

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY
AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION
Energy Branch

RESOLUTION G-2984
March 31, 1992

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION G-2984. SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION SUBMITS
THE DETAILS OF DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS APPROVED
BY D.91-12-049.

BY ADVICE LETTER NO. 438, FILED ON JANUARY 30, 1992.

SUMMARY

1. In this advice letter, Southwest Gas Corporation (SWG) provides the details of two new Demand-Side Management (DSM) programs approved by Decision 91-12-049. SWG has detailed the program design, customer eligibility, expected participation levels, incentives to be provided and the evaluation studies to be performed for the Residential Appliance Efficiency Incentive Program and the Residential New Construction Program. This filing does not affect any rates or charges.
2. This Resolution authorizes the utility to begin implementation of the DSM programs described in the advice letter.

BACKGROUND

1. SWG received authorization to spend \$210,000 on new DSM activities in its 1992 general rate case (GRC) decision (D.91-12-049). The decision adopted a settlement between Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) and SWG. Appendix D of D.91-12-049 describes the settlement with regard to DSM. SWG was authorized to immediately implement a program for Residential Weather Retrofit Incentives.
2. The GRC decision specified that SWG should file an advice letter with the Commission which set forth the details of the Residential Appliance Efficiency Incentive Program and the Residential New Construction Program prior to their implementation.

NOTICE AND PROTESTS

1. The advice letter was noticed by publication in the Commission Calendar. No protests have been received by the Commission Advisory and Compliance Division (CACD) in this advice letter.

DISCUSSION

1. CACD has reviewed this advice letter filing for compliance with the requirements set forth in Appendix D to D.91-12-049.

2. The advice letter describes the design of each program, customer eligibility requirements, expected participation levels, incentives provided and evaluation studies to be performed.

3. The Residential Appliance Efficiency Incentive Program provides financial incentives to customers when they replace their old gas furnaces and/or water heaters with new higher efficiency models.

4. The Residential New Construction Program provides incentives to developers who construct homes that exceed Title 24 Standards for Minimum Energy Efficiency Designs and Appliances. The purpose of this program is to capture maximum conservation opportunities at the time homes are built.

5. The advice letter filing provides limited information regarding SWG's measurement and evaluation plan and how it will impact future program goals.

6. The settlement adopted in D.91-12-049 allocates \$30,000 for acquiring customer and appliance saturation data for use in future program planning. It is important that this information be reported to the Commission.

FINDINGS

1. SWG's advice letter filing complies with the requirements set forth in Appendix D to D.91-12-049.

2. This advice letter filing supports the Commission's goal of promoting demand-side management.

3. Additional details regarding the measurement and evaluation plan that SWG plans to utilize to acquire customer and appliance saturation data should be filed with the Commission.

March 31, 1992

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

(1) Southwest Gas Corporation is authorized to begin implementation of the Residential Appliance Efficiency Incentive Program and the Residential New Construction Program described in Advice Letter 438.

(2) Advice Letter 438 shall be marked to show that it was approved by Commission Resolution G-2984. The tariff sheets shall not be modified.

(3) Southwest Gas Corporation shall file a detailed measurement and evaluation plan as part of its Conservation and Demand Side Plans report filed every December 1st. This filing should include a discussion of how this information will be used to update program goals.

(4) This Resolution is effective today.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities commission at its regular meeting on March 31, 1992. The following Commissioners approved it:


NEAL J. SHULMAN
Executive Director

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
President
JOHN B. O'HANLAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY
Commissioners