

NOTICE OF PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY'S REQUEST TO INCREASE YOUR RATES FOR COSTS RELATING TO DIABLO CANYON SEISMIC STUDIES (A.16-02-019)

Summary

On February 29, 2016, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) submitted an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) requesting to increase its electric rates effective January 1, 2017. In this application, PG&E requests approval to recover costs associated with seismic (earthquake) studies performed at Diablo Canyon Power Plant. This application is a review of recorded costs to the Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) from the prior year. In Decision 12-09-008, the CPUC required PG&E to present seismic studies costs in PG&E's annual ERRA compliance review application.

Background

The Diablo Canyon Power Plant (DCPP) seismic studies were conducted in response to both the California Energy Commission's recommendations and Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensing requirements. In previous decisions, the CPUC approved PG&E's proposals for enhanced seismic studies to assess the potential vulnerabilities at DCPP should a major seismic event occur. Although the costs associated with seismic studies are held in the Diablo Canyon Seismic Studies Balancing Account, they are reviewed by the CPUC in the ERRA compliance proceeding. The costs requested in this application represent seismic studies costs that were incurred by PG&E in 2015.

PG&E requests to collect \$6.84 million in rates from customers who receive electric generation as well as transmission and distribution service from PG&E, known as bundled service customers. Rates for customers who purchase electricity from other suppliers (such as direct access and community choice aggregation) and rates for departing load customers will not be affected by these specific costs.

How will PG&E's application affect me?

If this application is approved, electric rates will increase by less than one percent for bundled-service customers effective January 1, 2017. Based on the rates in effect on January 1, 2016, a typical bundled-service customer using 500 kWh per month would see an average bill increase of \$0.05 (or 0.05 percent), from \$97.14 to \$97.19. Actual bill impacts will vary depending on your electricity usage.

How do I find out more about PG&E's proposals?

If you have questions about PG&E's filing, please contact PG&E at **1-800-743-5000**. For TDD/TTY (speech-hearing impaired), call **1-800-652-4712**. If you would like a copy of PG&E's filing and exhibits, please write to PG&E at the address below:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
2015 ERRA Compliance Review application (A.16-02-019)
P.O. Box 7442
San Francisco, CA 94120

A copy of PG&E's filing and exhibits are also available for review at the CPUC's Central Files Office by appointment only. For more information contact aljcentralfilesid@cpuc.ca.gov or **1-415-703-2045**. PG&E's application (without exhibits) is available on the CPUC's website at www.cpuc.ca.gov/pao.

CPUC process

This application will be assigned to an Administrative Law Judge (Judge) who will determine how to receive evidence and other related documents necessary for the CPUC to establish a record upon which to base its decision. Evidentiary hearings may be held where parties will present their testimony and may be subject to cross-examination by other parties. These evidentiary hearings are open to the public, but only those parties who have requested and been granted “party status” by the Judge in the case can participate.

After considering all proposals and evidence presented during the hearings, the assigned Judge will issue a proposed decision which may adopt PG&E’s proposal, modify it or deny it. Any of the five CPUC Commissioners may sponsor an alternate decision. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon at a scheduled CPUC Voting Meeting.

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) may review this application. ORA is the independent consumer advocate within the CPUC with a legislative mandate to represent investor-owned utility customers to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. ORA has a multi-disciplinary staff with expertise in economics, finance, accounting and engineering. For more information about ORA, please call **1-415-703-1584**, email ora@cpuc.ca.gov or visit ORA’s website at www.ora.ca.gov.

Stay informed

If you would like to follow this proceeding, or any other issue before the CPUC, you may use the CPUC’s free subscription service. Sign up at: <http://subscribecpuc.cpuc.ca.gov/>. If you would like to learn how you can participate in the proceeding, if you have informal comments about the application, or questions about the CPUC processes, you may access the CPUC’s Public Advisor Office (PAO) webpage at <http://consumers.cpuc.ca.gov/pao/>.

You may also contact the PAO as follows:

Email: public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov

Mail: CPUC
Public Advisor’s Office
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2103
San Francisco, CA 94102

Call: **1-866-849-8390** (toll-free) or **1-415-703-2074**

TTY: **1-866-836-7825** (toll-free) or **1-415-703-5282**

If you are writing or emailing the Public Advisor’s Office, please include the proceeding number (2015 ERRR Compliance Review application, A.16-02-019). All comments will be circulated to the Commissioners, the assigned Judge and appropriate CPUC staff, and will become public record.