

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF WATER AND AUDITS**

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: Suburban Water Systems

Date Mailed to Service List: April 30, 2026

District: n/a

CPUC Utility #: U – 339-W

Protest Deadline (20th Day): May 20, 2026

Advice Letter #: 423-W

Review Deadline (30th Day): May 30, 2026

Tier:
 1 2 3 Compliance

Requested Effective Date: June 1, 2026

Authorization: Energy Division Letter dated 3-3-26

Rate Impact: N/A

Description: Update Suburban’s Customer Assistance Program income eligibility guidelines for Period June 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027.

The protest or response deadline for this advice letter is 20 days from the date that this advice letter was mailed to the service list. Please see the “Response or Protest” section in the advice letter for more information.

Utility Contact: Kiki Carlson

Utility Contact: Carmelitha Bordelon

Phone: (626) 543-2553

Phone: (626) 543-2547

Email: kiki.carlson@nexuswg.com

Email: carmelitha.bordelon@nexuswg.com

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

APPROVED

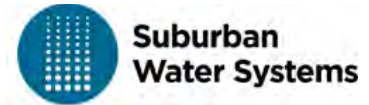
WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____



1325 N. Grand Ave. Ste. 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044
 Phone: 626.543.2640, Fax: 626.543.2664
 SuburbanWaterSystems.com

U-339-W

VIA EMAIL

ADVICE LETTER NO. 423-W

April 30, 2026

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.
2114-W	Schedule No. LIC-1, San Jose Hills and Whittier/La Mirada Service Areas, Customer Assistance Program (Continued)	2037-W
2115-W	Form No. 18 – Customer Assistance Program (CAP)	1995-W
2116-W	Table of Contents	2113-W
2117-W	Table of Contents (Continued)	2103-W

Suburban hereby submits this advice letter to update the income qualification guidelines for its Customer Assistance Program (CAP).

In compliance with the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) Energy Division’s letter dated March 3, 2026 (Attachment B), Suburban updates its income qualification guidelines for its CAP in the San Jose Hills and Whittier/La Mirada service areas.

The income eligibility guidelines presented in the letter are also being used by the Class A and B water utilities in determining their CAP income guidelines follow those established in the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program for energy utilities.

Tier Designation and Effective Date

This advice letter is submitted with a Tier 1 designation.

In compliance with Commission Energy Division’s letter dated March 3, 2026, this advice letter is effective for period June 1, 2026 – May 31, 2027.

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, Director, Regulatory Affairs, 1325 N. Grand Ave., Suite 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044, and email to kiki.carlson@nexuswg.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 five 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
Director, Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures

Schedule No. CAP-1

SAN JOSE HILLS AND WHITTIER/LA MIRADA SERVICE AREAS
CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

(Continued)

Income Qualification guidelines (Effective June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027) (T)

<u>Total persons</u>	<u>Maximum total combined</u>	
<u>In household</u>	<u>Annual income</u>	
1 - 2	\$ 43,280	(T)
3	\$ 54,640	
4	\$ 66,000	
5	\$ 77,360	
6	\$ 88,720	
7	\$100,080	
8	\$111,440	

For each additional person, add \$11,360 to the total combined annual income. (T)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. As authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission (C.P.U.C.), all qualified Customer Assistance Program (CAP) participants will receive a monthly surcredit of \$1.61. This surcredit will provide an additional CAP credit for the difference between the interim rate implemented on January 1, 2024 and pursuant to Decision 24-12-030 the rates approved in Advice Letter 406-W. This surcredit shall commence on the effective date of Advice Letter 407-W, and remain in effect for an estimated 12-month period.

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

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

Advice Letter No. <u>423-W</u>	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 Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 2115-W
Canceling Revised Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 1995-W

Form No. 18
CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)

(To be inserted by utility) **Issued by** (To be inserted by Cal. P.U.C.)

Advice Letter No. 423-W Craig D. Gott Date Filed _____
Name
Decision No. _____ President Effective _____
Title
Resolution No. _____

CAP* DISCOUNT

Sign Up Today!

Scan the QR code to complete
the online application form



Need a Helping Hand?



Suburban is pleased to provide the
CAP* Program — a **Low-Income Rate Assistance**
program for qualifying residential customers*

CAP* provides an adjustment of \$10.74 on your water bill each
month, for Suburban customers on a low-income budget.

