

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 66694

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY for  
an order of the Commission authorizing  
applicant to increase its present  
rates and charges for natural gas  
service in the manner and to the  
extent herein set forth.

Application No. 36635

In the Matter of the Application of  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY for  
authority, among other things, to  
remove the \$2.00 ceiling from the fuel  
oil escalator clause in certain of its  
interruptible gas rate tariff  
schedules.

Application No. 38668

In the Matter of the Application of  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, a  
corporation, for an order granting,  
among other things, authority to  
increase certain of its rates and  
charges for natural gas to offset an  
increase in the cost of gas purchased  
from the El Paso Natural Gas Company.  
(Gas)

Application No. 40926

In the Matter of the Application of  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY for  
authority, among other things, to  
increase its rates and charges for  
gas service.  
(Gas)

Application No. 42225

ORDER DIRECTING REFUNDS TO ELECTRIC  
AND STEAM HEAT CUSTOMERS IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH REFUND PLANS

Pursuant to ordering paragraph 5 of Decision No. 66559,  
dated December 27, 1963, in the above-entitled matters, Pacific  
Gas and Electric Company filed with this Commission on January 17,  
1964 two refund plans, one plan designed to refund approximately

\$9,284,000 to its electric department customers and the second plan designed to refund approximately \$133,000 to its steam heat department customers. These refunds result from settlement of rate proceedings of El Paso Natural Gas Company in Federal Power Commission Dockets G-4769, G-12948, G-17929 and RP60-3 and Commission orders relating thereto.

It is estimated that the electric department refund will be allocated among the various classes of service in the following amounts:

<u>Class of Electric Service</u>	<u>Estimated Refund</u>
Residential	\$2,347,677
Commercial and Industrial-Non Demand	834,439
Commercial and Industrial-Demand	3,975,262
Agricultural Power	1,090,509
Street & Highway Lighting	74,684
Other Public Authorities	23,839
Sales for Resale	913,306
Interdepartmental	<u>24,663</u>
Total	\$9,284,429

It is further estimated that the refund to steam department customers will be at the rate of approximately \$2.168 per thousand pounds of steam based on January 1964 purchases.

The plans provide that refunds will be made by crediting bills rendered to customers generally during March 1964 and that in each case where prior to November 1, 1964 a customer contends that the refund he received is not appropriate, the company will investigate and make a refund adjustment wherever appropriate.

Upon consideration the Commission finds that:

1. The electric and steam heat refund plans filed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company on January 17, 1964 as set forth

respectively in Appendix A and Appendix B hereof are fair, reasonable and in the public interest.

2. Pacific Gas and Electric Company should give notice in newspapers of wide general circulation in its service area of the general provisions of the refund plans in accordance with Item 10 of Appendix A and Item 9 of Appendix B.

3. The Commission should retain continuing jurisdiction in the matter and require appropriate reports to be filed.

4. Pacific Gas and Electric Company should be directed to make refunds to its electric department customers in accordance with the refund plan attached hereto as Appendix A and to its steam heat department customers in accordance with the refund plan attached hereto as Appendix B.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Within ninety days after the effective date of this order, Pacific Gas and Electric Company shall refund to its electric department customers, in accordance with the refund plan attached hereto as Appendix A and made a part hereof, the total amount developed in Item 3 of Appendix A hereof.

2. Within ninety days after the effective date of this order, Pacific Gas and Electric Company shall refund to its steam heat department customers, in accordance with the refund plan attached hereto as Appendix B and made a part hereof, the total amount developed in Item 3 of Appendix B hereof.

3. Pacific Gas and Electric Company shall give notice in newspapers of wide general circulation to domestic, commercial and other establishments in its service area as detailed in Item 10 of Appendix A and Item 9 of Appendix B hereof.

4. Within thirty days after making initial refunds to customers as directed herein, and every thirty days thereafter for nine additional months, Pacific Gas and Electric Company shall file written reports with this Commission setting forth separately the amount refunded to its electric department customers and to its steam heat department customers including refunds and refund adjustments made as a result of customer inquiries, the amount of returned checks and, when applicable, the amount of uncashed checks outstanding six months after the month of their issuance. Such reports shall show such amounts segregated by the principal classes of service.

5. Pacific Gas and Electric Company shall inform each recipient of a refund either by transmittal letter or by notation on the bill or check reflecting the refund that:

"This refund is pursuant to an order of the California Public Utilities Commission."

6. The Commission retains continuing jurisdiction in the matter.

The Secretary of the Commission is directed to cause a certified copy of this order to be served forthwith upon Pacific Gas and Electric Company and to cause a copy to be mailed to each appearance of record.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 21st day of January, 1964.

