

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING: VISALIA
California Water Service's Request to Adjust Water Rates
APPLICATION 21-05-002

What is this, and how can I participate?

California Water Service (Cal Water) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) would like to hear from you. You are invited to participate in a Public Forum, also called a Public Participation Hearing (PPH), about Cal Water's Cost of Capital application.

This Public Forum is part of a formal proceeding that will be documented and placed into the formal record so the CPUC can make a decision about Cal Water's request. You can make comments and raise concerns to the CPUC Administrative Law Judge overseeing this application. You can also provide written public comments at any time during the proceeding at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2105002.

Where and when will this Public Forum be held?

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Location: Virtual | Via Webcast: www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc |
| Date: March 16, 2022 | Via Phone: (800) 857-1917 |
| Time: 6 p.m. | Passcode: 1673482# |

The Public Forum can be viewed via internet, or listened to via phone, with the information above. If you wish to make a public comment, please participate by phone using the phone number and pass code above and **pressing *1**. Your participation by providing your thoughts on Cal Water's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

Please note: If you need a language interpreter, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office using the contact information at the end of this notice at least five business days before the Public Forum.

Why am I receiving this notice?

On May 3, 2021, Cal Water filed its triennial Cost of Capital (A.21-05-002) application with the CPUC. The application is requesting a total of \$4,408,650, or a 0.6% change. If the CPUC approves this application, Cal Water will recover forecasted costs in rates over a 3-year period covering January 1, 2022-2024. This will impact your bill.

Why is Cal Water requesting this rate increase?

- Cal Water is required to file a Cost of Capital application every three years.
- This ensures funds are available to make critical infrastructure improvements, so water mains, wells, pumps, tanks, treatment systems, and other parts of the water system continue to provide safe, reliable water service.
- This application includes the funds needed to obtain equity and secure long-term debt (loans and financial obligations longer than one year).

How could this affect my water bill?

If Cal Water's rate request is approved by the CPUC, the average residential bill with a 5/8" meter is shown in the table below. Amounts vary slightly by service area due to city/county taxes and other district-specific expenses.

| Ratemaking Area | Avg. Monthly Use | | Current bill | Proposed Bill 2022 | Change in Bill | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|------|
| | Ccf. | Gallons | | | \$ | % |
| Visalia | 13 | 9,724 | \$27.11 | \$27.27 | \$0.16 | 0.6% |

How does the rest of this process work?

This application has been assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge who will consider proposals and evidence presented during the formal hearing process. The Administrative Law Judge will issue a proposed decision that may adopt Cal Water's application, modify it, or deny it. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Parties to the proceeding will review Cal Water's application, including the Public Advocates Office, which is an independent consumer advocate within the CPUC that represents customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. For more information, please call **(415) 703-1584**, email **PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov**, or visit **PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov**.

Where can I get more information?

California Water Service

Phone: **(559) 624-1600**

Email: **cwsrates@calwater.com**

Mail: **216 North Valley Oaks Drive, Visalia, CA 93292**

A copy of the application and any related documents may also be reviewed at **www.calwater.com/rates/2021-coc-application**.

Contact: **CPUC**

Please visit **apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2105002** to submit a comment about this proceeding on the CPUC Docket Card. Here, you can also view documents and other public comments related to this proceeding.

If you have questions about CPUC processes, you may contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at:

Phone: (866) 849-8390 (toll-free) or (415) 703-2074

Email: **Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov**

Mail: **CPUC Public Advisor's Office, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102**

Please reference **Application 21-05-002** in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.