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## Golden State Water Company Notice of Public Forum

### NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING FOR GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY'S REQUEST TO INCREASE RATES FOR COST OF CAPITAL APPLICATION 21-05-003

Golden State Water Company (GSWC) 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 GSWC's Cost of Capital Application.

These Public Forums are part of the proceeding that will be documented and placed into the formal record so the CPUC can make a decision about GSWC's request. You can make comments and raise concerns to the CPUC Administrative Law Judge overseeing this application. Your participation by providing your thoughts on GSWC's request can help the CPUC make an informed decision.

#### How will the Public Forum be held?

Due to the Governor's directive and the CPUC's ongoing efforts to protect customers and community members during COVID-19, there will be no in-person physical location for this public forum.

The public forum can be viewed via internet, or listened to via phone, with the information below. If you wish to make a public comment, please participate by phone using the phone number and passcode below.

Date/Time	Details
Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 6 p.m.	Phone number: 800-857-1917 Passcode: 1673482# To Speak: *1 Webcast: <a href="http://www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/">www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/</a>

You can also provide written public comments at any time during the proceeding in the "Public Comment" tab of the Docket Card for A.21-05-003, available at [cpuc.ca.gov/A2105003comments](http://cpuc.ca.gov/A2105003comments).

**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.

#### Information About the Application

On May 3, 2021, GSWC filed its Cost of Capital Application, A.21-05-003, with the CPUC. In the application, GSWC is requesting to increase its Cost of Capital, which is the rate of return the company is authorized to recover on its investments in critical infrastructure required to deliver safe and reliable water service. If approved by the CPUC, GSWC's rate of return will increase by 0.27% from the current return of 7.91% to 8.18% for 2022, 2023, and 2024. If approved, GSWC's request will reflect its Cost of Capital in rates beginning January 1, 2022.

The authorized Cost of Capital determines the amount of money GSWC is allowed to recover in rates as a return on the money it has invested. In this proceeding, the CPUC will determine a reasonable capital structure (financial plan), the costs of long-term debt (loans and financial obligations over one year), and the level of return investors should receive. This request is subject to change per the Water Cost of Capital Mechanism, which allows for automatic annual adjustments to the return on equity and fixed cost of debt in the cost of capital.

#### 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 GSWC'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 GSWC'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 about the Public Advocates Office, please call 1-415-703-1584, email [PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:PublicAdvocatesOffice@cpuc.ca.gov), or visit [PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov](http://PublicAdvocates.cpuc.ca.gov).

### **Where can I get more information?**

#### **Contact GSWC**

- View GSWC's Application and related exhibits:  
[www.gswater.com/2022-2024CostOfCapital](http://www.gswater.com/2022-2024CostOfCapital)
- Contact GSWC's 24-hour Customer Service Center at:  
1-800-999-4033 (toll-free) or TTY 1-877-933-9533
- Contact via email at:  
[customerservice@gswater.com](mailto:customerservice@gswater.com)
- Contact via mail at:  
Golden State Water Company  
Attention: Regulatory Affairs Department  
630 East Foothill Boulevard  
San Dimas, CA 91773

#### **Contact the CPUC**

If you would like to make a comment, please visit [cpuc.ca.gov/A2105003comments](http://cpuc.ca.gov/A2105003comments) to submit a comment on the CPUC Docket Card. You can also view other public comments related to this rate request.

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

Phone: 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free) or 1-415-703-2074  
TTY 1-866-836-7825 (toll-free) or 1-415-703-5282

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

Email: [public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov)

Please reference **GSWC's Cost of Capital Application, A.21-05-003**, in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**