## 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.

Rulemaking 11-02-019 (Filed February 24, 2011)

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

In accordance with Rules 8.3 and 8.4 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) submits this notice of an oral ex parte communication.

The communication occurred at a meeting at CPUC headquarters on June 13, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. that was initiated by Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Maribeth Bushey. The communication was between ALJ Bushey and Marion Peleo, attorney for DRA. Also present at the meeting were Kyle Stephens and Catherine Mazzeo, attorneys for Southwest Gas Corporation (SWG). DRA did not use any written materials. The meeting lasted for less than thirty minutes.

Ms. Peleo stated that before the meeting, she had notified Mr. Stephens that DRA had declined to make a counter proposal to SWG's offer of settlement. Ms. Peleo stated that it was possible DRA and SWG could come to an agreement after the filing of DRA's brief (which was due on June 15). Ms. Peleo asked clarifying questions about settlement concepts that ALJ Bushey discussed at the meeting. Ms. Peleo stated that she would communicate the concepts to DRA management, specifically, to Joseph Como, Karen Paull, Linda Serizawa, and Mark Pocta. Ms. Peleo stated that the Commission can

order SWG to replace the pipeline segments that SWG had identified in its Victor Valley transmission system implementation plan.

Copies of this notice may be obtained by contacting Sue Muniz by telephone at (415) 703-1858, or by e-mail at <u>sam@cpuc.ca.gov</u>.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ MARION PELEO MARION PELEO Staff Counsel Attorney for the Division of Ratepayer Advocates California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, California 94102 Phone: (415) 703-2130 Fax: (415) 703-2262

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June 18, 2012