William L. Dennis  
President  
Robert E. McMillan  
Everett W. [unclear]  
George H. Trover  
Fredrick B. Hallock  
Commissioners

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PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
PLAN FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT CUSTOMERS OF  
MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE GAS DEPARTMENT AS A REFUND  
ON THE COST OF GAS CONSUMED IN STEAM ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANTS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to distribute to Pacific Gas and Electric Company's electric customers the refunds received from the Gas Department pursuant to Decisions No. 65611 and No. 66559 of the California Public Utilities Commission.

2. Definition

Refund Month. March, 1964, in which month the refunds will be generally credited to customer's bills.

3. Total Amount to be Refunded

The total amount to be refunded to Pacific Gas and Electric Company's electric customers consists of:

- a. The amount of \$90,154 refundable to P.G.&E.'s Electric Department by its Gas Department pursuant to Decision No. 65611 plus interest thereon at 4.0% per annum from August 2, 1963 to the date electric refunds are to begin.
- b. The amount (approximately \$8,935,000) to be refunded to P.G.&E.'s Electric Department by its Gas Department pursuant to Decision No. 66559 plus interest thereon at 4.0% per annum from February 3, 1964 to the date electric refunds are to begin.
- c. The amount of money equal to the estimated reduction in the cost of gas to the Electric Department from December 30, 1963 to March 1, 1964 when lower electric rates are to be placed in effect.

4. Allocation of Refunds Among Classes of Service

The total amount of the refund as determined in Section 3 shall be allocated to each of the various classes of service in proportion to the kilowatt-hours billed each class of service during the recorded year 1963 plus (1) energy used by customers under assigned contracts adjusted to exclude supplementary energy, less (2) energy sold to the Bureau of Reclamation under Contract I 75r - 3428.

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5. Allocation of Refunds to Customers in Each Class of Service

- a. Acct. 351 Residential Sales  
Acct. 352 Commercial and Industrial Sales - Non-Demand  
Acct. 355 Public Street and Highway Lighting

The refund rate for each of the above classes of service shall be determined by dividing the amount of the refund allocated to that class of service by the kilowatt-hours of energy estimated to be billed to all customers in that class during the refund month.

The refund will be made to each customer of record as of his regular March 1964 billing and will be equal to the refund rate times the Kwh billed during the refund month. For each customer receiving a bill for less than or more than a full month, the quantity of energy used will be adjusted to the basis of a single full month for the purpose of calculating the refund.

- b. Acct. 353 Commercial and Industrial Sales - Demand

(1) Customers Having One or More Billing Demands of 1000 Kw or More in 1963

The refund rate for each customer will be equal to the amount of the refund allocated to Account 353 divided by the total 1963 sales for such account. The refund will be made to each customer of record as of his regular January 1964 billing and will be equal to the refund rate times the kilowatt-hours used by that customer in the 1963 billing period.

(2) Customers Having Billing Demands of Less than 1000 Kw in 1963

The refund rate for each such customer will be equal to the amount of the refund allocated to Account 353 less the refund amount calculated in (1) above divided by the kilowatt-hours used in January 1964 by those customers having demands of less than 1000 Kw in 1963. The refund will be made to each customer of record as of his regular January 1964 billing and will be equal to the refund rate times that customer's usage in the January 1964 billing period.

- c. Acct. 354 Agricultural Power

The refund rate for agricultural power customers shall be determined by dividing the amount of the refund allocated to that class by the kilowatt-hours of energy from the May 1963 billing period to the January 1964 billing period, inclusive. The refund will be made to each customer of record as of his regular January 1964 billing and will be equal to his accumulated Kwh usage from the May 1963 billing period to the January 1964 billing period, inclusive, times the refund rate for agricultural power.

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- d. Acct. 356 Other Sales to Public Authorities  
Acct. 358 Sales for Resale\*  
Acct. 360 Interdepartmental

The refund rate for each of the above classes of service will be equal to the amount of the refund allocated to that class of service divided by the total 1963 sales for such class of service. The refund will be made to each customer of record as of his January 1964 billing and will be equal to the refund rate times the kilowatt-hours used by that customer in the 1963 billing period.

\*Adjusted to include assigned contracts, and to exclude sales to CVP.

6. Credit and Payment of Refunds

Refunds will be made by credit to the customer's account in March 1964 where practicable. The amount of the credit will be shown on the customer's bill. The words "Electric Refund Credit" will appear in line with the amount of the refund shown on the bill.

7. Adjustment of Refunds Upon Customer Inquiry

In each case where prior to November 1, 1964 an electric customer contends that the refund he received under this plan is not appropriate, the Company plans to investigate and make a refund adjustment wherever appropriate.

