

Decision 98-09-018 September 3, 1998

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

Investigation on the Commission's own motion into the present and potential adequacy of gas supply and service in California, and into the propriety and reasonableness of tariff provisions of Southern California Gas Company, Southern Counties Gas Company, Pacific Lighting Gas Supply Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company relating to priority of service and curtailment procedures as between industrial and steam generating plant customers.

**ORIGINAL**

Case 5924  
(Filed April 5, 1957;  
Modified January 24, 1995)

**O P I N I O N**

**Summary**

On June 24, 1998, Southern California Edison (Edison) filed a petition for modification of Decision (D.) 95-01-039. Due to Edison's divestiture of its gas-fired generating plants, Edison states that it is no longer in a position to provide recorded or forecast gas data and thus should no longer be required to participate in the preparation and filing of the California Gas Report. We approve this request.

**Background**

By D.62260, issued on July 11, 1961, we terminated our investigation into the adequacy of gas supply and service in California and the propriety and reasonableness of gas tariff provisions relating to priority and curtailment procedures between industrial and steam-electric plant customers. (59 CPUC 11.) D.62260 requested that the respondent utilities work cooperatively to prepare an annual report on current and future gas supply and requirement

relationships. The California Gas Report has changed over time in response to modifications in our regulatory approach, as well as evolving information requirements. For example, D.94-05-039 eliminated the need to report transportation capacity, D.94-04-063 recognized that additional plans for service the Kern County enhanced oil recovery market need not be filed, and D.95-01-039 allowed the biennial filing of the Gas Report, the streamlining of the data in the Report, and the filing of a supplemental report on recorded data.

#### **Edison's Petition**

Edison explains that in D.95-12-063, as modified by D.96-01-009, the Commission ordered Edison and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to divest at least 50% of their fossil generating assets as part of the electric restructuring effort. Edison has divested 11 of its 12 gas-fired generating plants and expects the sale of its final gas-fired generating plant to be final this summer. Since Edison will no longer be an owner of gas-fired generation, Edison requests relief from the requirement to contribute to the preparation and filing of the Gas Report.

#### **Discussion**

Edison's request is reasonable and should be granted. The preparation of this comprehensive report requires significant effort and coordination among the

various utilities participating in this effort.<sup>1</sup> Edison is no longer in a position to contribute data for inclusion in the Gas Report and should be relieved of all requirements to submit recorded and forecast gas data for inclusion in the California Gas Report. In addition, Edison should be removed from both the General and Working Committees of the California Gas Report.

No party has filed a response to this petition for modification and public hearing is not necessary.

### **Findings of Fact**

1. Edison has divested 11 of its 12 gas-fired generating plants.
2. Edison expects to complete the sale of its final gas-fired plant by September, 1998.
3. Edison is no longer in a position to submit recorded and forecast gas data for inclusion in the California Gas Report.

### **Conclusions of Law**

1. D.95-12-063, as modified by D.96-01-009, required that Edison and PG&E divest at least 50% of their fossil generating plants.

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<sup>1</sup> We note that PG&E and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) are, or soon will be, in similar positions. PG&E, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), and Edison were designated respondents in the preparation of the California Gas Report by D.62260. SDG&E, the City of Long Beach Gas Department, and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power cooperate in the preparation of the report. Oversight is provided by a General Committee and the report is prepared by numerous members of a Working Committee. The Office of Ratepayer Advocates and the California Energy Commission participate as observers. If PG&E and SDG&E file similar petitions for modification, it may be appropriate to review the purpose and format of the California Gas Report.

2. As Edison is no longer an owner of gas-fired electric generating plants, it is reasonable to grant Edison's request for relief from participating in the preparation and filing of the California Gas Report.

3. This order should be effective today, so that changes to the preparation of the California Gas Report can be implemented in an expeditious manner.

4. This proceeding should be closed.

**O R D E R**

**IT IS ORDERED that:**

1. Southern California Edison Company's (Edison) petition to modify Decision (D.) 95-01-039 is granted.

2. The ordering paragraph in D.95-01-039 is modified to add the following:

d. As Southern California Edison Company (Edison) is no longer an owner of gas-fired electric generating plants, Edison is relieved of any and all requirements to submit recorded and forecast gas data for inclusion in the California Gas Report. Edison is removed from the General Committee and the Working Committee of the California Gas Report.

3. Case 5924 is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated September 3, 1998, at San Francisco, California.

**RICHARD A. BILAS**  
President  
**P. GREGORY CONLON**  
**JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.**  
**HENRY M. DUQUE**  
**JOSIAH L. NEEPER**  
Commissioners