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): November 1, 2018

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 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))

Indicate 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 the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company \Box

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 November 1, 2018, 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 third quarter of 2018, ended September 30, 2018. 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, November 1, 2018 at 11:00 am ET 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:

Exhibit No.	Description	
99.1	Press Release issued November 1, 2018	
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

Date: November 1, 2018

 By:
 /s/ Thomas F. Smegal

 Name:
 Thomas F. Smegal

 Title:
 Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer



1720 North First Street San Jose, CA 95112-4598 NEWS RELEASE CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP



Exhibit 99.1

November 1, 2018 for immediate release

Contact: Tom Smegal (408) 367-8200 (analysts) Shannon Dean (310) 257-1435 (media)

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP ANNOUNCES EARNINGS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER 2018

SAN JOSE, CA — California Water Service Group (NYSE: CWT) today announced net income of \$34.4 million or \$0.72 earnings per diluted common share for the third quarter of 2018, compared to net income of \$33.8 million or \$0.70 earnings per diluted common share for the third quarter of 2017.

The \$0.6 million increase in net income was driven primarily by aggregate rate increases of \$4.4 million, reflecting general rate increases net of California's cost of capital decision. Other factors increasing net income included a \$1.1 million reduction in write-offs of unrecoverable capital costs and an increase in tax benefits of \$0.9 million. The increases to net income were partially offset by a \$1.8 million increase in depreciation and amortization, employee wage increases of \$1.5 million, a \$1.3 million increase in new business expenses, and a \$1.7 million increase in interest expense.

"Our results for the third quarter were in line with expectations," said President and Chief Executive Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki.

"During the quarter, we had the Mendocino Complex wildfire, the largest in California history, threatening one of our service areas. We activated our emergency operations center for two weeks, staffed around the clock, to provide resources to firefighters and help protect our customers' property. I'm so proud of our dedicated employees who kept the water flowing while dealing with the risk to themselves and their families from the fire," he said.

"Finally, I am pleased that we continued our efforts in the quarter to complete capital programs to bring clean, reliable water service to customers. We now anticipate our capital investment for the year will be in the range of \$240 to \$260 million. Towards that goal, we successfully raised \$300 million in first mortgage bonds in the quarter to refinance our California Water Service Company (Cal Water) line of credit. The refinancing supports planned improvements to transmission and distribution pipelines, which are necessary to upgrade aging water systems, to enable the delivery of safe, reliable, and high-quality water supply for both our customers' everyday needs and for emergency use by firefighters and other first responders," said President and Chief Executive Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki.

Additional Financial Results for the Third Quarter of 2018

Total revenue increased 3.4% to \$219.0 million in the third quarter of 2018 compared to \$211.7 million in the third quarter of 2017. The increase was mostly due to aggregate rate increases of \$4.4 million, reflecting general rate increases net of the reduction for California's cost of capital decision. In addition, balancing account adjustments added \$1.5 million and deferred revenue adjustments added \$1.5 million.

Total operating expenses increased \$4.1 million, or 2.5%, to \$173.4 million in the third quarter of 2018 compared to \$169.3 million in the third quarter of 2017.

Water production expenses increased \$3.5 million, or 4.7%, to \$78.8 million in the third quarter of 2018 compared to \$75.3 million in the third quarter of 2017, primarily due to increases in purchased water quantities and higher wholesale water rates. The California revenue decoupling mechanisms record an increase to revenue equal to the increase in California water production costs.

Administrative and general and other operations expenses increased \$4.4 million to \$48.4 million in the third quarter of 2018, primarily due to increases in employee wage and benefit costs and uninsured losses associated with operations. Changes in employee pension benefits and employee and retiree medical costs for regulated California operations generally do not affect earnings, as the Company is allowed by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to record these costs in balancing accounts for future recovery, creating a corresponding change to revenue.

Maintenance expenses increased \$0.7 million, or 11.7%, to \$6.8 million in the third quarter of 2018, due to increased costs for repairs of transmission and distribution mains and services.

Income taxes decreased \$6.9 million primarily due to a decrease in the corporate federal income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, effective January 1, 2018, an increase in tax benefits of \$0.9 million, and a decrease in pre-tax income. The Company estimates its combined effective income tax rate for 2018 in the range of 22 to 25 percent.

Depreciation and amortization expenses increased \$1.8 million, to \$21.0 million, in the third quarter of 2018, as compared to \$19.2 million in the third quarter of 2017, due to a record increase in utility plant investment in 2017.

