## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### FORM 8-K

Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (date of earliest event reported): April 27, 2017

#### CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

**Delaware** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-13883 (Commission file number)

77-0448994 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

1720 North First Street San Jose, California (Address of principal executive offices)

**95112** (Zip Code)

#### (408) 367-8200

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

#### N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check 1	the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:					
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)					
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)					
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))					
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))					
	e by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of urities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).					
Emergi	ng growth company □					
	If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.					

#### Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On April 27, 2017, California Water Service Group (the "Company") issued a press release (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference) announcing its financial results for the first quarter of 2017, ended March 31, 2017. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

As announced, the Company will host a conference call on Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 11:00 am EST to discuss financial results and management's business outlook. The financial results announcement contains information about how to access the conference call. A slide presentation, which includes supplemental information relating to the Company, will be used by management during the conference call. A copy of the slide presentation is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and is incorporated by reference herein. The Exhibits will be posted on the Company's website at www.calwatergroup.com under the "Investor Relations" tab.

The information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 of this Current Report shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

#### Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

The information included in the Exhibits to this report is incorporated by reference in response to this Item 7.01.

The information furnished pursuant to Item 7.01 of this Current Report shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

We hereby furnish the following exhibits, which shall not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, with this report:

99.1	Press Release issued April 27, 2017
99.2	Slide presentation relating to conference call
	2

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

#### CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP

By: Name: /s/Thomas F. Smegal Thomas F. Smegal Date: April 27, 2017

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer Title:



Contact:

### NEWS RELEASE CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP



1720 North First Street San Jose, CA 95112-4598

Tom Smegal (408) 367-8200 (analysts) Shannon Dean (408) 367-8243 (media) April 27, 2017 for immediate release

#### CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP ANNOUNCES EARNINGS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER 2017

SAN JOSE, CA — California Water Service Group (NYSE: CWT) today announced net income of \$1.1 million, or \$0.02 diluted earnings per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2017, compared to a net loss of \$0.8 million, or \$0.02 net loss per diluted share, for the first quarter of 2016.

The increase in net income was primarily a result of rate increases effective January 1, 2017 and decreases in operating expenses, notably a \$1.8 million reduction in California drought program incremental costs. The implementation of allowance for equity funds used during construction and accounting changes for share-based payments, effective January 1, 2017, also increased net income. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in the accrual for unbilled revenue and increases in depreciation and interest expenses.

Total revenue increased \$0.3 million to \$122.0 million for the first quarter of 2017 as compared to revenue of \$121.7 million for the first quarter of 2016. Rate increases added \$11.5 million, \$2.4 million of which was related to water production cost increases. Revenue decoupling mechanisms and other balancing accounts reduced revenue \$7.0 million due mostly to a decrease in water production during the first quarter of 2017. The difference between adopted and recorded water production costs are recorded as an offset to the WRAM mechanism. The accrual for unbilled revenue reduced revenue \$3.3 million.

According to President and Chief Executive Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki, "the quarterly operating results were in line with the Company's expectations and reflect the authorized rate increases that went into effect at the beginning of the year."

"We are delighted by the wet weather we have had in California, which has brought an end to the drought crisis for most of the state. We now continue to work on implementing the Governor's long-term water use regulations while continuing to support our customers' day-to-day efforts to use water more efficiently. We also remain focused on making capital improvements to our water systems as part of our annual capital investment program adopted by the CPUC," said Kropelnicki.

Total operating expenses decreased \$1.5 million, or 1.3%, to \$114.0 million for the first quarter of 2017 as compared to operating expenses of \$115.5 million for the first quarter of 2016.

Water production costs increased \$1.0 million, or 2.4%, to \$42.1 million for the first quarter of 2017 as compared to prior year water production costs of \$41.1 million, due primarily to wholesale water supplier rate increases. As designed, the California revenue decoupling mechanisms record increases to revenue equal to the increases in California water production costs.

Administrative and general and other operations expenses decreased \$5.7 million, or 12.2%, to \$41.4 million in the first quarter of 2017, as compared to \$47.1 million in the first quarter of 2016. The decrease was mostly due to the deferral of \$2.6 million of costs associated with deferred WRAM operating revenue and decreases in employee health care costs of \$1.9 million, California drought program incremental costs of \$1.8 million, on-going conservation program costs of \$0.8 million, and outside service costs of \$0.3 million. These cost decreases were partially offset by increases in employee wages of \$0.9 million and uninsured loss costs of \$0.3 million. Changes in employee pension and other postretirement benefit costs, water conservation program costs, and employee health care costs for regulated California operations generally do not affect earnings given the regulatory treatment that allows the Company to track these costs in balancing accounts for future recovery, which creates a corresponding change to operating revenue.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased \$3.2 million, or 19.7%, to \$19.2 million in the first quarter of 2017, as compared to \$16.0 million in the first quarter of 2016, due to 2016 capital additions.

Income tax benefit remained consistent at \$0.9 million in the first quarter of 2017 due primarily to an income tax benefit in the first quarter of 2017 associated with the implementation of accounting changes for share-based payments.

Other income, net of income taxes, increased \$1.0 million in 2017, mostly due to the implementation of allowance for equity funds used during construction.

Company-funded and developer-funded capital expenditures for the first quarter of 2017 were \$51.9 million, a decrease of \$4.6 million, or 8.2%, compared to \$56.5 million in the first quarter of 2016. The decrease was primarily due to construction project delays caused by major winter storms in California during the first quarter of 2017.

The under-collected net water revenue adjustment mechanism (WRAM) and modified cost balancing account (MCBA) net receivable balance increased 29.3% or \$10.9 million to \$48.0 million as of March 31, 2017 from \$37.1 million as of December 31, 2016. The increase was mostly due to a reduction in usage by customers due to winter storms during the first quarter of 2017. In addition, there were no drought surcharges recorded as an offset to the WRAM balance during the first quarter of 2017 as compared to \$11.4 million recorded in the first quarter of 2016.

#### Regulatory Update

During the first quarter of 2017, Cal Water entered into a 50-year agreement with the U.S. Department of Defense to acquire the water distribution assets of, and to provide water utility service to, the Travis Air Force Base beginning in 2018, subject to CPUC approval. Cal Water will also make initial capital improvements of about \$12.7 million, with an anticipated capital investment of about \$52.0 million over the 50-year term of the utility service contract.

In April 2017, Cal Water, along with three other water utilities, filed an application to adopt a new cost of capital and capital structure for 2018. Cal Water requested a return on equity of 10.75% and a 53.4% equity capital structure as well as a water cost of capital adjustment mechanism similar to that last adopted for the company. The California Division of Ratepayer Advocates and other parties will submit testimony later in the year and may propose a different cost of capital and capital structure. The CPUC schedule for the application anticipates a decision on the matter by the end of 2017.

In March 2017, Cal Water submitted an advice letter that established the School Lead Testing Memorandum Account (SLT MA), which gives Cal Water the opportunity to recover costs related to lead monitoring and testing required by the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water. The SLT MA will track all incremental expenses associated with lead testing conducted at the request of K-12 schools within Cal Water's service territory.

#### Other Information

All stockholders and interested investors are invited to listen to the first quarter of 2017 conference call on April 27, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. PST (11:00 a.m. EST) by dialing 1-866-719-0110 or 1-719-325-2104 and keying in ID # 6640105. A replay of the call will be available from 11:00 a.m. PST (2:00 p.m. EST) on April 27, 2017 through June 27, 2017, at 1-888-203-1112 or 1-719-457-0820, ID # 6640105. The replay will also be available under the investor relations tab at www.calwatergroup.com. Prior to the call, Cal Water will post a slide presentation on its website. The presentation can be found at www.calwatergroup.com/docs/2017q1slides.pdf after 6:00 a.m. PDT today. The call will be hosted by President and Chief Executive Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Thomas F. Smegal III, and Vice President of Regulatory Matters and Corporate Development Paul G. Townsley.

California Water Service Group is the parent company of California Water Service, Washington Water Service, New Mexico Water Service, Hawaii Water Service, CWS Utility Services, and HWS Utility Services. Together, these companies provide regulated and non-regulated water service to nearly 2 million people in California, Washington, New Mexico, and Hawaii. California Water Service was ranked "Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Water Utilities in the West" in 2016 by J.D. Power in its inaugural Water Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study. California Water Service Group's common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CWT." Additional information is available online at www.calwatergroup.com.

