

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE



July 6, 2020

Advice Letter 5791-E/5791-E-A

Erik Jacobson
Director, Regulatory Relations
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

**SUBJECT: Modifications to PG&E's Electric Rule 21 Tariff to Support PG&E's
Customer Resiliency Support Program (CReSP)**

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

Advice Letter 5791-E/5791-E-A is approved as of May 28, 2020, per resolution E-5079
Ordering Paragraphs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward Randolph".

Edward Randolph
Deputy Executive Director for Energy and Climate Policy/
Director, Energy Division

March 24, 2020

Advice 5791-E

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Modifications to PG&E's Electric Rule 21 Tariff to Support PG&E's Customer Resiliency Support Program (CReSP)

Purpose

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) hereby submits for filing revisions to Electric Rule 21 - Generating Facility Interconnections (Rule 21). The affected tariff sheets are listed on the enclosed Attachment A. As described below, this proposed change modifies project queuing requirements in Rule 21, Section E.5.c. to help prioritize and streamline interconnection applications to deliver resiliency services at key sites and locations.

Background

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission) initiated Rulemaking (R.) 19-09-009¹ on September 12, 2019 pursuant to Senate Bill 1339². One of the goals in R. 19-09-009 is to "examine whether to launch pilot microgrid programs to benefit communities most likely to be affected by public safety power shutoffs."³

Subsequently on December 20, 2019, the Commission issued a scoping memo⁴ that divided the proceeding into three tracks. "Track 1 of the proceeding encompasses the Commission's goal of deploying resiliency planning in areas that are prone to outage

¹ Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Microgrids Pursuant to Senate Bill 1339 and Resiliency Strategies.

² Senate Bill (SB) 1339 (Stern, 2018). SB 1339 requires the Commission, in consultation with the California Energy Commission, and the California Independent System Operator Corporation, by December 1, 2020, to take a number of specific actions to facilitate the commercialization of microgrids for distribution customers of large electrical corporations. These actions include developing standards, protocols, guidelines, methods, rates, and tariffs that serve to support and reduce barriers to microgrid deployment while prioritizing system, public, and worker safety, and avoiding shifting costs between ratepayers.

³ R. 19-09-009 page 2.

⁴ Assigned Commissioner's [Scoping Memo And Ruling For Track 1](#)

events and wildfires, with the goal of putting some microgrid and other resiliency strategies in place by Spring or Summer 2020, if not sooner.”

On January 21, 2020, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued another Ruling⁵ regarding Track 1, which “seeks comment from interested parties on the attached Energy Division staff proposal titled, “Short-Term Actions to Accelerate the Deployment of Microgrids and Related Resiliency Solutions” (Staff Proposal). Comments were prepared and filed by stakeholder parties. Specifically the Staff Proposal includes a proposal that would accelerate interconnections for key locations, customers, and/or facilities by requiring the IOUs to develop new rules to allow eligible projects to move ahead of other projects in the queue (often referred to as “queue jumping”).⁶

In order to meet the Track 1 goals, PG&E has developed processes to expedite interconnection of generation projects as described below in order to be in place by early Summer 2020. PG&E’s program is called the Customer Resiliency Support Program (CReSP).

Under CReSP, PG&E is requesting that certain project types (i.e., Momentary Parallel Operation Applicants of any size, and Non-Export Applicants 30 kW or less) that serve key sites and locations as identified in R.19-09-009 (provided below) in PSPS impacted areas (Eligible Projects) be exempt from the queue assignment requirement to facilitate interconnection cycle time improvements. For purposes of this request, PG&E defines PSPS-impacted areas as High Fire Threat Districts (HFTD) tier 2 and 3 as well as in HFTD tier 1 area that were previously impacted by a 2018 and/or 2019 PSPS event. PG&E reserves the right to update the definition if the CPUC and/or PG&E adopts a different standard in the future. This tariff change is proposed as a solution to accelerate resiliency focused interconnection projects for key sites and locations impacted by PSPS activations.

