

Decision 88 03 023 MAR 09 1988

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
San Diego Gas & Electric Company,)
for Authority to Introduce a)
Mandatory L6-TOU Rate to Replace its)
Existing A6-TOU and AL-TOU Rates and)
to Revise Portions of its Existing)
Standby Tariffs. (1 902-E))

Application 87-04-018
(Filed April 10, 1987)

In the matter of the Application of)
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY)
for Authority to Revise its Energy)
Cost Adjustment Clause (ECAC) Rate,)
to Revise its Annual Energy Rate)
(AER), and to Revise its Electric)
Base Rates effective November 1,)
1987 in accordance with the)
Electrical Revenue Adjustment)
Mechanism (ERAM). (U 902-E))

Application 87-07-009
(Filed July 2, 1987;
amended August 20, 1987)

OPINION

I. Summary

We grant to Utility Consumers' Action Network (UCAN) a compensation award of \$16,897.38 for its substantial contribution to Decision (D.) 87-12-069 issued on December 22, 1987.

II. Background

These two San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) applications were consolidated so that customers could evaluate the impact of both applications on their rates. Hearings were held from September 21, 1987 to October 8, 1987. UCAN and other parties submitted briefs by November 6, 1987.

The Commission issued D.87-12-069 for this phase of the consolidated proceeding on December 22, 1987. UCAN then filed a Request For Finding of Eligibility For Compensation and Request For Compensation on December 30, 1987. No protests to UCAN's requests have been filed.

III. Eligibility for Compensation

UCAN seeks a finding of eligibility under Rule 76.54. UCAN points out that the Commission previously in D.87-02-031 has found that participation in Commission proceedings poses significant financial hardship for UCAN's members. UCAN still represents the interests of residential and small business ratepayers whose economic interest is small in comparison to the cost of participating in our proceedings. Therefore, we find that participation in this proceeding posed significant financial hardship for UCAN's members and that UCAN is eligible for an award of compensation.

IV. Substantial Contribution to D.87-12-069

UCAN cites five substantial contributions to the Commission's D.87-12-069: (1) the incremental/decremental methodology for estimating costs for new and existing customers, (2) the 1.15 multiplier to generation capacity costs for maintenance of a reserve margin, (3) a constrained Equal Percentage Marginal Cost (EPMC) revenue allocation due to uncertainty about the validity of SDG&E's marginal costs, (4) the order requiring studies of reserve requirements and the reliability needs based on value of service for the different customer classes, and (5) 100% ECAC balancing account treatment for the withheld capacity payments to Tucson-Alamito. UCAN seeks compensation for its work on each of these five areas.

We agree with UCAN that its participation in this proceeding led to substantial contributions in each of the enumerated areas.

V. Compensation Request

UCAN requests a total of \$16,897.38 as compensation for its contributions to D.87-12-069. This total consists of the following:

Attorney fees	99.5 hours @ \$135/hour	\$13,493.25
Expert fees	44.75 hours @ \$55/hour	2,461.25
	2.0 hours @ \$35/hour	70.00
Other costs	Travel, photocopying, etc.	<u>872.88</u>
Total		\$16,897.38

We adopt the hourly rates proposed by UCAN for its attorney and experts. We also accept the hours claimed for contributions to the decision for this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. UCAN represents residential and small business ratepayers.
2. The economic interest of UCAN's members is small compared to the cost of participating in the Commission's proceedings.
3. UCAN has made five significant contributions to the Commission's D.87-12-069.
4. The hourly rates and hours claimed by UCAN are reasonable and should be adopted.
5. This order should take effect on the date of issuance so that UCAN will promptly receive its compensation award.

Conclusions of Law

1. UCAN is eligible to receive an award of compensation.
2. UCAN should receive an award of \$16,897.38 for its substantial contributions to D.87-12-069.

ORDER

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that 15 days after the effective date of this decision San Diego Gas & Electric Company shall pay to Utility Consumers Action Network a compensation award of \$16,897.38.

This order is effective today.

Dated MAR 09 1988, at San Francisco, California.

STANLEY W. HULETT
President

DONALD VIAL

FREDERICK R. DUDA

C. MITCHELL WILK

JOHN B. OHANIAN

Commissioners

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TODAY.


Victor Weisser, Executive Director