This news release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("Act"). The forwardlooking statements are intended to qualify under provisions of the federal securities laws for "safe harbor" treatment established by the Act. Forward-looking statements are based on currently available information, expectations, estimates, assumptions and projections, and management's judgment about the Company, the water utility industry and general economic conditions. Such words as would, expects, intends, plans, believes, estimates, assumes, anticipates, projects, predicts, forecasts or variations of such words or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. They are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. Actual results may vary materially from what is contained in a forward-looking statement. Factors that may cause a result different than expected or anticipated include, but are not limited to: governmental and regulatory commissions' decisions; consequences of eminent domain actions relating to our water systems; changes in regulatory commissions' policies and procedures; the timeliness of regulatory commissions' actions concerning rate relief; inability to renew leases to operate city water systems on beneficial terms; changes in California State Water Resources Control Board water quality standards; changes in environmental compliance and water quality requirements; electric power interruptions; changes in customer water use patterns and the effects of conservation; the impact of weather and climate on water availability, water sales and operating results; the unknown impact of contagious diseases, on the Company's operations; civil disturbances or terrorist threats or acts, or apprehension about the possible future occurrences of acts of this type; labor relations matters as we negotiate with the unions; restrictive covenants in or changes to the credit ratings on our current or future debt that could increase our financing costs or affect our ability to borrow, make payments on debt or pay dividends; and, other risks and unforeseen events. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the cautionary statements included in this paragraph, as well as the annual 10-K, Quarterly 10-Q, and other reports filed from time-to-time with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Company assumes no obligation to provide public updates of forward-looking statements.

#### CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS Unaudited (In thousands, except per share data)

	March 31, 2017	D	December 31 2016
ASSETS			
Utility plant:			
Utility plant	\$ 2,766,232	\$	2,717,339
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(878,227)		(858,062)
Net utility plant	 1,888,005		1,859,277
Current assets:	 		
Cash and cash equivalents	11,990		25,492
Receivables			
Customers	24,685		30,305
Regulatory balancing accounts	30,661		30,332
Other	17,394		17,158
Unbilled revenue	24,303		25,228
Materials and supplies at average cost	6,405		6,292
Taxes, prepaid expense, and other assets	 12,767		7,262
Total current assets	 128,205		142,069
Other assets:			
Regulatory assets	367,476		355,930
Goodwill	2,615		2,615
Other assets	 53,997		51,854
Total other assets	424,088		410,399
	\$ 2,440,298	\$	2,411,745

#### CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES

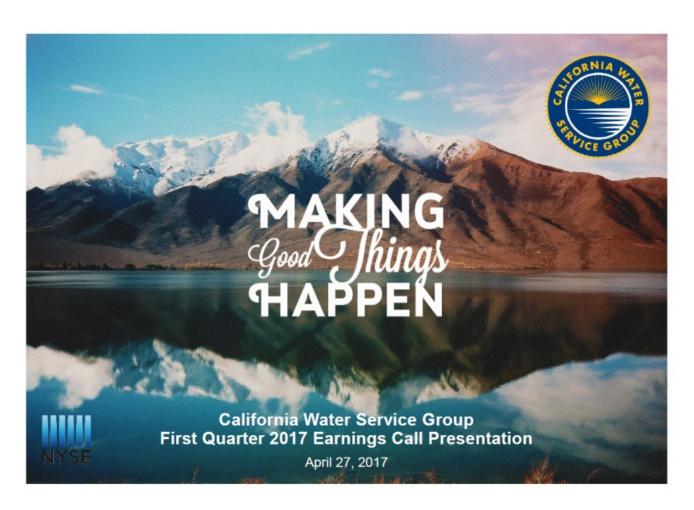
Capitalization:				
Common stock, \$.01 par value	\$	480	\$	480
Additional paid-in capital		334,220		334,856
Retained earnings		316,633		324,135
Total common stockholders' equity		651,333	· ·	659,471
Long-term debt, less current maturities		521,715		531,745
Total capitalization		1,173,048		1,191,216
Current liabilities:				
Current maturities of long-term debt		36,139		26,208
Short-term borrowings		130,100		97,100
Accounts payable		69,276		77,813
Regulatory balancing accounts		8,197		4,759
Accrued interest		12,583		5,661
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		37,078		38,689
Total current liabilities	·	293,373	<u> </u>	250,230
Unamortized investment tax credits		1,798		1,798
Deferred income taxes		299,464		298,924
Pension and postretirement benefits other than pensions		224,851		222,691
Regulatory liability and Other		84,318		83,648
Advances for construction		182,815		182,448
Contributions in aid of construction		180,631		180,790
Commitments and contingencies		_		
	\$	2,440,298	\$	2,411,745

## CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME Unaudited

(In thousands, except per share data)

For the Three-Months ended:

	March 31, 	March 31, 2016
Operating revenue	\$ 122,0	36 \$ 121,727
Operating expenses:		_
Operations:		
Water production costs	42,00	
Administrative and General	25,24	9 27,827
Other operations	16,12	
Maintenance	6,1	- ,
Depreciation and amortization	19,20	1 16,046
Income tax benefit	(88	(925)
Property and other taxes	6,1	6,075
Total operating expenses	113,99	115,457
Net operating income	8,0:	6,270
Other income and expenses:		
Non-regulated revenue	3,40	3,428
Non-regulated expenses	(2,0)	
Allowance for equity funds used during construction	(2,0. 7'	
Income tax (expense) on other income and expenses	(8)	
Net other income		
Net other income	1,24	267
Interest expense:		
Interest Expense	8,7	,
Allowance for borrowed funds used during construction	(49	
Net interest expense	8,2	6 7,335
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,1	<u>\$ (798)</u>
Earnings (loss) per share		
Basic	\$ 0.	)2 \$ (0.02)
Diluted	\$ 0.	
Weighted average shares outstanding	ψ 0.	(0.02)
Basic	47,98	47,825
Diluted	47,98	
Dividends per share of common stock	\$ 0.18	00 \$ 0.1725



#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This presentation contains forward-looking statements within the meaning established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("Act"). The forward-looking statements are intended to qualify under provisions of the federal securities laws for "safe harbor" treatment established by the Act. Forward-looking statements are based on currently available information, expectations, estimates, assumptions and projections, and management's judgment about the California drought and its effect on the Company.

Words such as would, expects, intends, plans, believes, estimates, assumes, anticipates, projects, predicts, forecasts or variations of such words or similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. They are subject to uncertainty and changes in circumstances. Actual results may vary materially from what is contained in a forward-looking statement.

Factors that may cause a result different than expected or anticipated include, but are not limited to: governmental and regulatory commissions' decisions; changes in regulatory commissions' policies and procedures; the timeliness of regulatory commissions' actions concerning rate relief; eminent domain actions affecting our water systems; electric power interruptions; the ability to successfully implement conservation measures; changes in customer water use patterns; the impact of weather and climate on water sales and operating results; and, other risks and unforeseen events.

When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the cautionary statements included in this paragraph, as well as the annual 10-K, Quarterly 10-Q, and other reports filed from time-to-time with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Company assumes no obligation to provide public updates of forward-looking statements.





Marty Kropelnicki President & CEO



**Tom Smegal** Vice President, CFO & Treasurer

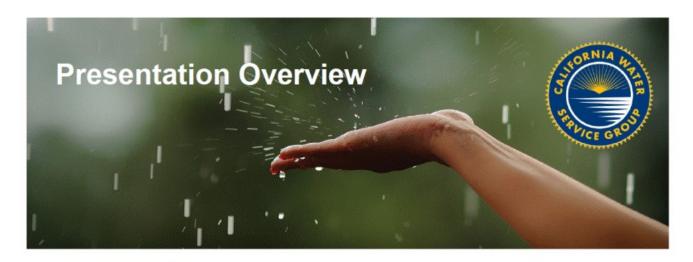


Paul Townsley
Vice President, Regulatory Matters &
Corporate Development





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- · Financial Results for the First Quarter
- · Financial Highlights
- Q1 2017- Q1 2016 EPS Bridge
- · Regulatory Update
- · Drought and Winter Storm Update
- · Financial Effects of the Drought
- Net WRAM receivable 2011- present
- · Water Quality Initiatives
- Cap Ex 2007 Recorded to 2018 Projected
- Rate Base 2014 recorded to 2019 projected
- What's next in 2017?