“In each of the above issues, the Commission will be considering, but not be limited to, the following elements for key sites and locations:

- (1) customers with access and functional needs;*
- (2) medical baseline customers;*
- (3) police stations;*
- (4) fire stations;*
- (5) schools (e.g., educational facilities);*
- (6) water and waste water facilities;*
- (7) community centers;*
- (8) senior centers; and*

⁵ [January](#) 21, 2020 Administrative Law Judge’s Ruling Requesting Comments On Track 1 Microgrid And Resiliency Strategies Staff Proposal with included Attachment A - Short-Term Actions to Accelerate the Deployment of Microgrids and Related Resiliency Solutions

⁶ Ibid, pages 9 and 13.

(9) disadvantaged and hard to reach communities.

As specified in Rule 21, Section E.5 provided below, PG&E is required to deem each interconnection application complete and valid when all required project items have been received. This includes the Applicant curing any application deficiencies identified by PG&E and submittal of the correct Interconnection Request fee payment.

"Any Applicant for Interconnection to Distribution Provider's Distribution or Transmission System must submit a complete and valid Interconnection Request. An Interconnection Request will be considered complete and valid when all items required for an Interconnection Request have been received by Distribution Provider and deemed valid by Distribution Provider."

Currently, all non-NEM Applicants and NEM-2 Applicants with Generating Facilities over 1MW are assigned a queue position once the application has been deemed complete and valid. In accordance with Section E.5.c provided below, PG&E assigns queue positions to relevant applications on a weekly basis depending on the date and time that the application was received and the date that any application deficiencies were cured.

"Distribution Provider shall assign a queue position to all non-Net Energy Metering Applicants and NEM-2 Applicants with Generating Facilities size above 1 MW (except as provided in Section D.13.e). If there were no deficiencies in the Interconnection Request, the queue position will be based on the date Distribution Provider received the Interconnection Request. If there were deficiencies in the Interconnection Request, the queue position will be based on the date Distribution Provider determines an Interconnection Request to be complete and valid."

By exempting Eligible Projects from the queue assignment requirement, PG&E expects that the Eligible Projects will experience an overall cycle time reduction of roughly two weeks. For implementation purposes, this advice letter only proposes to make changes to Rule 21 for Eligible Projects. To ensure PG&E captures all such customers in the affected areas, the changes to Rule 21 are not specific to any particular customer type.

Tariff Revisions

- 1.) Modify Section E.5.c. (Sheet 68) to eliminate Queue Position requirement for Momentary Parallel Operation, of any size, as well as Non-Export Applicants 30kW and less:

E. INTERCONNECTION REQUEST SUBMISSION PROCESS (Cont'd.)

5. INTERCONNECTION REQUEST VALIDATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF QUEUE POSITION (Cont'd.)

c. Assignment of Queue Position

Distribution Provider shall assign a queue position to all ~~non-Net Energy Metering Applicants and~~ NEM-2 Applicants with Generating Facilities sized above 1 MW (except as provided in Section D.13.e) ~~and all non-Net Energy Metering Applicants. Applicants within a PSPS impacted area applying for Momentary Parallel Operation of any size, or Non-Export Applicants with Gross Nameplate Capacity of 30 kW or less, will not be assigned a queue position by the Distribution Provider.~~

...

Distribution Provider shall maintain a single queue for all ~~non-Net Energy Metering and >1 MW NEM-2 (except for as provided in Section D.13.e)~~ Interconnection Requests ~~requiring a Queue Position and~~ governed by this Rule with a Point of Interconnection on Distribution Provider's Distribution System.

Make a correction to update Section D.13.e (Sheet 44) consistent with the NEM2 Tariff (as updated in AL 5355-E⁷).

D. GENERAL, RULES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS (Cont'd.)

13. SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO NET ENERGY METERED APPLICANTS (Cont'd.)

- e. For the purposes of establishing the interconnection requirements for Net Energy Metering Generating Facilities with a capacity greater than one megawatt (1MW) qualifying for service under PUC Section 2827(b)(4)(B) (i.e., the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation) ~~or under PUC Section 2827(b)(4)(C) (i.e., the United States Armed Forces)~~, Distribution Provider shall be afforded a prudent but necessary time, as determined by the executive director of the Commission, to study the impacts of the Interconnection Request.

...

⁷ [AL 5355-E](#) *Modifications to Electric Rate Schedule NEM2 (Net Energy Metering Service) for the Armed Forces Pursuant to Senate Bill 854* – submitted August 15, 2018 and became effective September 14, 2018, and which eliminates the Schedule NEM2 Special Condition 8 (Armed Forces) pertaining to the Armed Forces.

