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December 4, 2012

## **ADVICE LETTER 2425-E** (U 902-E)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### SUBJECT: REQUEST OF SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AUTHORIZATION OF THE SALE OF LICENSE RIGHTS TO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY TO GRIDSENSE, INC., PURSUANT TO PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE SECTION 851 AND GENERAL ORDER 173

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Section 851 of the California Public Utilities Code and General Order 173, San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") respectfully requests authority to grant an exclusive license to intellectual property relating to the direct monitoring and control of electric loads at the consumer level through distribution transformers (US Patent No. 8,024,077) to GridSense, Inc. ("Licensee"), on the terms and conditions specified in the Research and Development Collaboration Agreement ("Agreement") dated September 21, 2012, between SDG&E and the Licensee. A true and correct copy of the Agreement is attached as Exhibit A.

#### II. BACKGROUND

As an advanced implementer of Smart Grid technologies, SDG&E has invented certain intellectual property which it believes has value and, if fully developed, would result in a product which will enhance the ability of utilities to monitor and control electric loads at the consumer level through distribution transformers. SDG&E believes this functionality is critical for the management of electric vehicle loads, but will be useful for any load management requirements. SDG&E believes this sophisticated new technology could potentially aid in the adoption of PEVs, which is an expressed goal of the CPUC. However, as a regulated utility, SDG&E does not believe it is the proper party to further develop and market this technology, nor does SDG&E have the necessary internal resources to efficiently and effectively prototype, manufacture, market and sell such an end product. Consequently, SDG&E has decided to license the technology concept to a knowledgeable company with specific expertise and resources available for product development and commercialization. After discussions with several prospective licensees, SDG&E has reached an agreement with GridSense, Inc.

The proposed transaction consists of SDG&E providing an exclusive license to its intellectual property (US Patent No. 8,024,077) to GridSense, Inc. in return for royalties on sales of the product.

The accounting treatment for financial proceeds from the sale of the Property will be distributed in accordance with the Commission's rules as described in more detail in Section III below:

#### **III. COMPLIANCE WITH GENERAL ORDER 173**

SDG&E provides the following information in compliance with General Order 173. The transaction qualifies for advice letter treatment under General Order 173 as the property being transferred does not have a fair market value in excess of \$5 million.

#### 1. Identity and Addresses of All Parties to the Proposed Transaction

San Diego G	as & Electric Company, Licensor	GridSense, Inc., Licensee		
101 Ash Stree	et, HQ12B	2568 Industrial Blvd., Suite 110		
San Diego, Ca	alifornia 92101	West Sacramento, CA 95691		
Attn:	Allen K. Trial	Attn: Lindon Shao		
Telephone:	(619) 699-5162	Telephone: (626) 202-2123		
Facsimile:	(619) 699-5027	Facsimile (916) 372-4948		
E-mail:	atrial@sempra.com	E-mail: I.shiao@gridsense.com		

# 2. A complete description of the property, including its present location, condition, and use.

Property consists of intellectual property relating to the direct monitoring and control of electric loads at the consumer level through distribution transformers (US Patent No. 8,024,077). The patent has been awarded by the US Patent Office, but has not been instantiated in a product prototype.

#### 3. Transferee's intended use of the property;

Licensee intends to use SDG&E's intellectual property to assist in development of a device or devices to monitor and control electric loads at the consumer level through distribution transformers. Eventual production and marketing of the device or devices will depend on Licensee's ability to develop and market the device.

#### 4. A complete description of the financial terms of the proposed transaction;

In exchange for an exclusive license to use SDG&E's IP in the development, marketing and sale of smart transformer monitoring and control systems incorporating SDG&E's IP ("Systems"), the Licensee has granted to SDG&E (a) a royalty of four percent (4%) of the gross revenues (excluding taxes, transportation and returns) from sales of System and System components developed with SDG&E's IP, (b) one percent (1%) of gross revenues for pre-existing systems that are merged with products incorporating the SDG&E IP; (c) one percent (1%) of gross revenues for future GridSense products that incorporate the SDG&E IP; and (d) fifty percent (50%) of gross profit (gross revenue less direct materials and direct labor) for GridSense products primarily used on the utility side of the house meter that do not fall under one or more of the claims of U.S. Patent No. 8,024,077 (but otherwise incorporate SDG&E IP Rights). See Exhibit A. In addition, after commercialization, SDG&E may purchase licensed products from GridSense at a

discount of 10% less than the lowest price at which such products are sold to third parties during the previous 12 months.

