

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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.

R.11-02-019
(Filed February 24, 2011)

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY (U 904-G)
AND SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY (U 902-M)**

Brian C. Prusnek

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March 5, 2012

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In accordance with Rule 8.3 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Southern California Gas Company ("SoCalGas") and San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") hereby give notice of the following ex parte communication in the above proceeding. On February 29th, Brian Prusnek, Director of Regulatory Affairs, sent the attached e-mail to Sepideh Khosrowjah, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Florio. The communication was written and is attached.

Dated this 5th day of March, 2012, at San Francisco, California.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Brian C. Prusnek
 Brian C. Prusnek

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ATTACHMENT

Prusnek, Brian C

From: Prusnek, Brian C
Sent: Wednesday, February 29, 2012 2:22 PM
To: 'skh@cpuc.ca.gov'
Subject: PSEP Question

Hi Sepideh –

I wanted to ask a point of clarification on the Scoping Memo. It is related to the paragraph below:

“We note also that Applicants only seek specific approval for funding Safety Enhancement projects for the years 2012 through 2015. Thereafter, the Applicants propose to seek incremental authority in general rate cases. Therefore, we note that parties should address the reasonableness of such a proposal. **We also note that no approval will result here that in anyway authorizes any project which requires specific permits or other authority including compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act because neither SDG&E nor SoCalGas have requested any permits nor has either company made any analytical showing in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act in this proceeding.**” (Scoping Memo pages 5-6)

My question is this: In many instances, our company will need to get permits for much of the work we will embark upon. Let's say we have a “simple” project. One that does not have any environmental permits and does not trigger CEQA -- say a project to replace a line in a city street where we have a franchise agreement. For these projects we would need to obtain a construction permit from the municipality that would include a traffic control plan.

Another example is if we have a pipeline that crosses another right-of-way we would need to get an additional permit (e.g. say from Caltrans to replace a pipe on their bridge over a freeway).

Yet another example is for a hydrotest project. We would need a discharge permit from a municipality in the event that we wanted to discharge hydrotest water into the storm sewer.

The language above in the scoping memo does not prohibit a project just because it needs a permit? The language above is specific in that it does not want us to trigger CEQA. That is my reading. Can you confirm that?

I really appreciate your help on this.

Brian C Prusnek
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