Net other loss, net of income tax benefits, increased \$0.8 million in 2018, primarily due to \$1.3 million of expenses associated with new business acquisition efforts.

Year-to-Date Results

For the nine-month period ended September 30, 2018, net income was \$44.9 million or \$0.93 earnings per diluted common share, compared to net income of \$53.5 million or \$1.11 earnings per diluted common share for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2017.

The \$8.6 million decrease in net income was primarily the result of \$5.1 million increase in expenses associated with new business development, increase of \$5.0 million in depreciation and amortization, employee wage increases of \$4.0 million, and an increase of \$3.5 million in interest expense. In addition, there were other changes driven primarily by factors outside our immediate control that decreased net income, including a \$2.7 million reduction in unbilled revenue accrual and a net \$0.5 million decrease in the valuation of our benefit plan investments due to changes in market valuation offset by life insurance proceeds. These decreases to net income were partially offset by aggregate rate increases of \$10.8 million, reflecting general rate increases net of California's cost of capital decision.

Water System Improvements

During the first nine months of 2018, the total company-funded and developer-funded capital investment was \$212.9 million, an increase of \$32.5 million, or 18.0%, compared to \$180.4 million in the first nine months of 2017. The increase was primarily due to Cal Water projects constructed to treat 35 wells to remove 1,2,3 trichloropropane (TCP).

California Revenue Decoupling Mechanisms

The under-collected net receivable balance in the Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (WRAM) and Modified Cost Balancing Account (MCBA) was \$60.0 million as of September 30, 2018, a decrease of 13.2%, or \$9.1 million, from the balance of \$69.1 million as of December 31, 2017. Cal Water used its CPUC-authorized Sales Reconciliation Mechanism (SRM) to adjust its adopted sales forecast for 2018.

Other Information

All stockholders and interested investors are invited to listen to the third quarter 2018 conference call, which will be held today at 11:00 a.m. ET, by dialing 1-833-832-5130 or 1-509-844-0151 and keying in ID# 9442499. A replay of the call will be available from 2:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, November 1, 2018 through January 1, 2019, at 1-855-859-2056 or 1-404-537-3406, ID# 9442499. The replay will also be available under the investor relations tab at www.calwatergroup.com. The call will be hosted by President and Chief Executive Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki and Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Thomas F. Smegal. Prior to the call, the Company will post a slide presentation on its website. The presentation can be found at www.calwatergroup.com/docs/2018q3slides.pdf after 6:00 a.m. PDT.

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 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 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 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)	Se	eptember 30, 2018	D	ecember 31 2017
ASSETS				
Utility plant:				
Utility plant	\$	3,169,726	\$	2,970,179
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		(983,984)		(922,214
Net utility plant	-	2,185,742		2,047,965
Current assets:		<u> </u>		<i>.</i>
Cash and cash equivalents		66,421		94,776
Receivables:				
Customers		50,785		32,451
Regulatory balancing accounts		37,973		36,783
Other		20,903		16,464
Unbilled revenue		40,318		29,756
Materials and supplies at weighted average cost		6,563		6,463
Taxes, prepaid expenses, and other assets		12,576		11,180
Total current assets	-	235,539		227,873
Other assets:		200,007		227,075
Regulatory assets		388,300		401,147
Goodwill		2.615		2.615
Other assets		64,666		60,775
Total other assets		455,581		464,537
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	2,876,862	\$	2,740,375
TOTAL ASSETS	¢	2,870,802	\$	2,740,373
Capitalization: Common stock, \$.01 par value; 68,000 shares authorized, 48,068 and 48,012 outstanding in 2018 and 2017, respectively	\$	481	\$	480
Additional paid-in capital	ψ	336,960	ψ	336.229
Retained earnings		374,593		356,753
Total common stockholders' equity		712,034		693,462
Long-term debt, less current maturities		714,310		515,793
Total capitalization		1,426,344		1,209,255
Current liabilities:		1,420,344		1,209,233
Current maturities of long-term debt		104 912		15.020
ő		104,812 75,100		15,920 275,100
Short-term borrowings		102,938		93,955
Accounts payable		,		,
Regulatory balancing accounts		43,300		59,303
Accrued interest		13,111		6,122
Accrued expenses and other liabilities Total current liabilities		42,629		40,559
		381,890		490,959
Unamortized investment tax credits		1,724		1,724
Deferred income taxes		199,143		192,946
Pension and postretirement benefits other than pensions		235,501		252,141
Regulatory liabilities and Other		255,569		224,127
Advances for construction		186,897		182,502
		189,794		186,721
Contributions in aid of construction		,		
Contributions in aid of construction TOTAL CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES	\$	2,876,862	\$	2,740,375

