

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) November 19, 2010

**AMERICAN STATES WATER COMPANY**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**California**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**001-14431**

(Commission File Number)

**95-4676679**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification  
No.)

**630 East Foothill Blvd.**

**San Dimas, California**

(Address of principal executive  
offices)

**91773**

(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (909) 394-3600**

---

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**California**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**001-12008**

(Commission File Number)

**95-1243678**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification  
No.)

**630 East Foothill Blvd.**

**San Dimas, California**

(Address of principal executive  
offices)

**91773**

(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (909) 394-3600**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing requirement of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2 below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
-

**Item 8.01.****Other Events**

San Dimas, California, November 24, 2010.... American States Water Company (NYSE:AWR) announced that on November 19, 2010, the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) issued a final decision providing approval for rate increases in the Regions II and III water customer service areas of its Golden State Water Company (“GSWC”) subsidiary and to recover general office expenses. The new rates will be retroactive to January 1, 2010. A copy of the Company’s press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

On November 20, 2010, a state of emergency was declared related to the water supply in GSWC’s Barstow customer service area serving approximately 8,900 customers. One of the company’s wells in service in the service area showed perchlorate levels above the maximum contaminant level. The contaminated well was shut down and the distribution system was flushed to remove contaminants in the water pipes. GSWC provided customers with bottled water during the Do Not Drink Water Advisory period. The alert was lifted during the evening of November 23, 2010 to all of GSWC’s Barstow area customers, with the single exception being The Veterans Home of California in Barstow. The incremental costs associated with the remediation and clean-up efforts are being tracked in a memorandum account and GSWC expects to receive authorization to recover these costs from the CPUC subject to prudence review.

This Form 8-K and the attached exhibit are filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

---

**Section 9 – Financial Statement and Exhibits****Item 9.01.****Financial Statements and Exhibits**

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release: American States Water Company Announces CPUC Decision Approving Rate Increases at GSWC’s Region II and Region III Water Customer Service Areas

---

---

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**AMERICAN STATES WATER COMPANY:**

Date: November 24, 2010

/s/ Eva G. Tang

---

Eva G. Tang  
Senior Vice President-Finance, Chief Financial Officer,  
Corporate Secretary and Treasurer

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY:**

Date: November 24, 2010

/s/ Eva G. Tang

---

Eva G. Tang  
Senior Vice President-Finance, Chief Financial Officer  
and Secretary

## **American States Water Company Announces CPUC Decision Approving Rate Increases at GSWC's Region II and Region III Water Customer Service Areas**

SAN DIMAS, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--November 24, 2010--American States Water Company (NYSE:AWR) announced that on November 19, 2010, the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") approved rate increases for the Region II and Region III service areas of its Golden State Water Company ("GSWC") subsidiary, and to recover general office expenses at GSWC's headquarters. The decision adopted the partial settlement agreement reached between GSWC and the Division of Ratepayer Advocates which include capital budgets, projected sales levels, and supply costs. The decision also addressed a number of issues including cost allocation, the definition of firm capacity, pension and benefit calculations, general office rent expense, salary and wage adjustments, costs regarding certain capital projects, and deferred rate case costs.

Based on the decision issued by the CPUC on November 19, 2010, the approved revenue increases for 2010 totals approximately \$32 million, which includes an increase of \$14 million for supply costs, and is retroactive to January 1, 2010. Had the CPUC decision and final rates been in place prior to the end of September 30, 2010, the financial results for AWR for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 would have included an increase in revenues of approximately \$10.3 million, or \$0.33 per share. This amount will be recorded in the fourth quarter of 2010 and a surcharge will be implemented to recover the retroactive revenues over approximately 24 months.

Among other things, the final decision also affirmed GSWC's practice and allowed for recovery of its rate case expenditures incurred in connection with the preparation and processing of this general rate case. The rate case costs will be amortized and recovered over the three year rate case cycle. Additionally, GSWC is also authorized to establish a two-way balancing account to track differences between the forecasted annual pension expenses adopted in rates for 2010, 2011 and 2012 and the actual annual expense to be recorded by GSWC in accordance with the accounting guidance for pension costs.

---

Finally, the decision also imposed an increased allocation of corporate headquarters' expenses to American States Utility Services, Inc. ("ASUS"), AWR's non-regulated subsidiary. This will result in an increase in expenses allocated to ASUS. This adjustment is also retroactive to January 1, 2010 and will be made in the fourth quarter, thus negatively impacting ASUS' pretax income by approximately \$1.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, and positively impacting GSWC's pretax income by the same amount. While this additional allocation to ASUS has no impact on the consolidated earnings based on the new rates authorized by the CPUC, it should be noted that the revenue requirements would have been higher for GSWC's Region II and Region III, had the allocation of corporate headquarters' costs to ASUS been lower.

Certain matters discussed in this news release with regard to the Company's expectations may be forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The assumptions and risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, include those described in the Company's Form 10-Q and Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

American States Water Company is the parent of Golden State Water Company, American States Utility Services, Inc. and Chaparral City Water Company. Through its subsidiaries, AWR provides water service to approximately 1 out of 36 Californians located within 75 communities throughout 10 counties in Northern, Coastal and Southern California (approximately 256,000 customers) and to over 13,000 customers in the Town of Fountain Hills, Arizona and a small portion of Scottsdale, Arizona. The Company also distributes electricity to over 23,000 customers in the Big Bear recreational area of California. Through its contracted services subsidiary, American States Utility Services, Inc., the Company provides operations, maintenance and construction management services for water and wastewater systems located on military bases throughout the country.

American States Water Company has paid dividends to shareholders every year since 1931, increasing the dividends received by shareholders each calendar year since 1953.

**CONTACT:**

American States Water Company

Eva G. Tang

Senior Vice President-Finance, Chief Financial Officer,

Corporate Secretary and Treasurer

Telephone: (909) 394-3600, ext. 707