#### 5. A description of how the financial proceeds of the transaction will be distributed;

SDG&E requests that the Commission approve the allocation of any realized gains using the methodology as authorized by the Commission in D.08-07-046, regarding the distribution of revenues from ratepayer funded research programs. SDG&E is proposing that any after-tax gains resulting from the above mentioned royalties from the use of the License on a gross basis shall be allocated between ratepayers and shareholders on a 60% / 40% basis<sup>1</sup>. The ratepayer portion of the allocation will be recorded to the Rewards and Penalties Balancing Account (RPBA) on a cash basis and provided to ratepayers through the RPBA as approved by the Commission. See Attachment A for the proposed changes to the electric RPBA.

## 6. The impact of the transaction on ratebase, and any effect on the ability of the utility to serve customers and the public;

The transaction will have no impact on ratebase. The transaction will not have an adverse effect on the public interest and will not have an adverse affect on the ability of SDG&E to continue to provide safe and reliable service to customers at reasonable rates. The proposed use of the property will not interfere in any way with the continued safe operations of utility services. If the transaction results in the development and availability of a system which enables cost effective load management at the distribution transformer, SDG&E and other utilities will have an additional option to consider in competitive procurement of such systems. The transaction does not warrant the more comprehensive review that would be provided through a formal Section 851 application. This filing will not increase any other rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any rate schedule or rule.

# 7. For sales of real property and depreciable assets, the original cost, present book value, and present fair market value, and a detailed description of how the fair market value was determined (e.g., appraisal);

The transaction does not include real property or depreciable assets. To determine the fair market value, SDG&E explored potential development partners through industry contacts. Discussions regarding a development agreement were held with many potential parties including General Electric, Siemens, Schneider Electric, Subnet, HCL and GridSense.

The expected value of the transaction is unknown at this time. The ultimate value will be based on revenue levels GridSense is able to achieve. Given the developmental stage of this product and the many uncertainties in the utility marketplace, there is no way to determine revenue estimates at this time. However, in no event will ratepayers share in any loss.

# 8. A complete description of any recent past (within the prior two years) or anticipated future transactions that may appear to be related to the present transaction, such as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ordering Paragraph 4 of Resolution E-4361 approved on January 27, 2011, approves ratepayer/shareholder allocations consistent with D.08-07-046

sales or leases of real property that are located near the property at issue or that are being transferred to the same transferee; or for depreciable assets, sales of similar assets or sales to the same transferee;

SDG&E has purchased transformer monitoring devices from GridSense in the past two years which do not include the IP being transferred. If the IP is successfully instantiated into a commercially available product, it is likely SDG&E will purchase the product for use in its distribution system. Such purchases will be at a discount of 10% less than the lowest price at which such products are sold to third parties during the previous 12 months.

## 9. Sufficient information and documentation (including environmental documentation) to show that all of the eligibility criteria have been met.

SDG&E has provided sufficient information in this Advice Letter to establish that the transaction constitutes solely a change in rights to intellectual property and no direct or indirect adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of the transaction. Accordingly, this Advice Letter is exempt form further action under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

#### CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Exhibit A contains confidential information and, therefore, is protected from disclosure under the statutory provisions of Section 583 of California Public Utilities Code and the Commission's General Order 66-C.

#### PROTEST

Anyone may protest this Advice Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be submitted expeditiously. The protest must be made in writing and must be received within 20 days of the date this Advice Letter was filed with the Commission, or December 24, 2012. There is no restriction on who may file a protest. The address for mailing or delivering a protest to the Commission is:

CPUC Energy Division Attention: Tariff Unit 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Copies of the protest should also be sent via e-mail to the attention of the Energy Division at <u>EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov</u>. It is also requested that a copy of the protest also be sent via both e-mail and facsimile to the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission.

Attn: Megan Caulson Regulatory Tariff Manager 8330 Century Park Court, CP 32 San Diego, CA 92123-1550 Facsímile No. (858) 654-1879 E-mail: <u>mcaulson@semprautilities.com</u>

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

SDG&E believes that this filing is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 3 (effective after Commission approval) pursuant to GO 96-B. SDG&E respectfully requests that the Commission issue a resolution approving this advice letter.

#### NOTICE

A copy of this filing has been served on the utilities and interested parties shown on the attached list, by either providing them a copy electronically or by mailing them a copy hereof, properly stamped and addressed. Address changes should be directed to SDG&E Tariffs by facsimile at (858) 654-1879 or by email at SDG&ETariffs@semprautilities.com.

