

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 12, 2022

Kiki Carlson
Regulatory Affairs Manager
Suburban Water Systems

Re: Advice Letter No. 370-W

Dear Ms. Carlson:

Please be advised that Water Division is rejecting Suburban Water Systems' (Suburban) Tier 1 Advice Letter (AL) 370-W submitted on July 1, 2022, requesting it be made effective July 1, 2022. Suburban's AL 370-W requests similar treatment pursuant to General Order 96-B, Water Industry Rule 8.2, to modify its Tariff Rule 9 regarding the Rendering and Payment of Bills.

General Order 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.2(7) request for similar treatment, citing Water Industry Rule 8.2, specifies that advice letters for similar treatment are Tier 2 advice letters effective only upon approval generally subject to approval or rejection by staff pursuant to General Rule 7.6.1.

As such, since AL 370-W was submitted and mis-characterized as a Tier 1 advice letter, Water Division is rejecting AL 370-W without prejudice for Suburban to resubmit a new advice as a Tier 2 in compliance with General Order 96-B.

Enclosed is a copy of the utility's Advice Letter No. 370, together with the tariff schedules listed therein, which have been rejected.

As a reminder, rejected tariff sheets shall be retained in the utility's file of cancelled and superseded sheets, and sheet numbers and Advice Letter numbers of rejected filings shall not be reused.

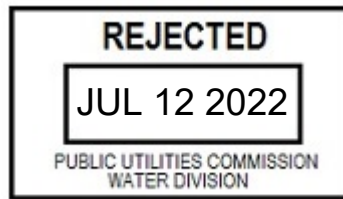
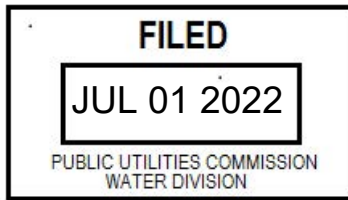
If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact James Boothe at (415) 703-1748 or JB5@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce DeBerry".

Bruce DeBerry, Program Manager
Water Division

Enclosures



**Suburban
Water Systems**

A SouthWest Water Company

5 N. Grand Ave. Ste. 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044
Phone: 626.543.2500, Fax: 626.331.4848
www.swwc.com

U-339-W

VIA EMAIL

ADVICE LETTER NO. 370-W

July 1, 2022

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Suburban Water Systems (“Suburban”) hereby transmits for filing the following changes in its tariff schedules applicable to its service area and which are attached hereto:

CPUC Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Canceling CPUC Sheet No.
1865-W	Rule No. 9, Rendering and Payment of Bills	1119-W
1866-W	Table of Contents	1863-W
1867-W	Table of Contents (Continued)	1864-W

Suburban requests authority to modify Rule No. 9, Rendering and Payment of Bills to allow customers to enroll in Suburban’s electronic or paper billing on service rendered, but not both.

This advice letter is submitted pursuant to Section 8.2 of General Order 96-B which states,

8.2 Request for Similar Treatment (see Industry Rule 7.3.2(8))

A Utility may submit an advice letter requesting approval, authorization, or other relief similar to that accorded another Utility by Commission order. The advice letter shall cite each decision or resolution relied upon, and shall demonstrate that the Utility submitting the advice letter is similarly situated in all material respects, and is requesting the same relief and relying on the same justification as in the cited order(s).

Suburban requests similar treatment to the approved Resolution W-4908 for Valencia Water Company (VWC) dated April 19, 2012, which granted VWC authority to allow customers the option to receive electronically, at no extra charge, regular billing statements for service and legal mandated notices (except as a tariff may otherwise require), and to no longer receive these items in paper form. Suburban requests authorization to revise Rule No. 9 to reflect this option.

Tier Designation and Effective Date

Pursuant to General Order (GO) 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1(3), this advice letter is submitted with a Tier 1 designation.

Suburban requests that the advice letter is effective on July 1, 2022, the date of this advice letter is being filed with the Commission.

