

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of San Diego Gas & Electric
Company (U902M) for Approval of Low-
Income Assistance Programs and Budgets for
Program Years 2012-2014.

Application 11-05-020
(Filed May 16, 2011)

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION
OF THE DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES**

In accordance with Rules 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, and 8.5 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”), the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (“DRA”) submits this notice of the following ex parte communication.

The communication occurred in connection with the Applications filed on May 15, 2011 by San Diego Gas & Electric Company (A.11-05-020), Southern California Gas Company (A.11-05-018), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (A.11-05-019), and Southern California Edison Company (A.11-05-017) (collectively referred to as the Applications or “Joint Utilities”) for approval of their Low-Income programs and budgets for the Program Years (“PY”) 2012-2014.¹

The communication took place on Tuesday, June 21, 2011, at 4:15 p.m. at the 5th floor of the Commission headquarters in San Francisco, and was between Rahmon Momoh, Advisor to Commissioner Simon, and DRA’s Low Income Project Coordinator, Camille Watts-Zagha. The communication was oral, was initiated by DRA, and lasted about five minutes. DRA provided a handout, which is attached hereto.

¹ The Applications have not yet been consolidated. Therefore, four copies of the instant notice will be filed and served for each separate application and will consist of each parties’ specific caption and application number. Furthermore, a copy will be served to the service list for the former consolidated proceeding, A.08-05-022, *et al.*

DRA informed Mr. Momoh that it has now revised and modified the proposed schedule and bridge funding recommendation contained in DRA's Protest filed on June 20, 2011 in response to the above-referenced applications. Regarding the schedule, DRA no longer recommends bifurcation and instead recommends that both CARE and ESAP be considered through an extended schedule, according to the proposed timeline on p. 22 of DRA's Protest. Regarding funding, DRA requested the Commission immediately grant continuation funding for 2012. DRA urged the Commission to respond affirmatively to the utility requests in the Applications to continue funding for the ESAP and CARE programs to operate in 2012.

DRA explained that authorizing continuation funding for 2012 now will alleviate uncertainty and prevent program slow-downs at the end of the year. It is unreasonable to expect a professionalized workforce to deliver full-scale, quality programs when they cannot plan beyond the six months remaining in 2011. If funding for 2012 remains uncertain, there will be tremendous pressure for the Commission to short-circuit comprehensive review in order to make time for signing contracts in advance of 2012.

DRA provided the attached written document. Copies of this Notice and the attachment may be obtained by contacting Sue Muniz at (415) 703-1858 or sam@cpuc.ca.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ RASHID A. RASHID

Rashid A. Rashid

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