Protests

Any party wishing to protest this submittal may do so by letter sent via U.S. mail, facsimile or E-mail, no later than April 13, 2020, which is 20 days after the date of this submittal. Protests must be submitted to:

CPUC Energy Division
ED Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@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 shall also be sent to PG&E either via E-mail or U.S. mail (and by facsimile, if possible) at the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission:

Erik Jacobson
Director, Regulatory Relations
c/o Megan Lawson
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B13U
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-3582
E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

Any person (including individuals, groups, or organizations) may protest or respond to an advice letter (General Order 96-B, Section 7.4). The protest shall contain the following information: specification of the advice letter protested; grounds for the protest; supporting factual information or legal argument; name, telephone number, postal address, and (where appropriate) e-mail address of the protestant; and statement that the protest was sent to the utility no later than the day on which the protest was submitted to the reviewing Industry Division (General Order 96-B, Section 3.11).

Effective Date

PG&E requests that this Tier 3 advice submittal become effective upon Commission approval.

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 and the parties on the service list for R.07-07-007 and R.09-09-009. Address changes to the General Order 96-B service list should be directed to PG&E at email address PGETariffs@pge.com. For changes to any other service list, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or at Process_Office@cpuc.ca.gov. Send all electronic approvals to PGETariffs@pge.com. Advice letter submittals can also be accessed electronically at: <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.

_____/S/

Erik Jacobson
Director, Regulatory Relations

cc: Service List R.17-07-007
Service List R.19-09-009

Attachments:

Public Attachment A – Clean version of updated Rule 21 Tariff
Public Attachment B – Redline of Rule 21 Tariff Revisions



ADVICE LETTER SUMMARY

ENERGY UTILITY



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

Company name/CPUC Utility No.: Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39E)

Utility type:

☒ ELC ☐ GAS ☐ WATER
☐ PLC ☐ HEAT

Contact Person: Kimberly Loo

Phone #: (415)973-4587

E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

E-mail Disposition Notice to: KELM@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

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

(Date Submitted / Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 5791-E

Tier Designation: 3

Subject of AL: Modifications to PG&E's Electric Rule 21 Tariff to Support PG&E's Customer Resiliency Support Program (CRSP)

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Compliance, Rule 21

AL Type: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annual ☒ One-Time ☐ Other:

If AL submitted in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:

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

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL:

Confidential treatment requested? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, specification of confidential information:

Confidential information will be made available to appropriate parties who execute a nondisclosure agreement. Name and contact information to request nondisclosure agreement/ access to confidential information:

Resolution required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Requested effective date:

No. of tariff sheets: 0

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).

Tariff schedules affected: See Attachment A

Service affected and changes proposed¹: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: N/A

¹Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

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

CPUC, Energy Division
Attention: Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
Email: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Name: Erik Jacobson, c/o Megan Lawson
Title: Director, Regulatory Relations
Utility Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Address: 77 Beale Street, Mail Code B13U
City: San Francisco, CA 94177
State: California Zip: 94177
Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx: (415)973-2093
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx: (415)973-3582
Email: PGETariffs@pge.com

Name:
Title:
Utility Name:
Address:
City:
State: District of Columbia Zip:
Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email:

Clear Form

Cal P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal P.U.C. Sheet No.
46374-E	ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21 GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS Sheet 44	42341-E
46375-E	ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21 GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS Sheet 68	42365-E
46376-E	ELECTRIC TABLE OF CONTENTS Sheet 1	46344-E
46377-E	ELECTRIC TABLE OF CONTENTS Sheet 20	46109-E



ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21
GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS

Sheet 44

D. GENERAL, RULES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS (Cont'd.)

**13. SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO NET ENERGY METERED
APPLICANTS (Cont'd.)**

- e. For the purposes of establishing the interconnection requirements for Net Energy Metering Generating Facilities with a capacity greater than one megawatt (1MW) qualifying for service under PUC Section 2827(b)(4)(B) (i.e., the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation), Distribution Provider shall be afforded a prudent but necessary time, as determined by the executive director of the Commission, to study the impacts of the Interconnection Request. If the study reveals the need for upgrades to the Transmission and/or Distribution System arising solely from the Interconnection Request, Distribution Provider shall be afforded the time necessary to complete those upgrades before the Generating Facility is interconnected. The costs of the Network and/or Distribution Upgrades shall be borne by the Applicant, but the exemption from application fees and study costs applicable to Generating Facilities eligible for Net Energy Metering under PUC Section 2827 shall apply. Distribution Provider shall consider the receipt date of the completed Interconnection Request when completing the study allowed for herein and for purposes of determining the appropriate cost responsibility for the necessary Network and/or Distribution Upgrades triggered solely by the Interconnection Request. All Generating Facilities interconnected pursuant to this section shall comply with applicable state and federal requirements, including requirements of the FERC.

(T)
(T)

For Rate Schedule NEM interconnections, the United States Armed Forces shall comply with all FERC interconnection procedures and requirements for any Generating Facility that interconnects directly to the Transmission System or that requires upgrades to the Transmission System. These same provisions also apply to the Interconnection Requests of the CDCR and United States Armed Forces for NEM-2 Generating Facilities with a capacity greater than 1 MW, except that the CDCR and the United States Armed Forces shall be additionally responsible for any application fees and study costs triggered by the NEM-2 Interconnection Request.

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ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21
GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS

Sheet 68

E. INTERCONNECTION REQUEST SUBMISSION PROCESS (Cont'd.)

**5. INTERCONNECTION REQUEST VALIDATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF
QUEUE POSITION (Cont'd.)**

c. Assignment of Queue Position

Distribution Provider shall assign a queue position to all NEM-2 Applicants with Generating Facilities sized above 1 MW (except as provided in Section D.13.e) and all non-Net Energy Metering Applicants. Applicants within a PSPS impacted area applying for Momentary Parallel Operation of any size, or Non-Export Applicants with Gross Nameplate Capacity of 30 kW or less, will not be assigned a queue position by the Distribution Provider. If there were no deficiencies in the Interconnection Request, the queue position will be based on the date Distribution Provider received the Interconnection Request. If there were deficiencies in the Interconnection Request, the queue position will be based on the date Distribution Provider determines an Interconnection Request to be complete and valid. Should Distribution Provider not meet any deadline for providing the first (Section E.5.b.i) or second written notification (Section E.5.b.ii) to Applicant regarding the Interconnection Request, Applicant's queue position shall be set on the final day of the period in which Distribution Provider was obligated to provide such written notification, provided, however, that Applicant meets deadlines as set out above to submit any additional information required for a valid Interconnection Request following such written notification under Section E.5.b.i or E.5.b.ii, and that Distribution Provider determines that the Interconnection Request is valid.

(T)

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(T)

Distribution Provider shall maintain a single queue for all. Interconnection Requests requiring a Queue Position and governed by this Rule with a Point of Interconnection on Distribution Provider's Distribution System. For Interconnection Requests that are studied under the Distribution Group Study Process, the effective queue position for all Interconnection Requests in a Distribution Study Group will be derived on the last day of the Distribution Group Study window for that Distribution Study Group. For Interconnection Requests that are studied under the Transmission Cluster Study Process, the queue position will be the applicable cluster's queue position.

(T)

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(Continued)



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Advice 5791-E
Decision

Issued by
Robert S. Kenney
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

Submitted
Effective
Resolution

March 24, 2020



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Advice 5791-E
March 24, 2020

Attachment B

Redline of Rule 21 Tariff Revisions



ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21
GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS

Sheet 44

D. GENERAL, RULES, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS (Cont'd.) (L)

**13. SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO NET ENERGY METERED
APPLICANTS (Cont'd.)**

- e. For the purposes of establishing the interconnection requirements for Net Energy Metering Generating Facilities with a capacity greater than one megawatt (1MW) qualifying for service under PUC Section 2827(b)(4)(B) (i.e., the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation) ~~or under PUC Section 2827(b)(4)(C) (i.e., the United States Armed Forces)~~, Distribution Provider shall be afforded a prudent but necessary time, as determined by the executive director of the Commission, to study the impacts of the Interconnection Request. If the study reveals the need for upgrades to the Transmission and/or Distribution System arising solely from the Interconnection Request, Distribution Provider shall be afforded the time necessary to complete those upgrades before the Generating Facility is interconnected. The costs of the Network and/or Distribution Upgrades shall be borne by the Applicant, but the exemption from application fees and study costs applicable to Generating Facilities eligible for Net Energy Metering under PUC Section 2827 shall apply. Distribution Provider shall consider the receipt date of the completed Interconnection Request when completing the study allowed for herein and for purposes of determining the appropriate cost responsibility for the necessary Network and/or Distribution Upgrades triggered solely by the Interconnection Request. All Generating Facilities interconnected pursuant to this section shall comply with applicable state and federal requirements, including requirements of the FERC.