The easiest way to qualify for **CAP*** is to demonstrate that you participate in your gas or electric utility's low-income assistance program. There are two ways to qualify:

OPTION 1: If you participate in your electric or gas utility CARE program, simply **complete the online application** (scan QR code at the top of the page), mark Option 1, and attach a copy of a recent Southern California Edison or Southern California Gas Company bill. Or fill out the application (on the reverse side), mark Option 1, attach a copy of a recent Southern California Edison or Southern California Gas Company bill, and mail it to: Suburban Water Systems, 1325 N. Grand Ave, Suite 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044.

OPTION 2: If you have a low-income budget, but do not participate in CARE, you may qualify by certifying that your household income meets the requirements shown in Option 2 online and on the reverse side. If you meet those requirements, **fill out the application online** (scan QR code at the top of the page), and mark Option 2. Or fill out the application (on the reverse side), mark Option 2, and mail it to: Suburban Water Systems, 1325 N. Grand Ave., Suite 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044.

CAP* is not a retroactive program. Suburban Water Systems uses a biannual renewal process for this program and will send out renewal notices in advance of the renewal date. Qualified customers will begin receiving an adjustment in the month that follows their acceptance into the program. If you have additional questions about the **CAP*** program or to obtain additional applications in English or Spanish, visit our website at www.swwc.com/suburban/lira or call customer service at 800.203.5430 (TTY 877.405.1710).

*The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has also approved **CAP*** for qualified non-profit group living facilities, agricultural employee housing facilities, and migrant farm worker housing centers. Contact our customer service department at 800.203.5340 if you would like to receive an application for one of these types of residences.



Suburban
Water Systems

*Formerly LIRA/WISH

Suburban Water Systems CAP* Application

Scan the QR code to complete the online application form



Name

(As is appears on your water bill)

Customer Account Number

Service Address

Street City State Zip

Mailing Address

If different from service address Street City State Zip

Daytime Phone Number

Total Persons Living in Household

Adults + Children = Total

Choose your option:

OPTION 1

I do participate in CARE, the low-income assistance programs of either Southern California Edison or Southern California Gas Company. I am attaching a copy of a recent Southern California Edison or Southern California Gas Company bill to demonstrate my participation in CARE.

OPTION 2

I do not participate in CARE, the low-income assistance programs of either Southern California Edison or Southern California Gas Company. However, I certify that I do qualify for CAP* because my annual household income is below CAP* income guidelines, or I participate in a public assistance program.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME STATEMENT

Maximum Household Income

Your household's gross annual income must be below CAP* income guidelines:

Total persons in household	Total combined annual income
1-2	\$ 43,280
3	\$ 54,640
4	\$ 66,000
5	\$ 77,360
6	\$ 88,720
7	\$ 100,080
8	\$ 111,440

For each additional person, add \$11,360 to the total combined annual income.

My annual household income is \$ _____

Please fill in circle next to all sources of your household's annual income.

- Wages or salaries
- Interest and/or dividends from:
 - Savings accounts
 - Stocks or bonds, or
 - Retirement accounts
- Unemployment benefits
- Rental or royalty income
- School grants, scholarships or other aid used for living expenses
- Profit from self-employment (IRS form Schedule C, Line 29)
- Disability payments
- Workers compensation
- Social Security, SSI, SSP
- Pensions
- Insurance settlements
- Legal settlements
- TANF (AFDC)
- Food stamps
- Child support
- Spousal support
- Cash and/or other income

The income guidelines listed above are effective June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Do you participate in any of the following programs? If so, please check (✓) the program(s) below.

- Medi-Cal/Medicaid
- Food Stamps/SNAP
- TANF/Tribal TANF
- WIC
- Healthy Families A&B
- LIHEAP
- SSI
- National School Lunch (NSL)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Head Start Income Eligible (Tribal Only)

DECLARATION

Please read carefully and sign:

The information I have provided in this application is true and correct. I agree to provide proof of income if asked. I agree to inform Suburban Water Systems if I no longer qualify for CAP*. I realize that if I receive the adjustment to my bill without qualifying for it, I may be required to return the adjustment I received. I understand that Suburban Water Systems can share my information with other utilities or their agents to enroll me in their assistance programs.

