

From: Thomas, Sarah R.  
Sent: 3/23/2011 9:10:47 AM  
To: Warner, Christopher (Law) (/O=PG&E/OU=Corporate/cn=Recipients/cn=CJW5);  
Matthew Freedman (matthew@turn.org); [Redacted]  
[Redacted] Young, Ryan (ryany@greenlining.org)  
Cc: Allen, Meredith (/O=PG&E/OU=Corporate/cn=Recipients/cn=MEAe); [Redact]  
[Redacted] La Flash, Hal  
(/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=HOL1);  
steve.empedocles@svtc.com (steve.empedocles@svtc.com)  
Bcc:  
Subject: RE: Commission's Legal Authority to Include R&D Expenses in Rates

Just got in-can we discuss on a  
break?

Sarah R. Thomas, Esq.

Legal Division

California Public Utilities  
Commission

505 Van Ness Avenue, # 5033

San Francisco, CA  
94102

[srt@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:srt@cpuc.ca.gov)

[www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov)

(415) 703-2310 (phone)

(415) 703-2262 (fax)

**From:** Warner, Christopher (Law)  
[mailto:CJW5@pge.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2011 8:08  
AM

**To:** Thomas, Sarah R.; [Redacted] Matthew Freedman; Young,

Ryan

**Cc:** La Flash, Hal; steve.empedocles@svtc.com; [Redacted]

Allen, Meredith

**Subject:** Commission's Legal Authority to Include  
R&D Expenses in Rates

Sarah, [Redact] Matt,

Ryan-

Sarah

has reminded me that one of the topics we will discuss this morning is whether and when there should be briefing on the Commission's authority to include R&D expenses in rates. Here is where PG&E is on the topic: We believe it may be unnecessary to brief the issue, in light of the clear authority provided to the Commission under PU Code sections 740 and 740.1, which I have pasted below.

Of course, parties should be free to brief and argue whether R&D costs requested to be included in rates are reasonable and meet the criteria in Sections 740 and 740.1.

Let's discuss before the workshop if possible and see if we agree on the approach we would like to take on this legal issue. Thanks!

Chris Warner  
PG&E Law  
415-973-6695

740. For purposes of setting the rates to be charged by every electrical corporation, gas corporation, heat corporation or telephone corporation for the services or commodities furnished by it, the commission may allow the inclusion of expenses for research and development.

740.1. The commission shall consider the following guidelines in evaluating the research, development, and demonstration programs proposed by electrical and gas corporations:

(a) Projects should offer a reasonable probability of providing benefits to ratepayers.

(b) Expenditures on projects which have a low probability for success should be minimized.

(c) Projects should be consistent with the corporation's resource plan.

(d) Projects should not unnecessarily duplicate research currently, previously, or imminently undertaken by other electrical or gas corporations or research organizations.

(e) Each project should also support one or more of the following objectives:

(1) Environmental improvement.  
(2) Public and employee safety.

(3) Conservation by efficient resource use or by reducing or shifting system load.

(4) Development of new resources and processes, particularly renewable resources and processes which further supply technologies.

(5) Improve operating efficiency and reliability or otherwise reduce operating costs.

---

From: Warner, Christopher (Law)

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2011 5:04 PM

To:

Redacted Matthew Freedman; 'Young, Ryan'

Cc: 'Thomas, Sarah R.'; La Flash, Hal; steve.empedocles@svtc.com

Subject: FW: Term sheet - latest version - can you email a copy?

CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO NDA AND PU  
CODE SECTION 583

Redact Ryan, Matt - also fyi, and we can discuss tomorrow.  
Thanks!

Chris

---

From: Warner, Christopher (Law)  
Sent: Tuesday, March  
22, 2011 5:01 PM  
To:  
'Thomas, Sarah R.'  
Cc: 'steve.empedocles@svtc.com'; La Flash, Hal  
Subject: RE: Term sheet - latest version -  
can you email a copy?

CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO NDA AND PU  
CODE SECTION 583

Yes  
indeed, here is the latest version, confidential of course, but we'll bring  
extra copies to the workshop tomorrow as well.

Also, are you agreeable to stipulating to  
admission of the discovery requests and responses for the record? It would  
be a good way to allow the ALJ to see and take into account the extensive back  
and forth on discovery. Let me know....

Thx and see you tomorrow!

Chris

---

From: Thomas, Sarah R.  
[mailto:[sarah.thomas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:sarah.thomas@cpuc.ca.gov)]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2011 4:02 PM  
To: Warner, Christopher (Law);  
steve.empedocles@svtc.com  
Subject: Term sheet - latest version - can you email a  
copy?

Sarah R. Thomas, Esq.  
Legal Division  
California Public Utilities  
Commission  
505 Van  
Ness Avenue, # 5033  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
srt@cpuc.ca.gov  
[www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov) <<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>>  
(415) 703-2310 (phone)  
(415) 703-2262 (fax)

