

May 1, 2013



# California Water Service Group Announces First Quarter 2013 Results

SAN JOSE, CA -- (Marketwired) -- 05/01/13 -- California Water Service Group (NYSE: CWT) today announced a net loss of \$1.1 million or a \$0.03 net loss per diluted common share for the first quarter of 2013, compared to net income of \$1.1 million or \$0.03 per diluted common share for the first quarter of 2012.

Revenue for the first quarter of 2013 was \$111.4 million, compared to revenue of \$116.8 million in first quarter 2012. The primary reason for the reduction in revenue was a net benefit of \$8.9 million in revenue from the reversal of the 2011 deferred Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (WRAM) account balance recorded during the first quarter of 2012. In addition, revenue during the quarter was reduced by a \$3.0 million decrease in accrued unbilled revenue which is not included in the WRAM balance and driven by lower consumption.

Total operating expenses for the first quarter of 2013 decreased \$4.5 million, or 4.1%, to \$105.7 million. Reduced expenses in several categories were partially offset by increases in purchased water costs and expenses for wages & benefits, and uninsured losses.

Maintenance expense decreased \$1.6 million, or 28.3%, to \$4.1 million, while depreciation expense increased \$0.7 million, or 4.9%, to \$14.6 million due to 2012 capital additions.

Other income, net of income taxes, decreased \$0.6 million to \$0.7 million, due to lower unrealized gains related to the Company's non-qualified retirement plans. Interest expense increased \$0.8 million, or 11.3%, to \$7.5 million due to completion of plant and increases in short-term rates.

On March 26, 2013, the Company received \$105.8 million in net proceeds from the sale of 5,750,000 shares of common stock. The Company plans to use the proceeds to pay down its revolving lines of credit and fund operations, capital projects, and general operations.

"Results for the first quarter were in line with the Company's expectations due to the seasonality of our business," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Peter C. Nelson. "Cost controls were effective during the first quarter of 2013, and we will continue to focus on managing expenses as we pursue fair and timely rate relief," he said.

All stockholders and interested investors are invited to listen to the first quarter 2013 conference call on May 2, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. (EDT), by dialing 1-888-438-5491 or 1-719-325-2361 and keying in ID# 3539432. A replay of the call will be available from 2:00 p.m. EDT on May 2, 2013, through June 30, 2013, at 1-888-203-1112 or 1-719-457-0820, ID# 3539432. The call, which will be hosted by President and Chief Operating Officer Martin A. Kropelnicki and Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Thomas F. Smegal, will also be webcast under the investor relations tab at [www.calwatergroup.com](http://www.calwatergroup.com).

California Water Service Group is the parent company of California Water Service Company, Washington Water Service Company, New Mexico Water Service Company, Hawaii Water

Service Company, Inc., CWS Utility Services, and HWS Utility Services. Together these companies provide regulated and non-regulated water service to approximately 2 million people in more than 100 California, Washington, New Mexico, and Hawaii communities. Group's common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CWT."

Additional information is available at our Web site at [www.calwatergroup.com](http://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 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; new legislation; electric power interruptions; increases in suppliers' prices and the availability of supplies including water and power; fluctuations in interest rates; changes in environmental compliance and water quality requirements; acquisitions and our ability to successfully integrate acquired companies; the ability to successfully implement business plans; changes in customer water use patterns; the impact of weather on water sales and operating results; access to sufficient capital on satisfactory terms; civil disturbances or terrorist threats or acts, or apprehension about the possible future occurrences of acts of this type; the involvement of the United States in war or other hostilities; 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,<br>2013 | December 31,<br>2012 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
|  | -----             | -----                |
| ASSETS   |                   |                      |
| Utility plant:                                 |                   |                      |
| Utility plant                                  | \$ 2,123,935      | \$ 2,096,363         |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization | (655,345)         | (639,307)            |
|  | -----             | -----                |
| Net utility plant                              | 1,468,590         | 1,457,056            |
|  | -----             | -----                |
| Current assets:                                |                   |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                      | 127,677           | 38,790               |
| Receivables                                    |                   |                      |