*Formerly LIRA/WISH



Suburban Water Systems

1325 N. Grand Ave., Suite 100
Covina, CA 91724-4044



Customer Signature

Date

CAP* DESCUENTO ¡Inscríbese Hoy!

Escanee el código QR
para llenar el formulario
de la solicitud en línea



Need a Helping Hand?



Suburban se complace en proporcionar el Programa **CAP*** Program — an **Programa de Asistencia con Tarifas para Bajos Ingresos** para clientes residenciales calificados*

CAP* proporciona un ajuste de \$10.74 en su factura de agua cada mes, para clientes de Suburban con bajos ingresos.

La forma más fácil de calificar para **CAP*** es demostrar que participa en el programa de asistencia para personas con bajos ingresos de su servicio de gas o electricidad. Existen dos formas para calificar:

OPCIÓN 1: Si participa en el programa CARE de sus servicios públicos de electricidad o gas, simplemente **complete la solicitud en línea** (escanee el código QR en la parte superior de la página), marque la opción 1 y adjunte una copia de una factura reciente de Southern California Edison o de Southern California Gas Company. O llene la solicitud (en el reverso), marque la opción 1, adjunte una copia de una factura reciente de Southern California Edison o Southern California Gas Company y envíela por correo a: Suburban Water Systems, 1325 N. Grand Ave, Suite 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044.

OPCIÓN 2: Si tiene bajos ingresos, pero no participa en CARE, puede calificar certificando que los ingresos de su hogar cumplen con los requisitos que se muestran en la Opción 2 en línea y en el reverso. Si cumple con esos requisitos, **complete la solicitud en línea** (escanee el código QR en la parte superior de la página) y marque la opción 2 o llene la solicitud (en el reverso), marque la opción 2 y envíela por correo a: Suburban Water Systems, 1325 N. Grand Ave., Suite 100, Covina, CA 91724-4044.

CAP* no es un programa retroactivo. Suburban Water Systems utiliza un proceso de renovación semestral para este programa y enviará avisos de renovación antes de la fecha de renovación. Los clientes calificados comenzarán a recibir un ajuste en el mes siguiente a su aceptación en el programa. Si tiene preguntas adicionales sobre el programa **CAP*** o para obtener solicitudes adicionales en inglés o español, visite nuestro sitio web en www.swwc.com/suburban/lira o llame al servicio de atención al cliente al 800.203.5430 (TTY 877.405.1710).

*La Comisión de Servicios Públicos de California (CPUC, por sus siglas en inglés) también ha aprobado **CAP*** para instalaciones calificadas de vivienda grupal sin fines de lucro, instalaciones de vivienda para empleados agrícolas y centros de vivienda para trabajadores agrícolas migrantes. Comuníquese con nuestro departamento de servicio al cliente al 800.203.5340 si desea recibir una solicitud para uno de estos tipos de residencias.

*Formalmente LIRA/WISH



Suburban
Water Systems

Solicitud para CAP* de Suburban Water Systems

Escanee el código QR para completar el formulario de la solicitud en línea



Nombre

(Tal y como aparece en su factura de agua)

Número de Cuenta de Cliente

Dirección de Servicio

Calle

Ciudad

Estado

Zip

Dirección Postal

Si es diferente de la dirección de servicio Calle

Ciudad

Estado

Zip

Número de Teléfono de Día

Total de Personas que Viven en el Hogar

Adultos + Niños = Total

Elija su opción:

OPCIÓN 1

Yo participo en el programa CARE, los programas de asistencia para personas con bajos ingresos de Southern California Edison o Southern California Gas Company. Adjunto una copia de una factura reciente de Southern California Edison o Southern California Gas Company para demostrar mi participación en CARE.

OPCIÓN 2

Yo No participo en el programa CARE, los programas de asistencia para personas de bajos ingresos de Southern California Edison o Southern California Gas Company. Sin embargo, certifico que califico para CAP* porque el ingreso anual de mi hogar está por debajo de las pautas de ingresos de CAP*, o participo en un programa de asistencia pública.

DECLARACIÓN DE INGRESOS DEL HOGAR

Ingreso Máximo del Hogar

El ingreso bruto anual de su hogar debe estar por debajo de las pautas de ingresos de CAP*:

Total de personas en el hogar	Ingreso anual total combinado
1-2	\$ 43,280
3	\$ 54,640
4	\$ 66,000
5	\$ 77,360
6	\$ 88,720
7	\$ 100,080
8	\$ 111,440

Por cada persona adicional, agregue \$11,360 al ingreso anual total combinado.

