

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) January 22, 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

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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 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))
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## Section 5 - Corporate Governance and Management

### **Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On January 22, 2010, the Board of Directors of American States Water Company (the “Company”) increased the number of directors of the Company to nine directors in accordance with the provisions of the Company’s Bylaws. The Board elected James F. McNulty as a director of the Company in order to fill the newly created vacancy on the same date. Mr. McNulty was also elected to serve as a member of the ASUS Committee of the Company’s board of directors. The ASUS Committee has been established to review our contracted service operations. As a result of the expansion of the Board, the Board was reclassified into three classes and the terms of four directors, James L. Anderson, Diana M. Bontà, N.P. Dodge, Jr. and Anne M. Holloway, were extended for one year.

There is no arrangement or understanding between Mr. McNulty and any other person pursuant to which he was appointed a director of the Company.

## Section 9 - Financial Statements and Exhibits

### **Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated January 26, 2010.

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**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: January 26, 2010

/s/ Eva G. Tang

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Eva G. Tang

Senior Vice President-Finance, Chief Financial  
Officer, Corporate Secretary and Treasurer

**American States Water Company Announces Election of New Director**

SAN DIMAS, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--January 26, 2010--Effective January 22, 2010, American States Water Company (NYSE:AWR) elected James F. McNulty as a director of the Company to serve until the Company's annual meeting in 2011 or until his successor is duly elected and qualified. Mr. McNulty (age 67) was also elected as a director of two of the Company's subsidiaries, Golden State Water Company and Chaparral City Water Company.

"Mr. McNulty has very strong engineering and construction credentials, combined with in-depth knowledge of business development and project management," said Lloyd E. Ross, Chairman of the Board of Directors. "We are delighted to have him join the Board of Directors of the Company."

Following a distinguished 24-year career in the Army, Mr. McNulty retired as a Colonel and joined Parsons Corporation, an international engineering, construction and technical and management services firm, in 1988. Mr. McNulty retired as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Parsons Corporation in 2008, after 20 years of service and continues to retain his position as a Director on the Parsons' Board. He holds a bachelor's degree in Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point and two master's degrees, one in Nuclear Physics from Ohio State University and one in Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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 1 out of 37 Californians located within 75 communities throughout 10 counties in Northern, Coastal and Southern California (approximately 255,000 customers) and to over 13,000 customers in the city 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 contracts with the U.S. government and private entities to provide various services, including water marketing and operation and maintenance of water and wastewater systems.

**CONTACT:**

American States Water Company  
Eva G. Tang  
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer,  
Treasurer and Corporate Secretary  
909-394-3600, extension 707