



Jane K. Yura
Vice President
Regulation and Rates

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale St., Mail Code B10B
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

April 19, 2010

Ms. Julie Fitch
Director, Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 4004
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Withdrawal of Advice 3045-G/3522-E

Dear Ms. Fitch:

In accordance with the provisions of General Order 96-B, Section 5.3, PG&E is withdrawing Advice 3045-G-/3522-E, which was filed with the Commission on September 11, 2009. This filing requested authorization to utilize unspent and uncommitted Self Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) funds to augment the funding available through the Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH) Program to customers in need.

In discussions with the Division of Ratepayers Advocates, PG&E agreed to withdraw this advice letter contingent upon approval of Advice 3622-E/3097-G, *Request to Use CARE Funds to Supplement PG&E's Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH) Program*.

Therefore, PG&E withdraws Advice 3045-G/3522-E from further consideration for approval by the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane Yura - OB'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

cc: Honesto Gatchalian, Energy Division

September 11, 2009

Advice 3045-G/3522-E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U 39-M)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Request to Increase Funding for PG&E's Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH) Program

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) hereby requests authorization to utilize unspent and uncommitted Self Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) funds to augment the funding available through the Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH) Program to customers in need. PG&E's proposal follows the model recently approved by the Commission in Resolution E-4251, dated September 10, 2009, on similar requests by San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) and Southern California Gas (SoCalGas) to use a matching ratepayer contribution to increase the funding for their respective charitable Neighbor-to-Neighbor and Gas Assistance Fund programs (ref. SDG&E Advice Letter 2065-E/1842-G and SoCalGas Advice Letter 3963-G). Since these funds have already been recovered from customers, this request will not result in a rate increase.

Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to request California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) authorization to transfer up to \$7 million from the SGIP budget over 2009 and 2010. These funds will be leveraged to the extent possible with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program that allows for a four-to-one match which will make available additional funds for the REACH Program. REACH is a one-time energy-assistance program sponsored by PG&E which is administered through The Salvation Army from its 170 offices in northern and central California. Through REACH, eligible low-income customers who have experienced an uncontrollable or unforeseen hardship may receive an energy credit on their utility bill. The size and frequency of the energy credit amount is based upon a number of criteria, but its availability depends upon funding. At the level of funding being proposed, many of PG&E's low-income customers would be able to take full advantage of the additional funding that would be available to California under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) of 2009.

Background

Unemployment in California is now reaching levels approaching 12%¹ and the levels of foreclosures are unparalleled. Under the current economic conditions, PG&E has been experiencing an increase in the number of calls from customers requesting bill payment assistance. With companies downsizing and families losing their homes, many of PG&E's gas and electric customers are experiencing difficulties paying their gas and electric bills.

The severity of the economic crisis is further evidenced by the magnitude of the federal government's stimulus package developed by Congress. Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act), up to \$5 billion was appropriated for the TANF Emergency Contingency Fund (known as the Emergency Fund) over fiscal years 2009 and 2010. This Emergency Fund is in addition to the regular TANF Contingency Fund that needy families in California can access through established agencies during the economic downturn. Additional information on the Emergency Fund is available on the Department of Health and Human Services website at: www.hhs.gov/recovery/reports/plans/tanf_emergencyfund.pdf.

In an effort to respond expeditiously to customers' concerns in this economic climate and to take advantage of the availability of additional monies through the Emergency Fund, PG&E is seeking authorization to expand the level of funding for its REACH program. As previously noted, REACH is a one-time energy-assistance program sponsored by PG&E which is administered through The Salvation Army from its 170 offices in northern and central California. Through REACH, eligible low-income customers who have experienced an uncontrollable or unforeseen hardship may receive an energy credit on their utility bill. The size and frequency of the energy credit amount is based upon a number of criteria, but its availability depends upon funding. Since the REACH program was initiated in 1983, the primary² source of funding has been through the generous contributions of PG&E, its customers, employees and retirees.