El ingreso anual de mi hogar es \$ _____

Llene el círculo junto a todas las fuentes de ingresos anuales de su hogar.

- Sueldos o salarios
- Intereses y/o dividendos de:
 - Cuentas de ahorro
 - Acciones o bonos, o
 - Cuentas de jubilación
- Prestaciones por desempleo
- Ingresos por alquiler o regalías
- Subsidios escolares, becas u otras ayudas utilizadas para gastos de manutención
- Ganancias por autoempleo (Formulario del IRS, Schedule C, Línea 29)
- Pagos por discapacidad
- Compensación de trabajadores
- Seguro Social, SSI, SSP
- Pensiones
- Liquidación de seguros
- Acuerdos legales TANF (AFDC)
- Estampillas de alimentos
- Manutención infantil
- Manutención de cónyuge
- Efectivo y/u otros ingresos

Las pautas de ingresos enumeradas anteriormente están vigentes desde el 1 de Junio de 2026 hasta el 31 de Mayo de 2027.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

¿Usted participa en alguno de los siguientes programas? Si es así, marque (✓) a los programas a continuación.

- Medi-Cal/Medicaid
- WIC
- SSI
- Asistencia General de la Agencia de Asuntos Indígenas
- Ingreso Head Start (solo para tribus)
- Estampillas de alimentos/SNAP
- Healthy Families A&B
- National School Lunch (NSL)
- TANF/Tribal TANF
- LIHEAP

DECLARACIÓN

Por favor, lea atentamente y firme:

La información que he proporcionado en esta solicitud es verdadera y correcta. Acepto proporcionar un comprobante de ingresos si me lo piden. Estoy de acuerdo en informar a Suburban Water Systems si ya no califico para CAP*. Entiendo que si recibo el ajuste de mi factura sin calificar para él, es posible que deba devolver el ajuste que recibí. Entiendo que Suburban Water Systems puede compartir mi información con otras empresas de servicios públicos o sus agentes para inscribirme en sus programas de asistencia.

*Formalmente LIRA/WISH



Suburban Water Systems

1325 N. Grand Ave., Suite 100
Covina, CA 91724-4044

Firma Aquí

Firma del Cliente

Fecha

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

Revised

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 2116-W

Canceling Revised

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 2113-W

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(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

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

Advice Letter No. 423-W

Craig D. Gott

Date Filed _____

Decision No. _____

Name
President
 Title

Effective _____

Resolution No. _____

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

Revised Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 2117-W

Canceling Revised Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. 2103-W

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(To be inserted by utility)

Issued by

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

Advise Letter No. <u>423-W</u>	<u>Craig D. Gott</u> <small>Name</small>	Date Filed _____
Decision No. _____	<u>President</u> <small>Title</small>	Effective _____
		Resolution No. _____

SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS
Distribution List

Attachment A

Page 1 of 3

Director Of Public Works
City of Whittier
13230 E. Penn Street
Whittier, CA 90602

City Clerk
City of West Covina
1444 W. Garvey Ave. South
West Covina, CA 91790

City Attorney
City of Whittier
13230 E. Penn Street
Whittier, CA 90602

City Clerk
City of La Mirada
P.O. Box 828
La Mirada, CA 90638

Joe Matthews
La Habra Heights County Water District
Joe@Lhhcwd.com

City Attorney
City of Baldwin Park
14406 E. Pacific Ave.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706

City Clerk
City of Azusa
Annette.Juarez@Azusaca.gov

County Clerk
Orange County
10 Civic Center Plaza, 3rd. Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92701

City Clerk
City of Covina
125 East College Blvd.
Covina, CA 91723

City Attorney
City of Covina
125 East College Blvd.
Covina, CA 91723

Director of Public Works
City of Buena Park
6650 Beach Blvd.
Buena Park, CA 90621

City of Santa Fe Springs
Department of Public Works
11710 E. Telegraph Road
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Bill Robinson
Upper San Gabriel Valley M.W.D.
1146 East Louisa Avenue
West Covina, CA 91790-1346

City Attorney
City of La Habra
P.O. Box 337
La Habra, CA 90633

City Attorney
City of West Covina
1444 West Garvey Ave. South
West Covina, CA 91790

