PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY SmartMeter[™] CPUC Staff Inquiry Data Response

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QUESTION 5

The September 2010 Monthly SmartMeter Steering Committee mentions "MARA" on page 4, but this acronym is not defined at the end of the report. What is MARA and how does it relate to SmartMeters?

ANSWER 5

The My Account Re-Architecture (MARA) Upgrade is a newly updated web platform approved by the CPUC in Decision 10-02-032 in the 2009 Rate Design Window (RDW) proceeding. (The project was formerly known as the Customer Service On Line or CSOL Update or Upgrade during the 2009 RDW proceeding.) Specifically, Conclusions of Law 55 and 56 in Decision 10-02-032 state:

- 55. It is reasonable for PG&E to perform the CSOL re-platforming in conjunction with updating the CSOL functionality for PDP purposes.
- 56. PG&E's proposed CSOL update changes and the associated cost estimates of \$23.270 million (excluding contingencies) in capital for 2009-2010 and \$0.018 million (excluding contingencies) in expense for 2008-2009 are reasonable.

The MARA project is not related to the SmartMeter[™] program, except to the extent that both the SmartMeter[™] program and MARA ultimately help further implementation of the Commission's dynamic pricing programs. The reference to MARA in the September 2010 Monthly SmartMeter[™] Steering Committee Report was to notify the Steering Committee that "A significant amount of regulatory mandated work will compete with SmartMeter IT releases over the course of 2010 until the November CC&B freeze for the install of the CC&B upgrade to V.2.3." MARA was identified in the Report as one of those IT releases that was being worked on in parallel with the SmartMeter[™] IT releases.