Clay Faber Director – Regulatory Affairs

(cc list enclosed)

## CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY

MUST BE COMPLE	TED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)			
Company name/CPUC Utility No. SAN				
Utility type:	Contact Person: Aurora Carrillo			
⊠ ELC □ GAS	Phone #: (858) 654-1542			
□ PLC □ HEAT □ WATER	E-mail: acarrillo@semprautilities.com			
EXPLANATION OF UTILITY T				
ELC = Electric GAS = Gas				
PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat W	/ATER = Water			
Advice Letter (AL) #: 2425-E				
	r Authorization of the Sale of License Rights to Intellectual Property			
	Utilities Code Section 851 and General Order 173			
Keywords (choose from CPUC listing):				
AL filing type: Monthly Quarter	y 🗌 Annual 🔀 One-Time 🗌 Other			
If AL filed in compliance with a Comm	ission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:			
PUC Code 851, General Order 173				
Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected				
Summarize differences between the AL	and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL1: N/A			
Does AL request confidential treatmen	t? If so, provide explanation:			
Resolution Required? 🛛 Yes 🗌 No	Tier Designation: 🗌 1 🔲 2 🔀 3			
Requested effective date: <u>Upon Comm</u>				
Estimated system annual revenue effect				
Estimated system average rate effect (				
• •	attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes			
(residential, small commercial, large C				
Tariff schedules affected: <u>RPBA &amp; TOC</u>				
Service affected and changes proposed <sup>1</sup> : N/A				
Service affected and changes proposed	. N/A			
Bonding advice letters that revise the s	ame tariff sheets: N/A			
Fending advice letters that revise the s				
Protests and all other correspondence	regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of			
this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:				
CPUC, Energy Division	San Diego Gas & Electric			
Attention: Tariff Unit 505 Van Ness Ave.,	Attention: Megan Caulson 8330 Century Park Ct, Room 32C			
San Francisco, CA 94102	San Diego, CA 92123			
EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov	mcaulson@semprautilities.com			
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<sup>1</sup> Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

**Public Utilities Commission** DRA S. Cauchois R Pocta W. Scott Energy Division P. Clanon S. Gallagher H. Gatchalian D. Lafrenz M. Salinas CA. Energy Commission F. DeLeon R. Tavares Alcantar & Kahl LLP K. Harteloo American Energy Institute C. King **APS Energy Services** J. Schenk **BP Energy Company** J. Zaiontz Barkovich & Yap, Inc. B. Barkovich **Bartle Wells Associates** R. Schmidt Braun & Blaising, P.C. S. Blaising California Energy Markets S. O'Donnell C. Sweet California Farm Bureau Federation K. Mills California Wind Energy N. Rader CCSE S. Freedman J. Porter Children's Hospital & Health Center T. Jacoby City of Chula Vista M. Meacham E. Hull City of Poway R. Willcox City of San Diego J. Cervantes G. Lonergan M. Valerio **Commerce Energy Group** V. Gan Constellation New Energy W. Chen CP Kelco A. Friedl Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP E. O'Neill J. Pau

#### General Order No. 96-B ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST

Dept. of General Services H. Nanio M. Clark Douglass & Liddell D. Douglass D. Liddell G. Klatt **Duke Energy North America** M. Gillette Dynegy, Inc. J. Paul Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP E. Janssen Energy Policy Initiatives Center (USD) S. Anders Energy Price Solutions A. Scott Energy Strategies, Inc. K. Campbell M. Scanlan Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Ritchie & Day B. Cragg J. Heather Patrick J. Squeri Goodrich Aerostructures Group M. Harrington Hanna and Morton LLP N. Pedersen Itsa-North America L. Belew J.B.S. Energy J. Nahigian Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP J. Leslie Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP D. Huard R. Keen Matthew V. Brady & Associates M. Brady Modesto Irrigation District C. Mayer Morrison & Foerster LLP P. Hanschen MRW & Associates D. Richardson OnGrid Solar Andy Black Pacific Gas & Electric Co. J. Clark M. Huffman S. Lawrie E. Lucha Pacific Utility Audit, Inc. E. Kelly R. W. Beck, Inc. C. Elder

School Project for Utility Rate Reduction M. Rochman Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP O. Armi Solar Turbines F. Chiang Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP K. McCrea Southern California Edison Co. M. Alexander K. Cini K. Gansecki H. Romero TransCanada R. Hunter D. White TURN M. Florio M. Hawiger UCAN M. Shames U.S. Dept. of the Navy K. Davoodi N. Furuta L. DeLacruz Utility Specialists, Southwest, Inc. D. Koser Western Manufactured Housing **Communities Association** S. Dev White & Case LLP L. Cottle

Interested Parties In: R.04-09-003

#### ATTACHMENT A ADVICE LETTER 2425-E

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Canceling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 23295-E	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, II. BALANCING ACCOUNTS, REWARDS AND PENALTIES BALANCING ACCOUNT (RPBA), Sheet 2	Revised 23108-E
Revised 23296-E	TABLE OF CONTENTS, Sheet 1	Revised 23269-E



Revised Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.