City Clerk
City of Baldwin Park
14406 E. Pacific Ave.
Baldwin Park, CA 91706

Orchard Dale County Water District
13819 East Telegraph Road
Whittier, CA 90604

SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS
Distribution List

City Attorney
City of La Mirada
P.O. Box 828
La Mirada, CA 90638

County Clerk
Los Angeles County
12400 Imperial Hwy, Room 2001
Norwalk, CA 90650

County Counsel
Orange County
10 Civic Center Plaza, 3rd. Floor
Santa Ana, CA 92701

City Clerk
City of La Puente
15900 East Main St.
La Puente, CA 91744

City Clerk
City of Glendora
116 East Foothill Blvd.
Glendora, CA 91741

City Attorney
City of Glendora
116 East Foothill Blvd.
Glendora, CA 91741

City Clerk
City of Walnut
P.O. Box 682
Walnut, CA 91788-0682

City Attorney
City of Walnut
P.O. Box 682
Walnut, CA 91788-0682

Jandy Macias, General Manager
Valley County Water District
jmacias@vcwd.org

Liberty Utilities
AdviceLetterService@LibertyUtilities.com

Audrey F. Jackson
Golden State Water Company
AFJackson@gswater.com

City Clerk, Julie Gutierrez-Robles
City of Industry
jgrobles@cityofindustry.org

Rowland Water District
gsanchez@rwd.org

Valencia Heights Water Co.
dmichalko@vhwc.org

California Domestic Water Company
lnoriega@caldomestic.com

Carmen Fleming
Walnut Valley Water District
cflaming@wvwd.com

City Clerk
City of La Habra
cc@lahabraca.gov

California Advocates Office Water Branch
California Public Utilities Commission
PublicAdvocatesWater@cpuc.ca.gov

City of Azusa
Assistant General Manager – Water
Operations
Melissa.Barbosa@azusaca.gov

City Clerk
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SUBURBAN WATER SYSTEMS

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Page 3 of 3

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The Public Advocates Office
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Los Angeles County Supervisor District 2
for Willowbrook and unincorporated LA
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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

Attachment B



March 3, 2026

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Oakland, CA 94612

Michael Lamond
Alpine Natural Gas Operating
Company No. 1, LLC
P.O. Box 550
Valley Springs, CA 95252

Laurie Brown
Southwest Gas Corporation
8360 S Durango Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89113

Joni Key
Southern California Edison
Company
8631 Rush Street
Rosemead, CA 91770

Ronald Moore
Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc.
42020 Garstin Dr.
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Cynthia Morris
West Coast Gas Company
9203 Beatty Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95826

Alan Salazar
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
8330 Century Park Court, CP32F
San Diego, CA 92123

Dan Marsh
Liberty Utilities LLC
9750 Washburn Road
Downey, CA 90241

Kristine Huliganga
Southern California Gas Company
555 W 5th Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-0000

Charity Spires
PacifiCorp d.b.a Pacific Power
825 NE Multnomah Street,
Suite 2000
Portland, OR 97232

RE: Notice to update the income guidelines to Investor Owned and Small Multi-Jurisdictional Utilities providing services under the California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) and Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) programs.

Dear Representatives of Investor Owned and Small Multi-Jurisdictional Utilities,

Pursuant to Decision (D.) 12-08-044,¹ this letter (“Letter”) provides information on updating the income limits for the CARE, FERA, and ESA Programs to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E), and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) (collectively, the investor-owned utilities or IOUs); and Alpine Natural Gas Operating Company No. 1, LLC, Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc., Liberty Utilities LLC, PacifiCorp d.b.a Pacific Power, Southwest Gas Corporation, and West Coast Gas Company (collectively, the Small and Multi-Jurisdictional Utilities or SMJUs) (collectively, the Utilities). The Utilities should file revised tariffs with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission) reflecting the income levels specified below by May 1, 2026.

¹D.12-08-044, Ordering Paragraph 119.

