



Dan Skopec
Vice President
Regulatory & Legislative Affairs

601 Van Ness Ave Suite 2060
San Francisco, CA 94102

Tel: 415-202-9986
Fax: 415-346-3630
dskopec@semprautilities.com

Dear Commissioners:

On Thursday, March 1, 2012, Administrative Law Judge Maribeth A. Bushey issued a draft Decision Amending Scope of Rulemaking 11-02-19¹ and Adding Respondent (“Draft Decision”), which provides as follows on page one:

“This order amends Order Instituting Rulemaking 11-02-019 to include complying with the requirements of Public Utilities Code Sections 961 and 963, which was recently enacted by Senate Bill (SB) 705 (Ch. 522, Stats. 2011). The new code sections require each gas corporation to develop and implement a plan for the safe and reliable operation of its gas pipeline facilities, and the Commission to accept, modify, or reject the plan by year-end 2012.”

Currently, the Draft Decision is Item 4 on the Consent Agenda for the Commission’s March 8, 2012, Business Meeting.

On behalf of Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company, I am requesting that you place a hold on this item to allow for public comment. As currently written, the Draft Decision does not allow for public comments. In the original Ordering Instituting Rulemaking 11-02-019, the Commission noted that as the proceeding develops, new issues may arise that require Commission action and assured the parties that, “Before taking any action, of course, we will comply with procedural requirements and afford interested parties notice and due process opportunities.”²

We support the Commission’s efforts to incorporate new developments and issues in this Rulemaking through a public process that affords interested parties notice and an opportunity for public comment. We believe that providing for public comment on this important Draft Decision would further those efforts.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Dan Skopec

¹ Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission’s Own Motion to Adopt New Safety and Reliability Regulations for Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution Pipelines and Related Ratemaking Mechanisms.

² *Id.*, p. 15.