For Rate Schedule NEM interconnections, the United States Armed Forces shall comply with all FERC interconnection procedures and requirements for any Generating Facility that interconnects directly to the Transmission System or that requires upgrades to the Transmission System. These same provisions also apply to the Interconnection Requests of the CDCR and United States Armed Forces for NEM-2 Generating Facilities with a capacity greater than 1 MW, except that the CDCR and the United States Armed Forces shall be additionally responsible for any application fees and study costs triggered by the NEM-2 Interconnection Request.

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(Continued)

Advice 5187-E-A
Decision 16-06-052

Issued by
Robert S. Kenney
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

Date Filed May 31, 2018
Effective June 30, 2018
Resolution



ELECTRIC RULE NO. 21
GENERATING FACILITY INTERCONNECTIONS

Sheet 68

E. INTERCONNECTION REQUEST SUBMISSION PROCESS (Cont'd.) (L)

5. INTERCONNECTION REQUEST VALIDATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF
QUEUE POSITION (Cont'd.)

c. Assignment of Queue Position

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Distribution Provider shall maintain a single queue for all ~~non-Net Energy Metering and >1 MW NEM-2 (except as provided in Section D.13.e)~~ Interconnection Requests requiring a Queue Position and governed by this Rule with a Point of Interconnection on Distribution Provider's Distribution System. For Interconnection Requests that are studied under the Distribution Group Study Process, the effective queue position for all Interconnection Requests in a Distribution Study Group will be derived on the last day of the Distribution Group Study window for that Distribution Study Group. For Interconnection Requests that are studied under the Transmission Cluster Study Process, the queue position will be the applicable cluster's queue position.

(L)

(Continued)

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

AT&T	Downey & Brand	Pioneer Community Energy
Albion Power Company	East Bay Community Energy	Redwood Coast Energy Authority
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
	Energy Management Service	SCD Energy Solutions
Alta Power Group, LLC	Engineers and Scientists of California	
Anderson & Poole	Evaluation + Strategy for Social	
	Innovation	SCE
Atlas ReFuel	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SDG&E and SoCalGas
BART	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz &	
	Ritchie	SPURR
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Green Power Institute	San Francisco Water Power and Sewer
P.C. CalCom Solar	Hanna & Morton	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	ICF	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	IGS Energy	Southern California Edison Company
California Public Utilities Commission	International Power Technology	Southern California Gas Company
California State Association of Counties	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Spark Energy
Calpine	Kelly Group	Sun Light & Power
	Ken Bohn Consulting	Sunshine Design
Cameron-Daniel, P.C.	Keyes & Fox LLP	Tecogen, Inc.
Casner, Steve	Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	TerraVerde Renewable Partners
Cenergy Power		Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Center for Biological Diversity		
	Los Angeles County Integrated	TransCanada
Chevron Pipeline and Power	Waste Management Task Force	Troutman Sanders LLP
City of Palo Alto	MRW & Associates	Utility Cost Management
	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Utility Power Solutions
City of San Jose	Marin Energy Authority	Utility Specialists
Clean Power Research	McKenzie & Associates	Water and Energy Consulting Wellhead
Coast Economic Consulting		Electric Company
Commercial Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Western Manufactured Housing
Crossborder Energy	NLine Energy, Inc.	Communities Association (WMA)
Crown Road Energy, LLC	NRG Solar	Yep Energy
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP		
Day Carter Murphy	Office of Ratepayer Advocates	
	OnGrid Solar	
Dept of General Services	Pacific Gas and Electric Company	
Don Pickett & Associates, Inc.	Peninsula Clean Energy	
Douglass & Liddell		