CARE and ESA Program Income Guideline Updates:

The 2026–2027 CARE and ESA Programs’ income limits have been updated in accordance with Public Utilities (P.U.) Code Section 739.1 (a) and 2790 (f)-(g).² Federal Poverty Guidelines values and household size are used to determine the revised annual CARE, ESA, and FERA Programs’ income limits³. The Federal Poverty Guidelines are updated annually in January in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2)⁴. In 2021, SB 756 updated P.U. Code Section 2790 by changing the income limits of ESA program eligibility from referencing P.U. Code 739.1 (which defined low-income as households with income no greater than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines) to establishing the ESA Programs’ income limits at or below 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines beginning July 1, 2022.

The 2026-2027 income limits for CARE and ESA are provided below for household sizes of 1-8 persons.

Effective June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027, CARE Programs’ income limits are as follows:

Table 1: CARE Income Guidelines

Household Size	Income Eligibility Upper Limit *
1-2	\$43,280
3	\$54,640
4	\$66,000
5	\$77,360
6	\$88,720
7	\$100,080
8	\$111,440
Each Additional Person	\$11,360
*Upper Limit Calculation = 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines	

²PU Code Section 739.1(a) states: *The commission shall continue a program of assistance to low-income electric and gas customers with annual household incomes that are no greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline levels, the cost of which shall not be borne solely by any single class of customer.*

PU Code Section 2790 states: *(f)(1) For purposes of this section, “low-income customers” means persons and families whose household income is at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level... (g) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2022.*

³ Household income limitations per the Federal Poverty Guidelines are used to determine if a person or household qualifies for CARE, ESA, or FERA. This aligns with the requirements of P.U. Code Sections 739.1 (b)(1), 739.12 (a), and 2790 (f)(1) respectively.

⁴ The Federal Poverty Guidelines are updated annually in January and available online at: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines>.

Effective June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027, ESA Programs' income limits are as follows:

Table 2: ESA Income Guidelines

Household Size	Income Eligibility Upper Limit *
1	\$39,900
2	\$54,100
3	\$68,300
4	\$82,500
5	\$96,700
6	\$110,900
7	\$125,100
8	\$139,300
Each Additional Person	\$14,200
*Upper Limit Calculation = 250% of Federal Poverty Guidelines	

Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) Program Income Guideline Updates:

The CPUC authorized FERA, also known as the Lower Middle Income Large Household Program, in D.04-02-057 on February 26, 2004. In that decision, the CPUC stated that the use of CARE procedures for annual income eligibility is also reasonable for the FERA program.⁵ D.05-10-044, dated October 27, 2005, raised the lower income limits of the FERA program to 200%+\$1 of the Federal Poverty Guideline levels, which corresponds to the *upper* limits of the CARE program.

Effective June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027, FERA income limits are as follows:

Table 3: FERA Income Guidelines

Household Size	Income Eligibility Lower Limit *	Income Eligibility Upper Limit **
1-2	\$43,281	\$54,100
3	\$54,641	\$68,300
4	\$66,001	\$82,500
5	\$77,361	\$96,700
6	\$88,721	\$110,900
7	\$100,081	\$125,100
8	\$111,441	\$139,300
Each Additional Person	\$11,360	\$14,200
*Lower Limit Calculation = 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines (CARE) + \$1		
** Upper Limit Calculation = 250% of Federal Poverty Guidelines ⁶		

⁵D.04-02-057.

⁶*Ibid.*, at 2.

Note: The income limits set forth herein are effective for all new FERA, CARE, and ESA Program enrollments as well as CARE and FERA post-enrollment verifications and re-certifications. The existing list of programs that render ratepayers categorically eligible for the programs is retained unless updated per the direction of D.21-06-015. The Director of the Energy Division will continue to communicate new income levels annually and require energy utilities to file revised tariffs effective June 1st of each year.

The Utilities should file revised tariffs with the CPUC reflecting the income levels specified above by May 1, 2026. They need only file the revised tariff sheets but should ensure that all tariffs, internet sites and printed materials about the CARE, FERA, and ESA programs display the current income eligibility guidelines and their effective dates, up through a household of eight, as shown in the above tables. All tariffs, internet sites, and printed materials about the CARE program should also indicate that unacceptable energy usage levels could result in removal from the program.⁷

If you have any questions regarding the income limits, please contact Jennifer Gordon at jennifer.gordon@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Kerry Fleisher

Director of the Office of Distributed Energy Resources, Natural Gas, and Retail Energy Rates

Kerry.Fleisher@cpuc.ca.gov

⁷ D.12-08-044 at 124 and PU code 739.1 (i)(1).