

Decision S2-06-023 June 2, 1982

**ORIGINAL**

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

In the Matter of the Application of Southern California Gas Company ) Application 59316  
 for authority to increase rates ) (Filed December 11, 1979)  
 charged by it for gas service )

**ORDER SUSPENDING ADVICE LETTER 1310  
 AND SETTING FURTHER HEARINGS**

In Decisions 92497 and 92714 in the above-entitled matter, we required the applicant (SoCal) to file data demonstrating the efficacy of its various conservation programs during 1981. We also provided that, depending on the data so filed, SoCal might be subject to a rate of reward for its conservation failures or achievements. In 1982, SoCal filed its

Advice Letter 1310 to a \$5 million conservation reward and approval of rate increases to permit the

Inas the first filing of its kind and could conservation filings,\* we are of the opinion could be fully explored in public hearing. al requests its reward should be subject to determine whether SoCal deserves the claimed conservation efforts, but also whether the data upon which rests is accurate, pertinent and objective. Additionally, SoCal has chosen to exempt its GN-5, G-60 and G-61 customers from paying any portion of the reward. The reasons for the proposed exemptions should likewise be explored in a public hearing.

\*/ We here take official notice of SoCal's pending Test Year 1983 general rate proceeding, Application 61081, in which SoCal is requesting a similar, albeit larger, conservation reward for its estimated 1983 conservation achievements.

Original

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Decision 82 06 023

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Inasmuch as [redacted] filing of its kind and could set pr [redacted] filings,\*/ we are of the opinion that [redacted] fully explored in public hearings. T [redacted] sts its reward should be subject to ex [redacted] ine whether SoCal deserves the claimed rewa [redacted] efforts, but also whether the data upon which [redacted] accurate, pertinent and objective. Additionally, [redacted] sen to exempt its GN-5, G-60 and G-61 customers from paying any portion of the reward. The reasons for the proposed exemptions should likewise be explored in a public hearing.

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*CORRECTION*

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THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED  
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY

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Inasmuch as Advice Letter 1310 is the first filing of its kind and could set precedent for future conservation filings, we are of the opinion that Advice Letter 1310 should be fully explored in public hearings. The data upon which SoCal requests its reward should be subject to examination not only to determine whether SoCal deserves the claimed reward for its conservation efforts, but also whether the data upon which that claim rests is accurate, pertinent and objective. Additionally, SoCal has chosen to exempt its GN-5, G-60 and G-61 customers from paying any portion of the reward. The reasons for the proposed exemptions should likewise be explored in a public hearing.

We here take official notice of SoCal's pending Test Year 1983 general rate proceeding, Application 61081, in which SoCal is requesting a similar, albeit larger, conservation reward for its estimated 1983 conservation achievements.

The City of San Diego, an interested party to Application 59316, has filed a protest to the subject advice letter. SoCal subsequently filed its opposition to that protest, contending, inter alia, that San Diego lacks standing to protest. Given our own inclination to proceed to hearing, we need not address the competing contentions of San Diego and SoCal. However, since we may well decide that GN-5, G-60, and G-61 customers should bear some proportionate share of the proposed reward, San Diego has credible interests in this matter and is invited to appear during the hearings ordered herein.

Advice Letter 1310 is hereby suspended and incorporated as a part of the record in Application 59316. Hearings limited to matters relevant to Advice Letter 1310 shall be convened as soon as possible. We note that the determinations of D:92497 as to the bases upon which a penalty or reward would be calculated and implemented for SoCal's conservation performance in 1981 will not be at issue in these hearings.

This order is effective today.

Dated June 2, 1982, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN E. BRYSON, President  
 RICHARD D. GRAVELLE, Vice President  
 VICTOR CALVO, Secretary  
 PRISCILLA C. GREW, Treasurer  
 Commissioners

I dissent.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR., Commissioner

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

Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director

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S

Cm Grimes  
dissent

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RICHARD D. GRAVELLE  
VICTOR CALVO  
PRISCILLA C. CREW  
Commissioners

I dissent.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR. Commissioner