Protest and Responses

Anyone may respond to or protest this advice letter. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the Commission in evaluating the advice letter. A protest objects to the advice letter in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based. These grounds are:

A protest objects to the advice letter in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based. These grounds are:

- (1) The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the advice letter;
- (2) The relief requested in the advice letter would violate statute or Commission order, or is not authorized by statute or Commission order on which the utility relies;
- (3) The analysis, calculations, or data in the advice letter contain material error or omissions;
- (4) The relief requested in the advice letter is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding; or
- (5) The relief requested in the advice letter requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the advice letter process; or
- (6) The relief requested in the advice letter is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided that such a protest may not be made where it would require relitigating a prior order of the Commission.)

A protest shall provide citations or proofs where available to allow staff to properly consider the protest.

A response or protest must be made in writing or by electronic mail and must be received by the Water Division within 20 days of the date this advice letter is filed. The address for mailing or delivering a protest is:

Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd floor
California Public Utilities Commission,
505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102
Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

On the same date any protest or response is submitted to the Water Division, the respondent or protestant must serve a copy of the protest or response to:

Suburban Water Systems, Kiki Carlson, Regulatory Affairs Manager, 1325 N. Grand Ave., Suite 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044, and email to kcarlson@swwc.com

Cities and counties that need Board of Supervisors or Board of Commissioners approval to protest should inform the Water Division, within the 20 days protest period, so that a late filed protest can be entertained. The informing document should include an estimate of the date the proposed protest might be voted on.

Replies: The utility shall reply to each protest and may reply to any response. Each reply must be received by the Division of Water and Audits within 5 business days after the end of the protest period and shall be served on the same day to the person who filed the protest or response.

This filing will not cause the withdrawal of service, nor conflict with other schedules or rules.

In compliance with General Rule 4.3 and 7.2 and Water Industry Rule 4.1 of General Order 96-B, a copy of this advice letter has been mailed or electronically transmitted to all interested and affected parties as detailed in Attachment A.

Sincerely,

/s/Kiki Carlson

Kiki Carlson
Regulatory Affairs Manager

Enclosures

Rule No. 9

RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS



A. Rendering of Bills

Bills for service will be rendered each customer on a monthly or bimonthly basis at the option of the Utility, unless otherwise provided in the rate schedules.

At the customer's request, the utility may be requested to provide either paper or electronic bills for service rendered, but not both. (N)

The customer may elect to receive and view regular bills for service and other legal and mandated notices electronically and to no longer receive paper bills and legal and mandated notices. Customers requesting this option may be required to complete additional forms and agreements. Legal and mandated notices shall be included with the utility's electronic means of bill delivery; except, however, all notices of termination of service shall be made in accordance with Rule No. 8. The customer may discontinue electronic billing upon 30 days prescribed notice. (N)

1. Metered Service

- a. Meters will be read at regular intervals for the preparations of periodic bills and as required for the preparation of opening bills, closing bills and special bills.
- b. The opening bill for metered service will not be less than the established monthly minimum or readiness to serve charge for the service. Any amount paid in excess of the prorated charges otherwise applicable to the opening period will be credited against the charge for the succeeding regular billing period, except that no such credit shall accrue if the total period of service is less than one month.
- c. It may not always be practicable to read meters at intervals which will result in billing periods of equal numbers of days.
 - (1) Should a monthly billing period contain less than 27 days or more than 33 days a pro rata correction in the amount of the bill will be made.
 - (2) For billing periods other than monthly or bimonthly, adjustments will be made proportionate to that for a monthly billing period.
- d. Bills for metered service will show at least the reading of the meter at the end of the period for which the bill is rendered, the meter constant, if any, the number and kinds of units, and date of the current meter reading.

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

(To be inserted by Cal. P.U.C.)

Advise Letter No. 370-W

Craig D. Gott
Name

Date Filed

Decision No.

President
Title

Effective

Resolution No.

Suburban Water Systems
1325 N. Grand Ave., Ste. 100
Covina, CA 91724-4044

Revised
Canceling Revised

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1866-W
Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1863-W

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(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

(To be inserted by Cal. P.U.C.)

Advice Letter No. 370-W

Craig D. Gott

Date Filed _____

Name

Decision No. _____

President

Effective _____

Title

Resolution No. _____

Suburban Water Systems
1325 N. Grand Ave., Ste. 100
Covina, CA 91724-3603

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(Continued)

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