In 2009 and 2010, PG&E's charitable corporation foundation will be asked to contribute over \$1 million to REACH for programmatic assistance. Based upon the funding model adopted for SDG&E and SoCalGas in Commission Resolution E-4251, PG&E is proposing that the amounts it contributes in 2009 and 2010 be

¹California Employment Development Department New Release No.: 09-53, dated August 21, 2009, cited a statewide unemployment rate of 11.9% for July 2009.

²Ordering Paragraph 1 of Commission Resolution E-4019, dated September 7, 2006, authorized \$10 million in ratepayer funding as a component of PG&E's Heat Storm Electric Refund Plan.

matched with ratepayer funding on up to a five-to-one basis.³ To that end, PG&E proposes to transfer up to \$7 million in unspent and uncommitted SGIP funds over the same two year period to augment the funding available to REACH participants and cover incremental administrative expenses. The SGIP budget currently resides in two balancing accounts, the Electric Self Generation Program Memorandum Account (ref. Preliminary Statement BY) and the Gas Self Generation Program Memorandum Account (ref. Preliminary Statement AW). The funds transferred will be allocated between commodities in accordance with the respective electric and gas SGIP allocation factors of eighty-three percent (83%) and seventeen percent (17%),⁴ and recorded in a newly created REACH account. These additional funds would be administered by The Salvation Army, in a manner consistent with the REACH program. It is also PG&E's intent to have The Salvation Army use the money contributed by shareholders prior to utilizing any transferred balances. Any unused funds remaining at the conclusion of the current allocation to the Emergency Fund (currently projected to end on September 30, 2010) will be retained to assist low-income customers through our existing REACH program. Since PG&E will be using the existing SGIP budget as a source of funding for the matching ratepayer contribution, the transfer of funds will not result in an increase in overall rates.

PG&E recognizes that not all customers seeking assistance through the REACH program will also qualify for additional assistance through TANF, but we expect that a significant number will be able to qualify. With the four-to-one match being made available through the Emergency Fund, approval of up to \$7 million in additional REACH funding coupled with other contributions will result in a significant increase in the amount of funds that are available to customers in need. Given the downturn in the economy and the resulting impact on low-income customers, the additional funding made available through a combination of REACH and the Emergency Fund will provide much needed relief to customers who are experiencing extreme financial hardship.

The REACH Program is one of several assistance programs that PG&E provides its customers. PG&E will continue to offer and communicate its currently existing services such as the California Rates for Energy (CARE) program, Family Rate Electric Assistance (FERA) program, Medical Baseline program, Low Income Energy Efficiency (LIEE) program and Balanced Payment Plans. PG&E also informs customers that they may also be able to receive bill and home weatherization assistance through the California Department for Community Services and Development's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

³ See Ordering Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Commission Resolution E-4251, dated September 10, 2009.

⁴ The SGIP budget and expenses are split between electric and gas customers in the same manner that energy efficiency (EE) program costs are allocated. The gas and electric EE allocation was approved by the Commission in the EE Bridge Funding Decision 08-10-027, dated October 16, 2008, and as approved in Advice Letter 2697-G/3356-E.

Taken as a whole, these programs provide PG&E customers with several resources for assistance.

In accordance with Resolution E-4251, PG&E intends to give appropriate credit to the ratepayers' funding in all its marketing and promotion materials related to the REACH program.⁵

This filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any rate schedule or rule.

Program Results

To keep the Commission apprised of the distribution of funds through the REACH program, PG&E proposes to file a separate report alongside our 2010 and 2011 CARE/LIEE annual reports with the following information:

1. REACH payment assistance provided to customers separated by shareholder funded and ratepayer funded distributions
2. Remaining funds from previously authorized ratepayer contributions to be carried into subsequent fiscal years.
3. A breakdown of funds segregated between administrative and direct assistance expenditures.
4. A breakdown of distributed funds between CARE and non-CARE recipients.

Protest Period

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by sending a letter by **October 1, 2009**, which is 20 days from the date of this filing. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be should mailed to:

CPUC Energy Division
Tariff Files, Room 4005
DMS Branch
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102

⁵ See Ordering Paragraph 6 of Commission Resolution E-4251, dated September 10, 2009.