23295-E

San Diego Gas & Electric Company San Diego, California

Canceling Revised Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.

23108-E Sheet 2

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#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT II. BALANCING ACCOUNTS

REWARDS AND PENALTIES BALANCING ACCOUNT (RPBA)

#### 4. <u>Accounting Procedure</u> (Continued)

b.

- (3) Revenue allocated to the Electric Department from the revenue sharing portion of the PBR Base Rates Mechanism or its successor, the Electric Distribution PBR. (If the rate indexing formula is approved for the Electric Distribution PBR mechanism, the revenue sharing portion will be applied to the electric distribution rate as a percentage change to the rate component on an annual basis.)
- (4) Costs allocated to the Electric Department as a result of the sharing mechanism for over-expenditures in the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) pursuant to the settlement adopted in D.07-04-043.
- (5) Royalties allocated to the Electric Department due to the licensing of intellectual property.
- c. An entry shall be made to reflect the amount collected from/returned to customers due to the amortization of the prior year ending balance, pursuant to item 5. below.
- d. Each year, as applicable, an entry shall be made for authorized account balance transfers to the RPBA.
- e. The current month balance shall equal the expenses in 4.a. above less the revenues in 4.b. above, plus or minus any adjustment from 4.c & 4.d.
- f. The accumulated month ending balance shall equal the sum of:
  - (1) the current month's entries from 4.e.;
  - (2) the account balance at the beginning of the month;
  - (3) the Monthly Interest Rate multiplied by one-half of the sum of the account balance at the beginning of the month plus the account balance at the end of the month.

#### 5. Accounting Procedures - NTP&S Subaccount

This account shall reflect the following periodic entries:

- a. A credit entry for the ratepayers 30% allocation of gross revenues associated with the MSP pursuant to Resolution G-3456;
- b. An entry shall be made to amortize the prior year ending balance; and
- c. An entry equal to the Monthly Interest Rate multiplied by one-half of the sum of the account balance at the beginning of the month plus the account balance at the end of the month.

#### 6. Account Disposition

The Utility shall file in October of each year an advice letter requesting to apply the projected yearend overcollected or undercollected balance in the R&B Subaccount and/or the overcollected balance in the NTP&S Subaccount as a twelve-month amortization to electric rates effective January 1 of the following year.

		(Continued)		
2P7		Issued by	Date Filed	Dec 4, 2012
Advice Ltr. No.	2425-E	Lee Schavrien	Effective	
Decision No.		Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs	Resolution No.	



San Diego, California     Canceling     Revised     Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.     23269-	San	Diego Gas & Electric Company		Revised	Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.		23296-E
The following sheets contain all the effective rates and rules affecting rates, service and information relating thereto, n effect on the date indicated herein.           Call PUC. Sheet No           TITLE PAGE         16015-E           TABLE OF CONTENTS         23296, 22350, 23034, 23105, 23243, 23107, 23219-E           Z3244, 23270, 23245, 23267, 23247, 19529-E         23244, 23270, 23245, 23267, 23247, 19529-E           PRELIMINARY STATEMENT:         8274, 18225, 22140-E           I. General Information         8274, 18225, 22140-E           I. Balancing Accounts         19402, 20706-E           California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Balancing Account         21639, 21640-E           Rewards and Penalties Balancing Account (RPBA)         21643, 2325-E           Transition Cost Balancing Account (RPBA)         21643, 2325-E           The Trimming Balancing Account (RPBA)         19415, 19416-E           Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D)         19417, 19418-E           Balancing Account (RBA)         19419, 19420-E           The Trimming Balancing Account (RBA)         21377, 19424-E           El Pass Turned-Back Capacity Balancing Account         21484, 22081, 22810, 21487-E           Low-Income Energy Efficiency Balancing Account         19431, 19432-E           Low-Income Energy Efficiency Balancing Account         21484, 22081, 22810, 21487-E           Letcric Procurrent Energy Efficiency Balancing			Canceling	Revised	Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.		23269-E
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Decision No.		Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs	Resolution No.	

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Attachment B

SDG&E Advice Letter 2425-E

### Exhibit A

Research & Development Collaboration Agreement

Confidential & Protected from Disclosure