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME Unaudited (In thousands, except per share data)

For the Three Months ended:	September 2018	30,	September 30, 2017	
Operating revenue	\$ 2	18,983	\$	211,731
Operating expenses:				
Operations:				
Water production costs		78,818		75,261
Administrative and general		26,493		22,749
Other operations		21,943		21,208
Maintenance		6,768		6,057
Depreciation and amortization		21,009		19,231
Income taxes		11,262		18,219
Property and other taxes		7,142		6,544
Total operating expenses	1	73,435		169,269
Net operating income		45,548		42,462
Other income and expenses:				
Non-regulated revenue		4,703		3,542
Non-regulated expenses		(4,897)		(2,576)
Other components of net periodic benefit cost		(1,975)		(2,137)
Allowance for equity funds used during construction		1,023		1,105
Income tax benefit on other income and expenses		305		30
Net other loss		(841)		(36)
Interest expense:				
Interest expense		10,875		9,284
Allowance for borrowed funds used during construction		(560)		(707)
Net interest expense		10,315		8,577
Net income	\$	34,392	\$	33,849
Earnings per share				
Basic	S	0.72	\$	0.70
Diluted	\$	0.72	\$	0.70
Weighted average shares outstanding	Ψ	0.72	Ŷ	0.70
Basic		48,070		48,017
Diluted				,
		48,070	.	48,017
Dividends declared per share of common stock	\$	0.1875	\$	0.1800

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME Unaudited (In thousands, except per share data)

For the Nine Months ended:	September 2018	30,	September 30, 2017	
Operating revenue	\$ 5	23,862	\$	504,899
Operating expenses:		<u> </u>		
Operations:				
Water production costs	1	91,797		181,460
Administrative and general		77,195		66,908
Other operations		60,307		55,660
Maintenance		17,596		16,877
Depreciation and amortization		62,677		57,650
Income taxes		15,380		27,941
Property and other taxes		20,253		18,717
Total operating expenses	4	45,205		425,213
Net operating income		78,657		79,686
Other income and expenses:				
Non-regulated revenue		13,967		10,743
Non-regulated expenses	(16,449)		(6,244)
Other components of net periodic benefit cost		(6,984)		(7,023)
Allowance for equity funds used during construction		2,644		2,763
Income tax benefit (expense) on other income and expenses		1,882		(1,105)
Net other loss		(4,940)		(866)
Interest expense:		<u>~~~</u>		
Interest expense		30,207		27,073
Allowance for borrowed funds used during construction		(1,359)		(1,765)
Net interest expense		28,848		25,308
Net income		44,869	\$	53,512
Earnings per share				
Basic	\$	0.93	\$	1.11
Diluted	\$	0.93	\$	1.11
Weighted average shares outstanding	<u>ф</u>	0.95	Ψ	1.11
Basic		48,058		48,007
Diluted		48,058		48,007
Dividends declared per share of common stock		0.5625	\$	0.5400
Diritional accurrence per share of common stock	\$	5.3025	φ	0.5400

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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.

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; changes in tax laws, the interpretation of tax laws, and accounting policies; changes in construction costs and availability of resources; 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.







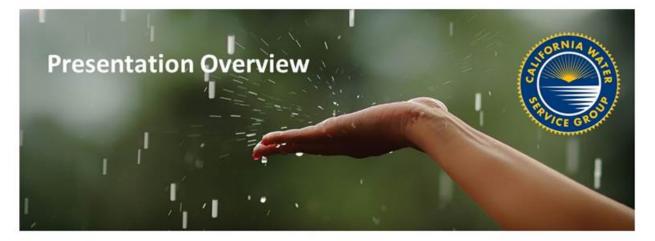
Marty Kropelnicki President & CEO



Tom Smegal Vice President, CFO & Treasurer







- Our Operating Priorities
- · Financial Results and Highlights
- EPS Bridges: Q3 2017 to Q3 2018 and YTD 2017 to YTD 2018
- 2018 California General Rate Case (GRC) and Other Rate Filings
- California Fires and Emergency Response
- · Other Recent Activities
- Regulatory Balancing Account Update
- Capital Investment History and Projection
- Regulated Rate Base of CWT
- Summary



