

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 23, 2003

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of Incorporation)

77-0448994
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Commission file number 1-13883

1720 North First Street, San Jose, CA. 95112
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

1-408-367-8200
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Former name, former address and former fiscal year,
if changed since last report: Not Applicable

Page 1 of 9

Item 12. Disclosure of Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On April 23, 2003, the registrant issued the press release attached to this report as Exhibit 99, which announces the results of its operations for the quarter ended March 31, 2003.

Page 2 of 9

SIGNATURES

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

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP
Registrant

Date: April 23, 2003

By: /s/ Richard D. Nye
Richard D. Nye
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
and Treasurer

[GRAPHIC OMITTED]

[OBJECT OMITTED]

NEWS RELEASE
CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP

1720 North First Street
San Jose, CA 95112-4598

April 23, 2003
For Immediate Release

Contact: Richard Nye (408) 367-8216 (analysts)
Shannon Dean (310) 257-1435 (media)

CAL WATER ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER 2003 RESULTS;
BOARD DECLARES 234TH CONSECUTIVE QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

SAN JOSE, CA - California Water Service Group (NYSE : CWT) today announced a loss of \$768,000, or (\$0.05) per share, for the first quarter 2003, compared to net income of \$1.9 million and earnings per share of \$0.12 in the first quarter of 2002.

According to President and Chief Executive Officer Peter C. Nelson, first quarter 2003 results were impacted by a decline in customer usage due to weather and continued delays in receiving rate relief from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

"Sales and net income are historically low in the first quarter, and this year was much wetter than the prior year, which reduced our customers' water usage. But more significantly, we are still awaiting decisions from the CPUC that, had they been favorably acted on in a timely manner, would have added revenue and net earnings to our first quarter results," Nelson said.

The company is anticipating decisions on its requests to recover \$6 million in purchased water and electricity costs incurred prior to November 2001, and not yet billed to customers. The company is also awaiting decisions on the 15 general rate cases filed in July 2001, which if favorably acted upon, are expected to add at least \$12.8 million in annual revenue. The CPUC rate case process calls for decisions to be issued within 10 months. These filings have now been outstanding for 21 months.

Page 4 of 9

In a potentially favorable decision issued April 3, 2003, the CPUC set an effective date for the 15 general rate cases filed in 2001. Once decisions are made, the company will be allowed to recover the new rates as of an effective date of April 3, 2003.

In the second of three filings related to the Bakersfield Treatment Plant, the company received authorization in April 2003 to recover costs incurred for construction of that plant. The two filings will add an estimated \$1.5 million to 2003 revenues. A third filing will be made in 2003, which may or may not impact 2003 revenues, depending on the timing and amount of authorization received from the CPUC. The plant is expected to be operational in the second quarter of 2003.

The company made additional rate case filings in November 2002 and January 2003 but cannot predict the amount or the timing of the CPUC decisions.

"We continue to control expenses throughout the company and have delayed capital expenditures that do not relate to water supply, water quality or compliance with regulations. We have a responsibility to provide a reliable supply of high-quality water. Necessary costs must be incurred to serve our customers." Nelson said.

Revenue for the quarter decreased 0.6%, or \$301,000. A \$1.9 million decrease in water sales to existing customers was partially offset by \$845,000 in rate increases and \$740,000 in sales to new customers.

Total operating expenses increased 5%, or \$2.4 million. Water production costs increased from last year due to a \$750,000 water wholesaler refund received in 2002. Maintenance expense increased because more repairs were made to pumping equipment, pipelines, and other facilities. Depreciation expense was higher due to increases in 2002 capital expenditures driven by more stringent water quality standards. Other operations expense increases included wages and benefit increases that were effective at the start of the year. Contracts with unions were made in the 4th quarter of 2002 that included salary increases. Benefit increases are attributable to changes made to the pension plan and increases in medical claim costs.

Page 5 of 9

At their meeting today, Directors declared the 234th consecutive quarterly dividend on common stock in the amount of \$0.28125. It is payable on May 16, 2003, to stockholders of record on May 2, 2003. The regular dividend on Series C preferred stock was also declared.

California Water Service Group is the parent company of California Water Service Company, Washington Water Service Company, New Mexico Water Service Company and CWS Utility Services. Together these companies provide regulated and non-regulated water service to over 2 million people in 98 California, Washington and New Mexico communities. Group's common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CWT".

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: 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

Page 6 of 9

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. The Company assumes no obligation to provide public updates of forward-looking statements.

Additional information is available at our Web site at www.calwater.com. Attachments (2).

###

Page 7 of 9

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
Unaudited

(In thousands, except per share data)	March 31, 2003	December 31, 2002
	----	----
ASSETS		
Utility plant:		
Utility plant	\$1,024,914	\$1,001,310
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	310,257	304,322
	-----	-----
Net utility plant	714,657	696,988
	-----	-----
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,718	1,063
Receivables	20,648	23,961
Unbilled revenue	6,946	7,969
Materials and supplies at average cost	2,626	2,760
Taxes and other prepaid expenses	6,406	7,234
	-----	-----
Total current assets	38,344	42,987
	-----	-----
Other assets:		
Regulatory assets	46,314	46,089
Other assets	16,009	14,518
	-----	-----
Total other assets	62,323	60,607
	-----	-----

	\$ 815,324	\$ 800,582
	=====	=====
CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES		
Capitalization:		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value	\$ 152	\$ 152
Additional paid-in capital	49,984	49,984
Retained earnings	144,139	149,215
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(134)	(134)
	-----	-----
Total common stockholders' equity	194,141	199,217
Preferred stock	3,475	3,475
Long-term debt, less current maturities	270,075	250,365
	-----	-----
Total capitalization	467,691	453,057
	-----	-----
Current liabilities:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	1,000	1,000
Short-term borrowings	31,577	36,379
Accounts payable	23,026	23,706
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	33,188	30,456
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	88,791	91,541
	-----	-----
Unamortized investment tax credits	2,774	2,774
Deferred income taxes	31,252	31,371
Regulatory and other liabilities	28,804	28,804
Advances for construction	116,739	115,459
Contributions in aid of construction	79,273	77,576
Commitments and contingencies		
	-----	-----
	\$ 815,324	\$ 800,582
	=====	=====

Page 8 of 9

CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME
Unaudited
(In thousands, except per share data)
For the three months ended:

	March 31, 2003	March 31, 2002
	----	----
Operating revenue	\$ 51,310	\$ 51,611
	-----	-----
Operating expenses:		
Operations	37,855	34,774
Maintenance	3,253	2,420
Depreciation and amortization	5,760	5,394
Income taxes	(553)	1,279
Property and other taxes	2,465	2,463
	-----	-----
Total operating expenses	48,780	46,330
	-----	-----
Net operating income	2,530	5,281
	-----	-----
Other income and expenses:		
Non-regulated income, net	706	455
Gain on sale of non-utility property	552	50
	-----	-----
	1,258	505
	-----	-----
Income before interest expense	3,788	5,786
	-----	-----
Interest expense:		
Long-term debt interest	4,178	3,532
Other interest	378	326
	-----	-----
Total interest expense	4,556	3,858
	-----	-----
Net (loss) income	\$ (768)	\$ 1,928
	=====	=====
Earnings per share		
Basic	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.12
	=====	=====
Diluted	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.12

Weighted average shares outstanding	=====	=====
Basic	15,182	15,182
	=====	=====
Diluted	15,182	15,185
	=====	=====
Dividends per share of common stock	\$0.28125	\$0.28000
	=====	=====