## Financial Results: First Quarter

(amounts are in millions, except for EPS)	Q1 2016		Q1 2017	Variance
Operating Revenue	\$121.7		\$122.0	0.3%
Operating Expenses	115.5		114.0	-1.3%
Income from Operations	6.3		8.0	28.4%
Other Income	0.3		1.3	386.1%
Net Interest	7.3	_	8.2	12.0%
Net Income/Loss	-\$0.8		\$1.1	
EPS	-\$0.02	_	\$0.02	





- Quarterly earnings increase of \$1.9 million, largely attributable to:
  - o Increase in revenue of \$11.5 million from GRC rate increases
  - o Decrease of \$1.8 million in incremental drought-related costs
  - Increase in other income of \$1.0 million, primarily due to implementation of allowance for equity funds used during construction (AFUDC)
- Company- and developer-funded capital investments were \$51.9 million, a decrease of 8.3% compared to Q1 2016 due in part to wet weather





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### **Notes to Quarterly EPS Changes**

- · Increased rate relief is driven by recent GRC decisions.
- Change in unbilled revenue accrual is seasonal and reflects changes due to weather and other factors.
- Increased depreciation is consistent with \$236.3 million additional capital investment placed into service in 2016 and depreciation rates adopted in the GRC.
- First quarter drought response costs were reduced from \$2.0 million in 2016 to \$0.2 million in 2017. Governor Brown ended the drought state of emergency in April except for four counties in the San Joaquin valley.
- The GRC allowed use of AFUDC rates for construction financing costs in the GRC cycle. The AFUDC income represents the change in regulatory asset and is expected to increase during the year as the company spends capital.

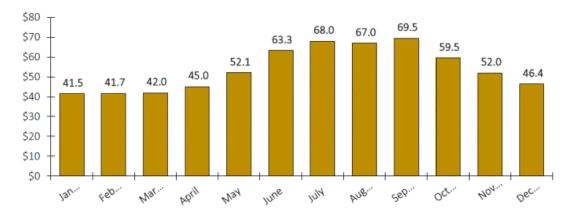




## 2017 California GRC Adopted Revenue by Month

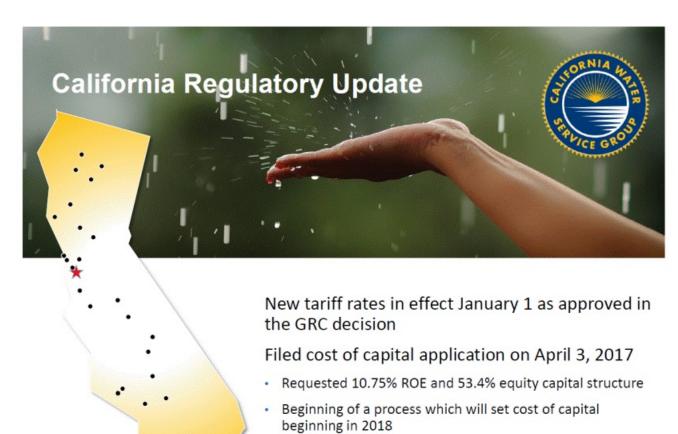
(in millions)











Company in the planning stages of its 2018 GRC filing

### **Other Regulatory Notes**

- California escalation increases of \$17.2 million in 2018 and \$16.3 million in 2019 are subject to earnings test which reviews capital investment performance
- \$30 million of aggregate California advice letter revenue will be included in rates after completion of specific projects through 2019
  - In the first quarter, Cal Water filed two advice letters for \$0.9 million annual revenue which became effective on April 15, 2017
- Company will file an application to incorporate Travis Air Force Base into its California service territory in the second quarter
- Hawaii Water is in process with a \$1.5 million rate increase request for its Pukalani sewer service area