Financial Results: Third Quarter

(amounts are in millions, except for EPS)	Q3 2017	Q3 2018	Variance
Operating Revenue	\$211.7	\$219.0	3.4%
Operating Expenses	\$169.3	\$173.4	2.5%
Net Interest Expense	\$8.6	\$10.3	20.3%
Net Income	\$33.8	\$34.4	1.6%
EPS	\$0.70	\$0.72	1.5%
Capital Investments	\$71.7	\$79.0	10.2%



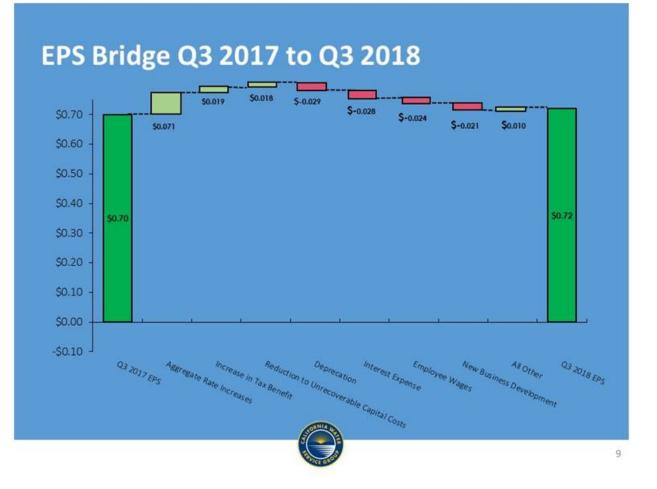
Financial Results: Year-to-Date

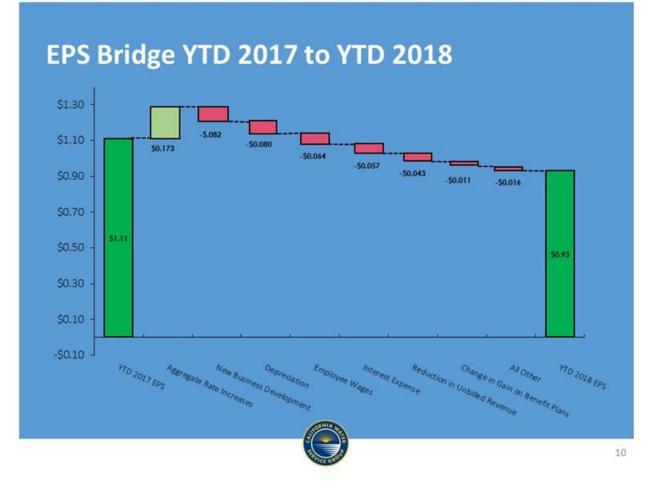
(amounts are in millions, except for EPS)	YTD 2017	YTD 2018	Variance
Operating Revenue	\$504.9	\$523.9	3.8%
Operating Expenses	\$425.2	\$445.2	4.7%
Net Interest Expense	\$25.3	\$28.8	14.0%
Net Income	\$53.5	\$44.9	-16.2%
EPS	\$1.11	\$0.93	-16.2%
Capital Investments	\$180.4	\$212.9	18.0%





- Third quarter earnings increase of \$0.6 million largely attributable to:
 - Revenue increase due to \$4.4 million of aggregate rate increases, net of the revenue reductions from the California Water Service (Cal Water) Cost of Capital decision.
 - The revenue increase was partially offset by a \$1.8 million increase in depreciation and amortization, employee wage increases of \$1.5 million, a \$1.3 million increase in new business expenses, and a \$1.7 million increase in interest expense.
- Year to date Company and developer funded capital investments were \$212.9 million, an increase of 18.0% compared to 2017
 - Company anticipates capital investment between \$240-260 million in 2018





Notes on EPS Bridge Items

- Increased revenue includes California escalation increases net of the California Cost of Capital revenue reduction effective January 1, 2018, as well as rate base offset rate relief and effect of Hawaii rate increases since corresponding period in 2017
- Increased depreciation consistent with additional capital investment placed into service in 2017



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Other Rate Filings

- Hawaii Waikoloa rate cases, filed in December 2017 requesting increases of \$3.8 million in annual revenue
 - Proceedings are ongoing and the Company anticipates a Hawaii Public Utilities Commission decision by year-end
- Washington Water GRC was filed on July 2, requesting \$1.6 million annual revenue increase
 - The Company anticipates a Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission decision before year-end
- Through October 31, 2018, CPUC had approved advice letter projects totaling additional \$4.9 million of annual revenue out of authorization of up to \$30 million through 2019
 - No new approvals since July 1
- Cal Water required to file its escalation rate increase of up to \$16 million annual revenue by November 15 with rates effective on January 1, 2019