|   |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Customers                                       | 29,204       | 29,958       |
| Regulatory balancing accounts                   | 29,607       | 34,020       |
| Other   | 11,577       | 11,943       |
| Unbilled revenue                                | 15,551       | 15,394       |
| Materials and supplies at weighted average cost | 5,687        | 5,874        |
| Taxes, prepaid expenses, and other assets       | 12,393       | 10,585       |
|   | -----        | -----        |
| Total current assets                            | 231,696      | 146,564      |
|   | -----        | -----        |
| Other assets:                                   |              |              |
| Regulatory assets                               | 353,606      | 344,419      |
| Goodwill  | 2,615        | 2,615        |
| Other assets                                    | 47,848       | 45,270       |
|   | -----        | -----        |
| Total other assets                              | 404,069      | 392,304      |
|   | -----        | -----        |
|   | \$ 2,104,355 | \$ 1,995,924 |
|   | =====        | =====        |

#### CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES

##### Capitalization:

|   |           |         |
|---|-----------|---------|
| Common stock, \$.01 par value           | \$ 477    | \$ 419  |
| Additional paid-in capital              | 327,178   | 221,013 |
| Retained earnings                       | 244,502   | 252,280 |
|   | -----     | -----   |
| Total common stockholders' equity       | 572,157   | 473,712 |
| Long-term debt, less current maturities | 434,153   | 434,467 |
|   | -----     | -----   |
| Total capitalization                    | 1,006,310 | 908,179 |
|   | -----     | -----   |

##### Current liabilities:

|  |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|
| Current maturities of long-term debt   | 46,743  | 46,783  |
| Short-term borrowings                  | 93,275  | 89,475  |
| Accounts payable                       | 44,293  | 47,199  |
| Regulatory balancing accounts          | 6,132   | 5,018   |
| Accrued interest                       | 11,003  | 4,705   |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 55,308  | 49,887  |
|  | -----   | -----   |
| Total current liabilities              | 256,754 | 243,067 |

|   |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Unamortized investment tax credits                      | 2,180        | 2,180        |
| Deferred income taxes, net                              | 158,037      | 158,846      |
| Pension and postretirement benefits other than pensions | 248,385      | 244,901      |
| Regulatory and other liabilities                        | 88,476       | 92,593       |
| Advances for construction                               | 186,242      | 187,584      |
| Contributions in aid of construction                    | 157,971      | 158,574      |
|   | -----        | -----        |
|   | \$ 2,104,355 | \$ 1,995,924 |
|   | =====        | =====        |

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (LOSS)  
Unaudited

(In thousands, except per share data)

For the Three-Months ended:

March 31,      March 31,

|  | 2013       | 2012       |
|--|------------|------------|
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Operating revenue                                | \$ 111,444 | \$ 116,749 |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Operating expenses:                              |            |            |
| Operations:                                      |            |            |
| Water production costs                           | 41,697     | 38,952     |
| Administrative and general                       | 25,281     | 23,018     |
| Other operations                                 | 15,645     | 23,826     |
| Maintenance                                      | 4,133      | 5,760      |
| Depreciation and amortization                    | 14,629     | 13,951     |
| Income tax (benefit) expense                     | (1,146)    | 28         |
| Property and other taxes                         | 5,435      | 4,607      |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Total operating expenses                         | 105,674    | 110,142    |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Net operating income                             | 5,770      | 6,607      |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Other income and expenses:                       |            |            |
| Non-regulated revenue                            | 3,522      | 4,136      |
| Non-regulated expenses, net                      | (2,417)    | (2,099)    |
| Income tax (expense) on other income and expense | (451)      | (823)      |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Net other income                                 | 654        | 1,214      |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Interest expense:                                |            |            |
| Interest expense                                 | 8,037      | 7,639      |
| Less: capitalized interest                       | (540)      | (903)      |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Net interest expense                             | 7,497      | 6,736      |
|  | -----      | -----      |
| Net (loss) income                                | \$ (1,073) | \$ 1,085   |
|  | =====      | =====      |
| (Loss) Earnings per share                        |            |            |
| Basic  | \$ (0.03)  | \$ 0.03    |
|  | =====      | =====      |
| Diluted  | \$ (0.03)  | \$ 0.03    |
|  | =====      | =====      |
| Weighted average shares outstanding              |            |            |
| Basic  | 42,248     | 41,842     |
|  | =====      | =====      |
| Diluted  | 42,248     | 41,842     |
|  | =====      | =====      |
| Dividends declared per share of common stock     | \$ 0.1600  | \$ 0.1575  |
|  | =====      | =====      |