# Drought and Winter Storm Update

- California moved from five-year drought to the wettest water year in California history
  - As of April 21, precipitation in northern Sierra is 209% of annual average
  - Snow accumulations are 191% of average for date
- On April 7, Governor Brown declared an end to the drought emergency in 54 of California's 58 counties
  - Two Cal Water districts remain under a declared drought; they serve San Joaquin Valley cities where groundwater was impacted by five years of drought
  - o Drought surcharges were suspended on July 29, 2016
- First step toward permanent water use regulations released by the State Board in January, start of a multi-year process





## **Financial Effects of the Drought**

- Cal Water has been "decoupled" (minimizes effect of sales and production costs on earnings) since 2008 with WRAM
  - Sales decline will not reduce profits
  - o Revenue accrual, not included in WRAM, is a temporary impact
  - o During the drought, the WRAM receivable balance declined
- Since drought emergency is ended, Cal Water anticipates filing to recover 2016 through Q2 2017 drought costs later in 2017
- Due to continued sales decline, net WRAM receivable may grow in 2017
  - Extremely wet winter led to lower recorded sales and an increase in WRAM receivable in the first quarter
  - 2017 undercollection will be billed as surcharges beginning in 2018
  - Cal Water will have the opportunity to adjust adopted sales along with its 2018 escalation filing as part of the adopted Sales Reconciliation Mechanism

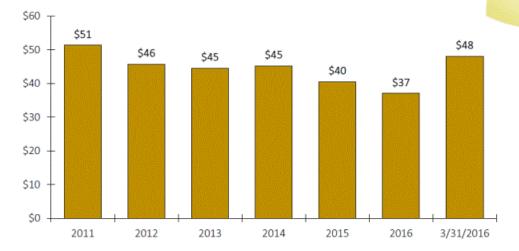
See Forward-Looking Statements for factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations presented here.



## **Net WRAM Receivable Balance**

(in millions) (End of Year balance except current period)

California water volumes were 76% of adopted in Q1 2017





# Water Quality Initiatives

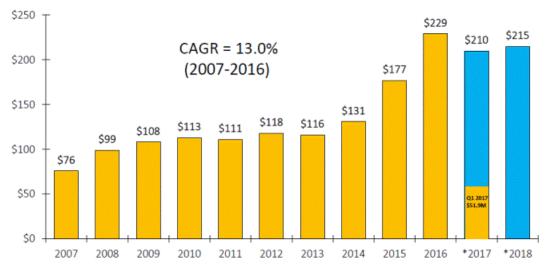
- Cal Water is executing its plan to treat for 1,2,3
   Trichloropropane (TCP) in compliance with California's proposed maximum contaminant level for the carcinogen
  - o Treatment planned for around 40 sites throughout the state
  - Company expects to invest around \$25 million (included in its projected CapEx) in 2017 to begin to meet the new regulation, with additional expenditure in 2018
- New California legislation requires Cal Water to test for lead at school sites if requested by the school
  - Cal Water is acting aggressively to offer these tests to all schools, not waiting for a request
  - CPUC approved a memorandum account to track costs of the testing program





## **Capital Investment History and Projection**

(in millions)



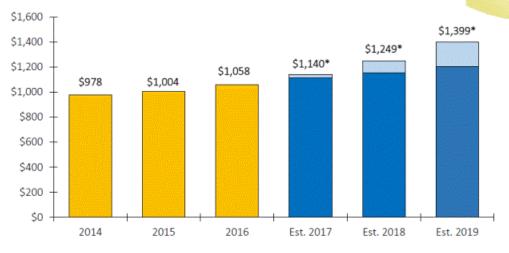
\*2017-2018 amounts are based upon Company projections including 2015 California Rate Case decision





# Regulated Rate Base of CWT (in millions)

\*Includes estimated cumulative additions in 2017-2019 of \$28M, \$96M, and \$197M for advice letters.



See Forward-Looking Statements for factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations presented here.





- · Ongoing proceedings in cost of capital application anticipated throughout the summer.
- Company continues to focus on capital investment to comply with California's proposed 1,2,3-Trichlorpropane (TCP) regulation, pass 2018 escalation earnings tests, and complete "advice letter" projects on schedule. With \$51.9 million invested to date, we project \$200-\$220 million for the full year.
- Drought response expenses should end in Q2, followed by a request to recover 2016-2017 costs.
- · Cal Water will begin lead testing in schools within our service areas.