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200

E-mail: inj@cpuc.ca.gov and mas@cpuc.ca.gov

Copies of protests also should be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004, at the address shown above.

The protest also should be sent via U.S. mail (and by facsimile and electronically, if possible) to PG&E at the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission.

Brian K. Cherry
Vice President, Regulatory Relations
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-7226
E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

Effective Date:

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on **October 12, 2009**, which is 31 days after the date of filing. This Advice Letter is submitted as a Tier 2 filing.

Notice:

In accordance with General Order 96-B, Section IV, a copy of this advice letter is being sent electronically and via U.S. mail to parties shown on the attached list. Address changes should be directed to San Heng (415) 973-2640. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at:

<http://www.pge.com/tariffs>



Brian K. Cherry
Vice President - Regulatory Relations

cc: Service List for R.08-03-008

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. **Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39 M)**

Utility type:

ELC GAS
 PLC HEAT WATER

Contact Person: Olivia Brown

Phone #: 415.973.9312

E-mail: oxb4@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric GAS = Gas
PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat WATER = Water

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 3045-G/3522-E

Tier: 2

Subject of AL: Request to Increase Funding for PG&E's Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH) Program

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Low-Income Ratepayer Assistance

AL filing type: Monthly Quarterly Annual One-Time Other _____

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #: Resolution E-4251

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? No If so, identify the prior AL: No

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL: No

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for: No

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement: N/A

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: No

Resolution Required? Yes No

Requested effective date: October 12, 2009

No. of tariff sheets: N/A

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting). N/A

Tariff schedules affected: N/A

Service affected and changes proposed: N/A

Protests, dispositions, and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

CPUC, Energy Division
Tariff Files, Room 4005
DMS Branch
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102
jn@cpuc.ca.gov and mas@cpuc.ca.gov

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Attn: Brian K. Cherry, Vice President, Regulatory Relations
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177
E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

**PG&E Gas and Electric
Advice Filing List
General Order 96-B, Section IV**

Aglet	Day Carter Murphy	Norris & Wong Associates
Alcantar & Kahl	Defense Energy Support Center	North Coast SolarResources
Ameresco	Department of Water Resources	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.
Anderson & Poole	Department of the Army	OnGrid Solar
Arizona Public Service Company	Dept of General Services	Praxair
BART	Division of Business Advisory Services	R. W. Beck & Associates
BP Energy Company	Douglas & Liddell	RCS, Inc.
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Douglass & Liddell	Recon Research
Bartle Wells Associates	Downey & Brand	SCD Energy Solutions
C & H Sugar Co.	Duke Energy	SCE
CA Bldg Industry Association	Dutcher, John	SMUD
CAISO	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	SPURR
CLECA Law Office	FPL Energy Project Management, Inc.	Santa Fe Jets
CSC Energy Services	Foster Farms	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	GLJ Publications	Sierra Pacific Power Company
California League of Food Processors	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	Silicon Valley Power
California Public Utilities Commission	Green Power Institute	Southern California Edison Company
Calpine	Hanna & Morton	Sunshine Design
Cameron McKenna	International Power Technology	Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan
Casner, Steve	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Tabors Caramanis & Associates
Chamberlain, Eric	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Tecogen, Inc.
Chevron Company	Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Chris, King	MBMC, Inc.	Tioga Energy
City of Glendale	MRW & Associates	TransCanada
City of Palo Alto	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Turlock Irrigation District
Clean Energy Fuels	Matthew V. Brady & Associates	U S Borax, Inc.
Coast Economic Consulting	McKenzie & Associates	United Cogen
Commerce Energy	Merced Irrigation District	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	Mirant	Utility Specialists
Consumer Federation of California	Modesto Irrigation District	Verizon
Crossborder Energy	Morgan Stanley	Wellhead Electric Company
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	Morrison & Foerster	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
	New United Motor Mfg., Inc.	eMeter Corporation