- We continue our efforts to train for and manage incidents using the emergency operations center (EOC) framework
- EOCs have been activated nearly 20 times in the last three years
- During the quarter, Cal Water's EOC was used in the Mendocino Complex fire, the largest in the state's history, which threatened one of our systems
 - Our team operated the Lucerne water system throughout the incident, including during mandatory evacuations, to help firefighters protect the community
 - 。 We coordinated with State and County officials in their EOCs

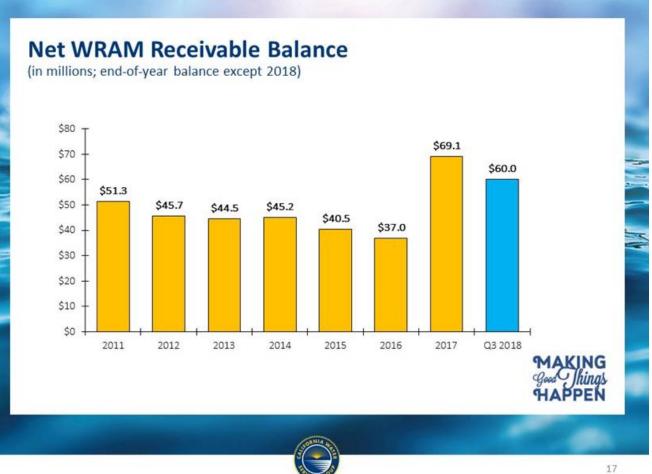


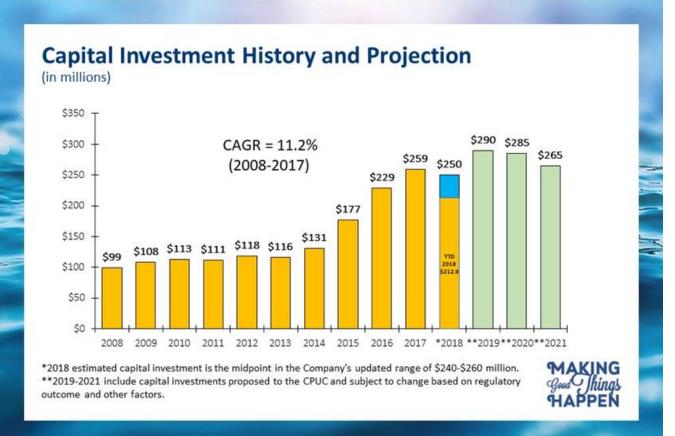
- Company issued \$300 million of 2-year first mortgage bonds in September
 - Used to refinance the revolving credit facility
 - Will continue to finance capital improvements using line of credit and a combination of long-term debt and equity targeting the CPUC authorized capital structure
- In October, Hawaii Water assumed operation and maintenance of a wastewater utility on the island of Hawaii serving approximately 1,500 customers

Regulatory Balancing Account Update

- Cal Water year-to-date sales are 94% of adopted estimates
- Change in adopted sales due to triggering the Sales Reconciliation Mechanism, which allows for a true-up when annual sales are above or below adopted sales by more than 5%
- The current WRAM receivable balance is \$60.0 million, down from \$69.1 million at year end 2017
- Cal Water began billing surcharges to recover \$50.1 million in net WRAM/MCBA receivables in April 2018





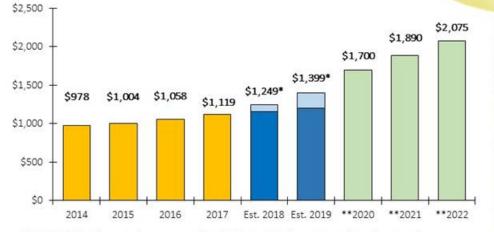




Regulated Rate Base of CWT

(in millions)

*Includes estimated cumulative additions in 2018 and 2019 of \$96M and \$197M for advice letters



**2020-2022 reflect rate base proposed in California GRC plus estimated rate base in other subsidiaries and are subject to change based on the regulatory process







- Focus is on the 2018 California GRC filing
- Closing out rate cases in Hawaii and Washington
- On track to invest \$240-\$260 million in water system infrastructure in 2018 to provide safe, reliable service to our customers
- · Company continues to focus on execution of long-term capital plan

