeding. An evidentiary hearing was held on January 30, 2026.

On May 14, 2026, Decision 26-05-020 extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding to November 30, 2026.

On June 16, 2026, the ALJ issued the Presiding Officer's Decision (POD) in this matter. On July 16, 2026, Cal Water timely filed an appeal to the POD. Also on July 16, 2026, the Commission received an ex parte communication from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) with respect to the POD.

On September 15, 2026, a status conference was held to obtain information and clarification from Cal Water about its communications with the State Water Board regarding the ex parte communication and the POD. The discussion at the

status conference made it evident that the record needed to be reopened in this matter to allow the parties to 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. The additional evidentiary hearing is scheduled for October 29, 2026.

Based on the foregoing, it is necessary to extend the statutory deadline to May 30, 2027, to allow the Commission to consider any new and/or additional evidence introduced at the October 29, 2026 evidentiary hearing and issue a final decision in this matter.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may waive the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment on a decision extending the deadline for resolving adjudicatory proceedings set forth in Public Utilities Code Section 1701.2(i)). Under the circumstances of this proceeding, it is appropriate to waive the 30-day period for public review and comment.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Karen Douglas is the assigned Commissioner and Suman Mathews is the assigned Administrative Law Judge and the presiding officer in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. C.25-05-021 was filed on May 30, 2025.
2. The current statutory deadline for C.25-05-021 is November 30, 2026.
3. C.25-05-021 cannot be completed by November 30, 2026.

4. An extension of the statutory deadline until May 30, 2027, is necessary to allow adequate time to issue a final decision.

Conclusion of Law

1. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(i), the statutory deadline should be extended to May 30, 2027.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline for completion of C.25-05-021 is extended until May 30, 2027.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____ 2026, at Sacramento, California.