8. Cost of Making Refund

The Plan proposed herein is designed to keep costs of refunding as low as possible by using the simplest methods consistent with equitable treatment of all customers. Any difference between the amount allocated for refund to Electric Department Customers and the actual amount refunded including checks uncashed at the end of six months will be placed in a suspense account for disposition by Supplemental Order of the California Public Utilities Commission.

9. Statement Regarding Refund

Each recipient of a refund will receive a notice including the statement:

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"This refund is pursuant to an order of the California Public Utilities Commission."

10. Public Notice

Pacific Gas and Electric Company will give notice in newspapers of wide general circulation to domestic, commercial and other establishments in its service area of:

- a. The general provisions of this refund plan within 15 days after its authorization by the Commission.
- b. The notice below, five and twenty days, respectively, after making initial refunds to customers:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Public Notice on Electric Refunds

(not less than 3" x 5" in size)

Electric Rate Refund

Pursuant to an order of the California Public Utilities Commission, Pacific Gas and Electric Company is making refunds to its electric customers of moneys received from El Paso Natural Gas Company pursuant to an order of the Federal Power Commission.

Refunds will be made by crediting bills rendered to customers during March 1964, allocated to customers in proportion to their use of electric energy. In the event a customer contends the refund received is not appropriate, inquiry may be made to the Company at its local office. All such inquiries shall be submitted to the Company on or before November 1, 1964.



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PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
PLAN FOR DISTRIBUTION TO STEAM HEAT DEPARTMENT CUSTOMERS  
OF MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE GAS DEPARTMENT AS A REFUND  
ON THE COST OF GAS CONSUMED IN STEAM HEAT PLANTS

1. Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to distribute to Pacific Gas and Electric Company's steam heat customers the refund received from the Gas Department pursuant to Decisions Nos. 65611 and 66599 of the California Public Utilities Commission.

2. Definition

Refund Month. March 1964, in which month the refunds will be generally credited to customer's bills.

3. Total Amount to be Refunded

The total amount to be refunded to Pacific Gas and Electric Company's steam heat customers consists of:

- a. The amount of \$45,697 refundable to P.G.&E.'s Steam Heat Department by its Gas Department pursuant to Decision No. 65611, plus interest thereon at 4.0% per annum from August 2, 1963 to the date steam heat refunds are to begin.
- b. The amount (approximately \$84,708) to be refunded to P.G.&E.'s Steam Heat Department by its Gas Department pursuant to Decision No. 66559 plus interest thereon at 4.0% per annum from February 3, 1964 to the date steam heat refunds are to begin.
- c. The amount of money equal to the estimated reduction in the cost of gas to the Steam Heat Department from December 30, 1963 to March 1, 1964 when lower steam heat rates will be placed in effect.

4. Allocation of Refunds to Customers

The refund rate will be equal to the amount of the refund as determined in Section 3 divided by the thousands of pounds of steam used in January 1964 by all customers. The refund will be made to each customer of record as of his regular January 1964 billing and will be equal to the refund rate times that customer's usage in the January 1964 billing period.

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5. Credit and Payment of Refunds

Refunds will be made by credit to the customer's account in March 1964 where practicable. The amount of the credit will be shown on the customer's bill. The words "Steam Refund Credit" will appear in line with the amount of the refund shown on the bill.

6. Adjustment of Refunds Upon Customer Inquiry

In each case where prior to November 1, 1964 a present customer contends that the refund he received under this plan is not appropriate, the Company plans to investigate and make a refund adjustment wherever appropriate.

7. Cost of Making Refund

The Plan proposed herein is designed to keep costs of refunding as low as possible by using the simplest methods consistent with equitable treatment of all customers. Any difference between the amount allocated for refund to the Steam Heat Department Customers and the actual amount refunded including checks uncashed at the end of six months will be placed in a suspense account for disposition by Supplemental Order of the California Public Utilities Commission.

8. Statement Regarding Refund

Each recipient of a refund will receive a notice including the statement:

"This refund is pursuant to an order of the  
California Public Utilities Commission."

9. Public Notice

Pacific Gas and Electric Company will give notice in newspapers of wide general circulation in San Francisco and Oakland of:

- a. The general provisions of this refund plan within 15 days after its authorization by the Commission.

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- b. The notice below, five and twenty days, respectively, after making initial refunds to customers:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Public Notice on Steam Heat Refunds

(not less than 3" x 5" in size)

STEAM HEAT RATE REFUND

Pursuant to an order of the California Public Utilities Commission, Pacific Gas and Electric Company is making refunds to its steam heat customers of moneys received from El Paso Natural Gas Company pursuant to an order of the Federal Power Commission. Refunds will be made by crediting bills rendered to customers during March 1964, allocated to customers in proportion to their usage of steam. In the event a customer contends the refund received is not appropriate, inquiry may be made to the Company at its local office. All such inquiries shall be submitted to the Company on or before November 1, 1964.