

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



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Joint Application of Liberty Utilities Co., Liberty WWH, Inc., Western Water Holdings, LLC, Park Water Company (U314W), and Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company (U-346-W) for Authority for Liberty Utilities Co. to Acquire and Control Park Water Company and Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company.

Application No. 14-11-013
(Filed November 24, 2014)

OPENING BRIEF OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY

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July 16, 2015

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Pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, and consistent with the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) scoping memorandum filed April 27, 2015, the Town of Apple Valley (Town) respectfully submits this Opening Brief. The Town notes that ALJ Kim issued a June 25, 2015 email ruling taking evidentiary hearings off calendar but briefing dates were not taken off calendar. The Town incorporates by reference its June 24, 2015 Status Report and June 29, 2015 Comments on the Joint Motion of the Office of Ratepayer Advocates, Liberty Utilities Co, Liberty WWH, Inc., Western Water Holdings, Park Water Company, and Apple Valley Ranchos Water Company for Approval of Settlement Agreement. In doing so, the Town reiterates that it does not have sufficient resources to engage in discovery disputes with the Applicants, such that it can adequately address the issues raised in the Scoping Memorandum. Moreover, the Town cannot support the settlement agreement and, if the Commission decides to approve the application, the Town requests that the Commission impose a condition requiring jurisdictionally foreign, upstream owners to submit to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

DATED: July 16, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jason M. Ackerman

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