

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 28, 2004

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

Item 12. Disclosure of Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On April 28, 2004, the registrant issued the press release attached to this report as Exhibit 99, which announces the results of operations for the first quarter of 2004.

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 28, 2004

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 28, 2004  
For Immediate Release

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

CAL WATER ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER 2004 RESULTS;  
BOARD DECLARES 238TH CONSECUTIVE QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

SAN JOSE, CA - California Water Service Group (NYSE : CWT) today announced net income of \$1.4 million or \$0.08 per share for the first quarter of 2004, compared to a loss of \$0.8 million or \$0.05 per share in the first quarter of 2003.

Revenue for the first quarter increased \$8.9 million or 17% to \$60.2 million. Rate increases added \$7.0 million to revenue and sales to new customers added \$1.6 million. Sales to existing customers were slightly higher, increasing \$0.3 million over the same period last year.

According to President and Chief Executive Officer Peter C. Nelson, first quarter 2004 results were favorably impacted by rate increases authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) late in 2003 and the first quarter of 2004 and the addition of customers.

"We are seeing the impact of rate decisions received last year and this year. While the first quarter is traditionally a low earnings period for us due to weather and its impact on sales, we are pleased with the earnings for the quarter. We will continue to be

persistent and diligent in our efforts to secure fair regulatory treatment, because that will be key to our continued success," Nelson said.

In February, the Company received approval from the CPUC to increase rates in its Stockton District by approximately \$0.7 million per year as a result of rate increases by the district's wholesale water supplier; in April, the CPUC approved the Company's General Rate Cases for 4 districts from 2002, which will increase rates by approximately \$3.5 million annually.

Total operating expenses for the first quarter increased 13%, or \$6.2 million. Water production costs increased 12%, primarily due to rate increases by wholesale water suppliers in several districts. Other cost increases were payroll, health care, pension, insurance, settlements of property damage claims and income taxes. Depreciation expense increased 13% due to increases in 2003 capital expenditures.

Maintenance expense declined by 2% for the quarter. Interest expense also declined slightly as a result of refinancing part of the Company's long term debt and lower short-term borrowings. There was no impact from property sales for the first quarter compared to gains of \$0.6 million in the first quarter of 2003.

At their meeting today, Directors declared the 238th consecutive quarterly dividend on common stock in the amount of \$0.2825 per share. It is payable on May 21, 2004, to stockholders of record on May 10, 2004. 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, Hawaii Water

Service Company, Inc., and CWS Utility Services. Together these companies provide regulated and non-regulated water service to more than 2 million people in 100 California, Washington, Hawaii 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 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.calwatergroup.com](http://www.calwatergroup.com).

Attachments (2).

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CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE GROUP  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
Unaudited

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

(In thousands, except per share data)

	March 31, 2004 ----	December 31, 2003 ----
<S>	<C>	<C>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Utility plant:		
Utility plant	\$ 1,089,894	\$ 1,078,975
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	326,361	319,477
	-----	-----
Net utility plant	763,533	759,498
	-----	-----
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,086	2,856
Receivables	19,198	23,559
Unbilled revenue	8,115	8,522
Materials and supplies at average cost	2,875	2,957
Taxes and other prepaid expenses	6,258	5,609
	-----	-----
Total current assets	38,532	43,503
	-----	-----
Other assets:		
Regulatory assets	53,710	53,326
Other assets	18,127	16,708
	-----	-----
Total other assets	71,837	70,034
	-----	-----
	\$ 873,902	\$ 873,035
	=====	=====
<b>CAPITALIZATION AND LIABILITIES</b>		
Capitalization:		
Common stock, \$.01 par value	\$ 169	\$ 169
Additional paid-in capital	93,748	93,748
Retained earnings	147,533	150,908
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(301)	(301)
	-----	-----
Total common stockholders' equity	241,149	244,524
Preferred stock	3,475	3,475
Long-term debt, less current maturities	272,042	272,226
	-----	-----
Total capitalization	516,666	520,225
	-----	-----
Current liabilities:		

Current liabilities:

Current maturities of long-term debt	904	904
Short-term borrowings	9,800	6,454
Accounts payable	18,264	23,776
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	36,606	32,430
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	65,574	63,564
Unamortized investment tax credits	2,925	2,925
Deferred income taxes	38,161	38,005
Regulatory and other liabilities	35,888	35,835
Advances for construction	123,372	121,952
Contributions in aid of construction	91,316	90,529
Commitments and contingencies		
	-----	-----
	\$ 873,902	\$ 873,035
	=====	=====

</TABLE>

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

For the three months ended:	March 31, 2004	March 31, 2003
	----	----
Operating revenue	\$ 60,240	\$ 51,310
	-----	-----
Operating expenses:		
Operations	41,498	37,761
Maintenance	3,181	3,253
Depreciation and amortization	6,518	5,760
Income taxes	958	(553)
Property and other taxes	2,694	2,465
	-----	-----
Total operating expenses	54,849	48,686
	-----	-----
Net operating income	5,391	2,624
	-----	-----
Other income and expenses:		
Non-regulated income, net	550	612
Gain on sale of non-utility property	1	552
	-----	-----
	551	1,164
	-----	-----
Income before interest expense	5,942	3,788
	-----	-----
Interest expense:		
Interest Expense	4,646	4,856
Less: Capitalized Interest	150	300
	-----	-----
Total interest expense	4,496	4,556
	-----	-----
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,446	\$ (768)
	=====	=====
Earnings per share		
Basic	\$ 0.08	\$ (0.05)
	=====	=====
Diluted	\$ 0.08	\$ (0.05)
	=====	=====
Weighted average shares outstanding		
Basic	16,932	15,182
	=====	=====
Diluted	16,953	15,182
	=====	=====
Dividends per share of common stock	\$0.28250	\$0.28125
	=====	=====