



Attend hearing on water rates

Posted: Thursday, December 1, 2011 12:00 am

To the Orcutt ratepayers of the Golden State Water Company (GSWC):

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has not scheduled a public participation hearing (PPH) in the Orcutt area. The closest PPH will be held on Friday, Dec. 2, at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. in Los Osos, at South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave.

Your written protests on the proposed water rate hike are important, but it is also important that we be represented at this meeting.

On a lighter note, there has been a settlement regarding the last general rate case between GSWC, Division of Water and Audits and the Division of Ratepayer Advocates:

The PUC ordered the GSWC to refund \$9.5 million to the customers of Region 1, and permanently reduce the rate base by \$2.5 million, which will result in lower rates in the future.

Finally, GSWC will pay a fine of \$1 million to the state General Fund for not informing the commission of internal control failures. We can expect a rebate sometime in the future.

Don Ward

Orcutt