

P.O. Box 3629 • Oakland • California • 94609 510/459-0667

July 18, 2011

Honesto Gatchalian Maria Salinas CPUC Energy Division, DMS Branch Tariff Files, Room 4005 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, California 94102

Akbar Jazayeri Vice President of Regulatory Operations Southern California Edison Company 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue Rosemead, California 91770 Bruce Foster Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs c/o Karyn Gansecki Southern California Edison Company 601 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 2030 San Francisco, California 94102

RE: Southern California Edison Advice Letter 2599-E, 2010-2012 Los Angeles County and Huntington Beach Strategic Plan Pilots

Dear Mr. Gatchalian and Ms. Salinas:

The Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition<sup>1</sup> ("LGSEC") strongly urges the California Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") to approve Southern California Edison's ("SCE") Advice Filing 2599-E ("Advice Filing") for the Los Angeles County ("County") and the City of Huntington Beach ("HB") Local Government Partnership Strategic Plan Pilots. The activities to be funded under this Advice Filing represent a key first step in expanding critical energy management services throughout regional local governments in a cost-effective manner. The Advice Filing notes that there are gaps in existing local government partnership programs. The County-HB pilot is unique in its emphasis on project implementation and providing real-time data to local governments, which will be possible by expanding the County's existing enterprise energy management information system.

As any observer of California's budget is aware, local governments are operating in uniquely challenging circumstances, with unprecedented budget cuts. Even without distressed budgets, energy management is a highly technical specialty, one that most small- and mid-size cities, town, and other government entities cannot support on their own. Allowing local governments to pool resources and take advantage of the expertise of neighboring jurisdictions is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The LGSEC is a statewide membership organization of cities, counties, associations and councils of government, special districts, and non-profit organizations that support government entities. Each of these organizations may have different views on elements of these comments, which were approved by the LGSEC's Board. A list of our members can be found at <u>www.lgsec.org</u>.

a cost-effective way to achieve energy savings and develop familiarity with this suite of concepts. We believe that the only way to achieve the Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan's goal that 100% of local government will have in-house energy management capability by 2020 is through this type of regional collaboration.

As stated previously by the County and HB, these energy management services will lead to more municipal building energy efficiency projects being implemented by local governments. The LGSEC sees tremendous value in these efforts and will work to implement the results throughout its membership.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Jody Inden Jody London

Service List, A.08-07-021, et al. cc: