



Brian K. Cherry
Vice President
Regulatory Relations

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale St., Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

Fax: 415.973.7226

October 1, 2013

Advice 3421-G/4294-E
(Pacific Gas and Electric Company) D U 39 M)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program Statewide and Local Market Facilitation 2014 Plan

Purpose

In compliance with Decision (D.) 10-01-022 Decision Establishing the California Solar Initiative Thermal Program to Provide Solar Water Heating Incentives Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) hereby submits this advice filing of the California Solar Initiative Thermal Program Statewide and Local Market Facilitation 2014 Plan.

Background

On January 21, 2010, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission or CPUC) approved D.10-01-022. In Ordering Paragraph (OP) 13.b of this Decision, the Commission directed PG&E and the Program Administrators (PAs), to “separately submit an Advice Letter with proposed California Solar Initiative Thermal market facilitation budgets and activities each calendar year, which addresses the activities identified in Appendix A, no later than October 1 of the preceding year.”

PG&E’s local market facilitation plan and the statewide market facilitation plan and budget for 2014 are detailed in Attachments 1 and 2 of this filing.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by letter sent via U.S. mail, facsimile or E-mail, no later than October 21, 2013, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests must be submitted to:

CPUC Energy Division
 ED Tariff Unit
 505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor
 San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200
 E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Copies of protests also should be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004, at the address shown above.

The protest shall also be sent to PG&E via E-mail or U.S. mail (and by facsimile, if possible) at the address shown on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission:

Brian K. Cherry
 Vice President, Regulatory Relations
 Pacific Gas and Electric Company
 77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
 P.O. Box 770000
 San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-7226
 E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

Any person (including individuals, groups, or organizations) may protest or respond to an advice letter (General Order 96-B, Section 7.4). The protest shall contain the following information: specification of the advice letter protested; grounds for the protest; supporting factual information or legal argument; name, telephone number, postal address, and (where appropriate) e-mail address of the protestant; and statement that the protest was sent to the utility no later than the day on which the protest was submitted to the reviewing Industry Division (General Order 96-B, Section 3.11).

Effective Date

PG&E requests that this Tier 2 advice filing become effective on regular notice, October 31, 2013, which is 30 calendar days after the date of filing.

Notice

In accordance with General Order 96-B, Section IV, a copy of this advice letter is being sent electronically and via ~~mail~~ to parties shown on the attached list and the parties on the service list Rulemaking (R.) 12-11005. Address changes to the General Order 96-B service list should be directed to PG&E at email address PGETariffs@pge.com. For changes to any other service list, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or at Process_Office@cpuc.ca.gov. Send all electronic approvals to PGETariffs@pge.com. Advice letter filings ~~also~~ be accessed electronically at: <http://www.pge.com/tariffs>

Handwritten signature of Brian Cherry in cursive script.

Vice President, Regulatory Relations

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - PG&E Local Market Facilitation Plan
Attachment 2 - California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program Statewide Market
Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

cc: Service List R.12-11-005

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39 M)

Utility type:

ELC GAS

PLC HEAT WATER

Contact Person: Shirley Wong

Phone#: (415) 972-5505

E-mail: slwb@pge.com and PGETariffs@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

ELC= Electric

GAS= Gas

PLC= Pipeline

HEAT= Heat

WATER= Water

Advice Letter (AL) # 3421-G/4294-E

Tier: 2

Subject of AL: California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program Statewide and Local Market Facilitation Plan 2014

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Compliance

AL filing type: Monthly Quarterly Annual One-Time Other _____

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution # Decision 10-01-022

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL: No

Summarized differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL:

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for:

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement: N/A

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: _____

Resolution Required? Yes No

Requested effective date: October 31, 2013

No. of tariff sheets: N/A

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected:

Service affected and changes proposed:

Protests, dispositions, 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

ED Tariff Unit

505 Van Ness Ave., 4th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94102

E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Attn: Brian K. Cherry, Vice President, Regulatory Relations

77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C

P.O. Box 770000

San Francisco, CA 94177

E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

Attachment 1

**California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Local Market Facilitation Plan
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
October 1, 2013
Advice Letter 3421-G/4294-E**

Local Market Facilitation Plan

A. Background:

On January 21, 2010, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approved D.10-01-022, (Decision), establishing the California Solar Initiative Thermal Program (CSI Thermal) to provide Solar Water Heating (SWH) incentives. In Ordering Paragraph (OP) 6 of this Decision, the Commission directed Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) as well as the other Program Administrators (PAs), by April 1, 2010, to each file a separate advice letter, “that includes: a) a detailed estimate of its program budget for the first year of program implementation, indicating direct and indirect expenses, labor and non-labor, for incentives, administration, market facilitation, and measurement and evaluation; and b) its proposed market facilitation strategic plan and detailed budget for the first two years of program implementation.”

OP 13.b directs the PAs to “Separately submit an Advice Letter with proposed California Solar Initiative Thermal market facilitation budgets and activities for each calendar year, which addresses the activities identified in Appendix A, no later than October 1 of the preceding year”.

In accordance with OP 6, the Statewide Market Facilitation Plan, running from July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2013, was approved by Energy Division effective September 30, 2011. The concurrent Local Market Facilitation Plans for each of the four PAs were also approved by Energy Division effective September 30, 2011.

On September 28, 2012, Energy Division Staff approved the PA’s proposal that given certain time lapses during the planning of the Statewide Campaign, the PAs filed plans to cover the remaining six months of 2013 on April 1, 2013. Annual local market facilitation plans from each PA would henceforth be due on October 1 of the preceding year in accordance with D.10-01-022.

The 2014 statewide campaign was developed and will be executed in cooperation with all Program Administrators with Southern California Gas as the lead administrator. PG&E’s 2014 Local Market Facilitation Plan for the CSI Thermal Program herein supports the goals, strategies, and tactics articulated in the statewide marketing plan. Leveraging the messaging, materials, and taking a complementary tactical approach is intended to enhance the visibility and impact provided by the statewide campaign at the local level in PG&E’s service territory. PG&E’s local market utilization plan in 2014 will focus solely on gas displacing solar water heating systems

and utilizes only the gas program budget given the electric displacing incentives are currently depleted.

B. Goals and Objectives:

In preparing this plan, PG&E referenced Appendix A of the Decision and the market facilitation “guidance document” as well as leveraged market research and learnings from the outreach activities of the last two years. PG&E continues to aim to increase adoption of the solar water heating (SWH) technologies and participation in the CSI Thermal Program by focusing efforts on the following goals:

- (1) Build awareness of SWH and the available CSI Thermal incentives among its target audience.
- (2) Drive understanding of SWH to address a lack of consumer confidence in SWH technology.
- (3) Promote engagement and action by educating customers about the benefits (environmental and financial, if applicable).
- (3) Reduce other market barriers to SWH adoption, such as availability of trained and knowledgeable installers.

C. Strategies:

The statewide efforts will be focused on driving overall awareness and providing a foundation from which PG&E’s local market facilitation plan will build upon to achieve the overarching goals. The local plans are structured to complement and supplement the efforts of the statewide activities. The proposed local tactics will serve to further engage and motivate customers to consider and embark in the decision making process for SWH.

In support of the goals outlined above, PG&E proposes marketing and outreach tactics centered on several strategic objectives:

- Refine targeting efforts to reach the right customers at the right time that benefit from solar water heating and who have a higher likelihood to install.
- Position SWH as a proven viable clean, green technology that is distinct from solar photovoltaic (PV) by demonstrating its environmental and financial value in easy to understand way.
- Coordinate local and statewide efforts in order to achieve maximum effectiveness by reinforcing a consistent message.
- Enable customers to take action by simplifying the overall customer experience and seamlessly bridging the gap between customers and contractors.

- Build and support a contractor base through continued education and availability of relevant tools and resources.

D. Target Markets:

The local CSI Thermal Market Facilitation effort will target PG&E customers that are most likely to benefit from a solar water heating system and show a greater propensity to install. These attributes could include high hot water use and customers interested in green technologies such as those who have already installed solar PV, own an electric vehicle or show similar characteristics of being environmentally conscious. Furthermore, with the introduction of new technologies into the program that provide incentives for additional end uses—such as commercial pool heating, process heating, absorption cooling, etc.—, PG&E will explore new potential audiences.

The specific customer segments that PG&E will be targeting within each target market are:

- Residential customers
 - Single-family homeowners
 - Eligible low-income homeowners
- Multifamily
 - Property owners with a central water heating system for multiple units or common area
- Business customers
 - Decision-makers within targeted commercial and industrial organizations as well as facilities with heavy hot water usage and/or can be benefit from new end uses.
- Contractors
 - Installers actively installing new solar water heating projects and pursuing prospective program participants.

E. Local Tactics:

In 2014, PG&E plans to meet the above outlined objectives by building upon the success of past marketing activities and executing a variety of strategic marketing tactics that are effective and efficient. To support the strategy, PG&E's local tactics are designed to complement the statewide plan to maximize its value, deploy communications and outreach consistently across the various customer segments within the target audience and utilize various channels for deploying the message. The specific tactics for each target market are outlined in detail in the following section and will focus on the main objectives of—driving awareness and understanding of SWH, motivating customers to take action and ensuring contractors can successfully engage with interested customers.

All Target Market Segments:

Research

To date there has been relatively low uptake of the CSI Thermal Program, and as a result, PG&E would like to conduct additional research to gather additional insights into consumer attitudes towards solar water heating, its perceived benefits and key barriers to adoption. The findings from this research will help PG&E understand the true market potential and prioritize target audiences including, but not limited to specific customer segments, geographic and demographic information. This research will help inform and optimize efforts in 2014 and beyond to ensure marketing activities are approached in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Integrated Marketing

In order to present a comprehensive set of solutions that will benefit the customers, PG&E is taking a holistic approach to communicating with customers. By participating in integrated marketing efforts, it increases awareness of the CSI Thermal Program by further promoting SWH technology to customers as an option to manage their energy usage. Furthermore, it provides an opportunity to underscore the benefits of participating in various PG&E program offerings including the importance of energy efficiency as the first step prior to installing any distributed generation, including SWH, in order to maximum the return on investment. However, some efforts many include specifically focusing on green technologies for those customers further along the energy management path that have already completed energy efficiency and demand response. PG&E will evaluate feasible opportunities to integrate CSI Thermal marketing messaging with various other programs and services to ensure it makes sense to include solar water heating messaging.

Local Media

Research has shown that comprehensive multi-channel, multi-touch outreach garners the most response from prospective customers. Therefore, PG&E would like to deploy additional local media to complement and supplement other marketing efforts to provide continuity and reinforcement of the SWH message. The local media plan would consist mainly of digital elements (such as online advertising, search and social media) as well as radio and print advertising—the specific tactic will be dependent on which would have the maximum effectiveness given the demographics of the particular market. In order to allow for increased reach and frequency, the execution would be closely ties to the statewide efforts. Additionally, the statewide creative materials would be repurposed to provide a more targeted, local presence while still maintaining a cohesive message.

Education

Given the technical nature of solar water heating and the process involved with purchasing and installing SWH, PG&E will continue to focus on consumer and contractor education to ensure a full understanding of the technology, its benefits and CSI Thermal program. PG&E will continue to host online webinars and in-person classes throughout the service area as these classes have been well attended by both customers and contractors alike. PG&E's education center has dedicated staff to ensure that solar water heating related classes and training will continue to deliver a high quality of content that informs them about the overall and as well as specific information about the technology and the CSI Thermal program. It also provides an opportunity to target attendees of these classes that have demonstrated an interest in solar water heating through outreach efforts, such as direct mail or email communications.

Single Family Residential Customers:

Retail/Co-Promotions

PG&E would like to explore a new channel for engaging customers in the marketplace that could deliver the solar water heating message at the right place at the right time. PG&E recommends establishing a retail presence to provide awareness and promote SWH since there is a natural nexus between home improvement and energy management. PG&E plans to work with retailers such as home improvement stores. Such establishments provide an opportunity to engage customers about energy related products and technologies, such as SWH, while they are in the right mindset.

Community Events

PG&E plans to develop an interactive experience for customers to bring SWH to their communities and make it personal and relevant to their daily lives. PG&E will explore participating in existing community based events such as, but not limited to, home and garden shows and local fairs that will provide a platform for promoting SWH to the single-family residential consumer market. To further educate and engage prospective customers, customers who have already installed solar water heating will be invited to tell their success stories. PG&E also plans to have subject matter experts on hand as well as local installers and contractors to aid in facilitating the process of evaluating SWH with interested customers to begin the decision making process. Additionally, to provide an entertainment element, PG&E would like to develop a standalone solar water heating display to provide a live demonstration of how these systems work and viable uses. The mobile display would be designed and created with mobility and flexibility in mind, so that it could be used at other local non-SWH events PG&E participates in.

Email Marketing

Findings from previous marketing efforts conclude that direct communications with customers produce the highest response rates. Therefore, PG&E would like to pursue a targeted email campaign designed to clearly communicate the solar water heating product and technology through personalized and relevant messaging. A targeting analysis would be conducted to target potential customers by geography and relevant demographics as well as the overlay of ensuring access to a contractor in their area. PG&E may also target customers who have shown interest to green technologies in the past and/or responded to previous marketing efforts but have not yet installed. The messaging would be crafted to inspire and drive customers to take the next step in the process and potentially connect them with a contractor to provide an easy and seamless process. Furthermore, in some areas, direct mail will be used as a communication tactic to support the above outlined community events and including an invitation and call to action to attend to learn more.

Small/Medium Business (SMB) and Multifamily (MF):

Direct Mail/Email and Telemarketing

As mentioned above, PG&E has seen success with direct customer outreach and proposes leveraging findings from past efforts to reengage SMB and MF customers that have previously responded to marketing efforts but not acted. Additionally, since financial considerations more heavily influence the decision to install SWH for SMB and MF customers and with the cost of SWH technology being definitively less expensive than PV, there is an opportunity to reach out to other SMB and MF customers that are interested in renewable energy for financial reasons. As such, PG&E is proposing a direct communication and telemarketing campaign to these environmentally-focused, cost-conscious customers. The messaging of the direct mail or email would position SWH as a viable, green option with a lower price point than PV. The direct outreach would be followed up with a telemarketing call prompting the potential customer to take action and connect with approved contractors and installers. To further support these efforts, existing customer case studies and testimonials will be leveraged to showcase the benefits of SWH.

Large Commercial:

Internal Stakeholder Training

In an effort to better educate PG&E's large business customers about new products and services, PG&E's Sales and Service team—account representatives and managers—maintain a relationship with these customers and often serve as the first line of communication to help address their energy management needs. PG&E will leverage these relationships by providing training and materials such as factsheets and case studies on solar water heating and the CSI

Thermal program. This will allow the Sales and Service team engage with their business customers and provide relevant information.

Industry Events and Partnerships

As PG&E works to increase SWH adoption and expand the target market, the need to align with a cross-section of industry stakeholders also becomes increasingly important. PG&E has found strategic alliances and partnerships to be valuable in helping to facilitate engagement with large commercial customers. As such, PG&E recommends leveraging industry events and trade shows that are geared towards specific business segments or industries with a higher likelihood to install SWH such as those interested in renewable technologies and with sustainability goals. PG&E will also be investigating participation in sustainability focused forums and events as they may present opportunities to showcase SWH as an energy management product, particularly with the new technologies being introduced into the CSI Thermal program.

Contractors/Installers:

Contractor Workshops

PG&E has successfully offered and completed several SWH training courses which offers a hands-on curriculum to become a SWH installer. PG&E proposes continuing these courses and providing technical training on the various aspects of solar water heating including how systems qualify under the CSI Thermal rebate program. The training provides participants the ability to gain credibility and expertise in doing systems installation as well as expand their existing business model into SWH, if not already active in that space.

Other:

Unallocated

Similar to previous years, PG&E requests the allowance to set aside funds to be able to adapt and execute any new opportunities that may arise during the course of the year. Potential uses for the funds include the supplement of planned outreach needs, sponsorship opportunities or the ability to address unexpected issues or changes. PG&E will assess the feasibility of each opportunity in consultation with Energy Division staff to determine if it aligns with the goals and strategies outlined above and the proper level of funding.

Overhead and Labor

In order to continue to provide ongoing support and materials, PG&E requests funding for fixed costs and activities including, but not limited to, reprinting existing and new materials, regular web maintenance and updates, collateral management and fulfillment. This amount also includes the necessary funding for adequate staff to support the marketing and outreach of the

CSI Thermal program including PG&E marketing employees as well as support from other internal staff members and management.

F. Measurement/Metrics:

PG&E will implement a comprehensive evaluation plan that measure how successful the marketing activities have been in driving awareness and understanding of SWH and CSI Thermal as well as how effectively the tactics are in creating engagement and an intent to install. The mechanism PG&E will use to measure will include surveys as well as the tracking of specific metrics for individual local marketing efforts. The findings and metrics that are measured will also serve to provide optimizations throughout the year to the various tactics and direction for subsequent marketing plans by showing which are most effective and garner the most response.

Among the key performance indicators that will be tracked and monitored are:

- Web trends: website traffic, download of information
- Call center: call volume, categorization of reason for calling
- E-mail/Direct Mail/Telemarketing: recipients, response rates such as click-through from emails, request for information, contractor locator tool access
- Events: number of event attendees, on-site surveys, lead generation
- Projects: number of new application by customer class, therms displaced

G. Timing:

Local PG&E Jan-Dec 2014 Calendar*		Planning		Production		In-Market								
Activity		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
All	Research													
	Integrated Marketing													
	Local Media													
	Education													
Res	Retail/Co-Promotion													
	Community Events													
	Email Marketing													
SMB/MF	Direct Mail/Telemarketing													
Large Commercial	Stakeholder Training													
	Industry Events and Partnerships													
Contractors	Training													

*Timing is estimated and based on receiving plan approval by the end of 2013. Delays in approval will result in delayed in-market.

H. Budget:

In previous years, PG&E has requested marketing facilitation funding from both the electric-displacing budget and electric-displacing budget. However, as of May 2013, PG&E began to

waitlist electric-displacing solar water heating projects applying under the CSI Thermal program due to the depletion of CSI General Market incentives. Therefore, the plan herein is for marketing and outreach for gas-displacing solar water heating systems.

PG&E requests the use of gas only market facilitation funding for its Local plan as well as PG&E's contribution to the Statewide plan since effectively there is no longer an electric-displacing Thermal program in PG&E's service area. If the electric-displacing incentives become available in 2014, PG&E requests the discretion to use additional funding to expand outreach and marketing and will seek approval to do so via the established Marketing and Outreach Approval Request Form (MOARF) process. The total budget request is outlined below.

Additionally, PG&E budget request includes \$1,374,022.56 in unspent market facilitation funds from previous years since the start of the program due to the delay of marketing activities.

2014 CSI Thermal Local Marketing Plan and Budget		
Tactics	Budget	Customer Segment
Research	\$125,000	All
Integrated Marketing	\$100,000	All
Local Media	\$400,000	All
Education/Classes	\$25,000	All
Retail	\$175,000	Residential
Community Events	\$300,000	Residential
Email	\$150,000	Residential
Direct Mail/ Telemarketing	\$150,000	SMB/MF
Industry Partnership and Trade Shows	\$25,000	Large Business
Contractor Training	\$25,000	Large Business
Labor/Fixed Costs	\$175,000	NA
Unallocated	\$75,000	NA
Total Local Budget	\$1,725,000	

2014 CSI Thermal Total Marketing Budget	
PG&E Local Plan	\$1,725,000.00
PG&E Statewide Plan	\$624,022.56
Total	\$2,349,022.56

I. Previous Local Marketing Activities/Budgets:

Local Spend Forecast: July - Dec 2013	
Activity Details	Notes
RES - \$230,000	
Enhanced Contractor Locator Tool	Enhance the contractor locator tool landing page - a key call to action for tactic DM & EM below.
Direct Mail/Email	Target residential customers (in key markets) with propensity to install - drive to enhanced contractor tool.
SMB/MF - \$415,000	
Multi-family Events	Convince MF building owners to install SWH through engagement with the technology, program and contractors who can help customers take the next step to install SWH.
Email/MF Association Advertising	Advertising associated with MF event above
SF Environment Outreach	Continued partnership with SFE to increase awareness of CSI Thermal in SF.
LC&I - \$248,000	
Sales Collateral	Update business SWH fact sheet
Ongoing Training	Provide SWH updates and training to sales team and partners
Sponsorships	Participate in industry sponsorships (i.e., InterSolar, Greenbuild, etc.). The Ag Symposium is a potential event featuring renewables.
Ag Symposium	
Print Publications	Highlight biz installs in trade pubs, SWH is a viable solution
Video Testimonials/Case Studies	Highlight success stories of installed large customers.
2014 Planning - \$60,000	
Agency fees for 2014 planning	Funds set aside to build plan for 2014.
Training - \$35,000	
Contractor trainings (1-2)	Series of in-depth contractor trainings w/ outside national training company.
Pacific Energy Center - Training	Continuation of PEC courses for contractors and customers.
Labor - \$175,000	
Labor	Estimated labor for July-Dec 31st
Un-allotted Funds - \$116,700	
Un-allotted Funds	Funds will be used to strengthen high performing areas and/or explore new tactics with Energy Division consult.
Local Total: \$1,204,700*	

Attachment 2

California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

Background - Situation Analysis

In its Guidance Memo dated November 4, 2010, Energy Division staff recommended that the four Program Administrators (PAs) of the CSI-Thermal Program, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas[®]), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), California Center for Sustainable Energy (CCSE) and Southern California Edison Company (SCE), “hire a specialized marketing and outreach firm to manage a statewide campaign building off the established *Go Solar, California!* program.”

In June 2011, the four PAs jointly appointed a marketing agency and prepared a Scope of Work for the campaign designed to develop a Statewide Market Facilitation Plan. Based on the Scope of Work, with input and contribution from the PAs, SoCalGas managed the appointed firm and the campaign. The goals of Statewide Market Facilitation campaign were to: 1) Build awareness and understanding of the CSI-Thermal Program to help motivate adoption; 2) Educate consumers about the advantages and availability of CSI-Thermal Program rebates; and 3) Drive consumers to the WaterHeatedbytheSun.com (WHBTS.com) site. Formative steps, planning and production of the campaign initiated 3Q2011 and ended 1Q2012. The campaign rolled out successfully with in-market activity from 2Q2012 until 2Q2013 (June).

In June 2013, the working group of the PAs jointly appointed Phelps Total Market (PTM), an integrated marketing communications firm, to manage and provide continuity to the existing program based on the campaign’s achievements, with the objective of continuing to increase awareness of the program and taking it to completion as originally envisioned in December 2013. The continuation program is based on digital marketing focused on extending the program’s online presence to further increase awareness and drive more traffic to the WHBTS.com site. The six-month continuation plan has been optimized for improved and increased efficiency.

In August 2013, the PAs jointly reconfirmed their intent to continue building on the success of the program, engaging PTM to prepare and develop a Statewide Market Facilitation Program for 2014. Subsequently, the working group activated primary research efforts to better understand current perceptions and attitudes towards solar technology, particularly SWH. Research learnings, additional secondary research data, post-wave 2012-13 campaign top-line results, as well as media recaps from the original efforts served as tools to refine, optimize and develop a new 2014 outreach campaign with the overarching goals of: 1) Increasing awareness and understanding of the CSI-Thermal Program and 2) Deepening engagement and interest to increase applications statewide.

Based on general learnings from activating local and statewide plans, PAs are planning a new approach for 2014 that will focus on a more engaging and motivating approach to encourage adoption. Data has revealed that customers have a number of misperceptions as a result of the lack of reliable information about SWH. Therefore, the working group concluded that the program needs to give consumers increased accessibility to view and engage with the technology, as well as streamline communication to connect in a more interactive and concise capacity. This will help further raise awareness and communicate the value proposition.

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

The working group and PTM recommend addressing these barriers to entry through an integrated approach. The approach will drive consistency and alignment across all customer contact points over time. The goal is to increase awareness and understanding of SWH and deepen engagement by demonstrating the value of the systems. The approach incorporates multiple channels, builds buzz and leverages successes about the technology to gain more interest and action.

The 2014 marketing plan builds from learnings and elevates the success of the previous campaigns while setting the foundation for future phases for a long-term strategy. The plan establishes goals, objectives, strategies and tactics by target markets, and defines the campaign timetables and budget. The 2014 plan is designed to solidify the SWH position, increase awareness of the recent program expansions (new end uses and commercial/multifamily pool applications now accepted), connect with markets through meaningful consistency of messaging, communications and outreach statewide as well as integrate and complement each PA's Local Market Facilitation Plan. The statewide plan provides a solid marketing platform for disseminating the CSI-Thermal Program message across each service area. Approval of the 2014 plan is scheduled to be received 4Q2013 with in-market full rollout starting 1Q2014.

Attachment 2

California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program

Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

Goals & Objectives

The goal of the Statewide Market Facilitation Plan is to deliver a consistent and compelling message that leverages the learnings and successes of the past two years by focusing on increasing awareness and understanding, fostering engagement and encouraging consideration and adoption through an integrated (owned, earned and paid) approach amongst our key target audiences.

The statewide program will serve as the overarching campaign to deliver messaging across service areas and will work in conjunction with the Local Market Facilitation Plan designed and implemented by each of the four PAs. The statewide program is designed to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Increase awareness and understanding of the SWH technology and its benefits
2. Communicate the SWH value proposition and systems' processes in a concise and compelling format
3. Foster engagement with the technology and the program's offerings to stimulate interest and increase application volume

Target Market

Residential

1. Single-family residence homeowners
 - a. Female and male heads of household
 - b. Influencers: community leaders, schools, friends and extended family
2. Multi-family property owners and managers (condominiums, duplex, etc. including, but not limited to properties featuring pools suitable of SWH)

Business

1. Commercial and small-business enterprise operators, including but not limited to, gymnasiums, laundromats, hotel/motel, agricultural processing and related industrial operations
2. Contractors and installers

Strategies

SWH marketing strategies are designed to overcome the barriers identified by the CSI-Thermal Program and serve as a guide for PAs in pursuing their own market planning. The working group has identified four primary barriers to SWH market growth, which will be addressed to expand the market. The barriers include:

- Cost. Customers report high up-front and out-of-pocket costs and long payback periods that deter them from installing SWH technology.

Attachment 2

California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

- Awareness. The absence of widely accepted SWH in the public's eye and confusion about its performance and capabilities create concerns and misunderstanding about the reliability of solar water heating technology; it is not perceived as functional for household energy needs.
- Complexity. The time consuming and complex nature of purchasing and installing solar water heating systems discourages potential adopters.
- Momentum. The lengthy decision-making process (education, decision to adopt, application, installation and procurement of rebates) and financial complexity of SWH systems result in low consumer adoption momentum.

For the program to be effective it must lead to actions: strong adoption consideration and application(s) submission. While the State SWH program does not directly sell SWH installations to customers, it will measure success in the form of applications. Starting with this direction in mind, the statewide program will focus on addressing the four major marketing barriers, overcoming consumer resistance and broadening the market by highlighting the technology's value proposition, attributes and benefits.

PAs will take an owned, earned and paid engagement approach, based on the following key platform strategies:

1. Prioritize and focus on best prospects per market and channel
2. Develop compelling messaging and content across multiple platforms to be implemented consistently across defined touch points
3. Increase overall brand awareness, foster interest, deepen engagement and drive inquiries and adoption
4. Maximize impact through state and local program synergies

Tactics - Overall

The tactics are designed to create a desire to further engage and learn more about SWH. Marketing tactics will guide how, when and where SWH can connect with their target audiences with the ultimate goal of consideration and adoption. State SWH tactics will serve as a critical path to information, clarifying how SWH works for them, explaining the general price/value equation and positioning the program and PAs as the fundamentally credible sources of information.

To support the strategy, the following key initiatives will drive tactical implementation of marketing activations to address and accomplish:

- Brand Position: Refresh the SWH marketing campaign's brand positioning and messaging based on research and findings to date
 - Issue SWH brand guidelines
- Messaging and Content: Based on revised positioning, develop consistent and concise communications tailored to highlight benefits for each priority audience respectively

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

- Develop advertising and promotional content and guidelines for creative materials targeted and streamlined for each defined audience
- Achieve cost efficiencies in production for multi-platform use
- Design materials with the capacity to be repurposed for local efforts
- **Engagement:** Deploy targeted communications consistently across defined owned, earned and paid channels
 - **Owned:** Develop a more comprehensive online user experience for disseminating information to prospects
 - **Earned:** Build credibility in the marketplace, communicate successes and implement a social platform for increased engagement
 - **Paid:** Focus on targeting best prospects (including those impacted by the recent program expansion, i.e. industrial and non-residential pool applications), identify paid media channels that efficiently and effectively engage the defined targets, negotiate pricing and implement plan
- **Measurability:** Establish campaign metrics, implement tracking, track performance and analyze and optimize the campaign ongoing

Residential

Tactics – Research

- 1) Utilize the existing campaign post wave research results as the benchmark and pre-wave point of reference for 2014 campaign measurability.
- 2) Conduct post-wave campaign awareness and response research effort via an online panel survey conducted statewide.

Tactics – Owned

- 1) Optimize and improve the WHBTS.com user experience: Refresh content, call-to-action messages and update site with latest information with a more streamlined information flow.

Tactics – Paid

- 1) Develop an integrated marketing plan delivering on multiple customer touch points:
 - a. Paid search programming (Search Engine Marketing, SEM): Develop a targeted placement campaign for maximum visibility.
 - i. Develop, design and produce SEM copy
 - ii. Monitor and continually optimize
 - b. Online and/or Mobile Advertising: Develop a laser-targeted digital advertising effort for extended reach and frequency with advertising in relevant site content, network, social (infiltrate social networking space via Twitter promoted posts and Facebook right rail and newsfeed ads) and email sponsorship, plus re-marketing (site publishers and social).
 - i. Online media planning, buying, reporting and optimization
 - ii. Concept, design, develop and produce online and/or mobile advertising

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

- c. Local Market Broadcast: Develop a local market television campaign to drive awareness and impact.
 - i. Cable TV media planning, buying and post-buy reporting
 - ii. Select stations with profiled viewership
 - iii. Conceptualize, develop and produce TV creative

Tactics – Earned

- 1) Content Development: Create compelling content that effectively communicates the benefits, ease of adoption and community of like-minded SWH users with simple, targeted messaging derived from the new positioning.
 - a. Content accounts for new updates and will address the program’s expansion
 - b. Includes creative and copy for one user acquisition program on Facebook
- 2) Content Outreach Toolkit: Develop and share a social media toolkit that can be used by program administrators for their own channels, including a content calendar, sample postings, messaging, images and details about cross-promotion opportunities. The kit will be updated regularly and it will comprise feature story pitches highlighting various pitch angles including:
 - a. Launch of the creative platform and public education campaign
 - b. Cost/benefits of solar water heating for residential and commercial real estate
 - c. Solar hot water as part of the future of eco technologies
 - d. Profile of the new ‘eco chic’ consumer
 - e. Hall of fame users of solar hot water

Business

Tactics – Owned

- 1) Business-customized Content: Add tailored California Solar Initiative SWH call-to-action messages exclusively for business customers on WHBTS.com featuring business-related information, engaging messages and more prominent delivery of the latest expansion information.

Tactics – Paid

- 1) Develop a direct mail marketing plan, analyzing, selecting and isolating best business prospects for delivery — commercial, industrial and small-business focus (including those subject to performance based incentives).
 - a. Direct Mail: Prepare a full direct mail campaign with multiple drops to deliver messages to select business categories
 - i. Concept, design, develop and produce direct mail packages
 - ii. List procurement, letter shopping production, postage and delivery
 - iii. Track program response via a unique business landing page and/or call-to-action on main landing page
- 2) Develop a digital marketing plan, testing business-to-business social networking via LinkedIn.
 - a. Identify best prospects via profile pages, industries and job titles
 - b. Engage with digital and/or mobile advertising ads

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

Tactics – Earned

- 1) Develop a marketing campaign targeted to business customers to update them about the latest on solar water heating systems, available rebates and program expansion to capitalize on SWH opportunities.
 - a. SWH Business Champion Profiles: Identify targeted business customers such as LEED certified hotels or industrial businesses that have installed SWH and can act as a case study example to seed with statewide and local media
 - b. Business/Commercial Outreach: Reach out to and garner coverage by various associations, trade organizations and media outlets that influence decision makers and owners of businesses with operations that rely on hot water, such as hotels/resorts, sports clubs, spas, etc. Such associations and publications may include but not be limited to:
 - California Hotel & Lodging Association
 - California Lodging Magazine
 - Dayspa
 - HotelExecutive.com
 - GreenBuilding News
 - GreenBiz.com
 - GreenBuzz
 - California Spa Association
 - Today's Facility Manager
 - Hotel Business
 - Hospitality Design

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

Tactics – Campaign Timetables

Statewide Market Facilitation Plan 2014						
	4Q13	1Q14	2Q14	3Q14	4Q14	1Q15
CPUC Program Approvals						
Production, campaign development						
In-market Live						
Refresh/release WHBTS.com						
Earned, Paid Search, Social and Online Advertising						
Broadcast TV						
Direct Mail Marketing						
Post-wave Market Research						

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

Budget

Statewide Market Facilitation Plan 2014	
Tactics - Research	
Hard Costs, market research post-wave panel.	\$ 50,000.00
Agency Fees, strategic and project management.	\$ 6,000.00
Tactics - Messaging	
Agency Fees, strategic management, concept development, project management.	\$ 35,000.00
Tactics - Owned	
Redesign and refresh WHBTS.com site, include hard costs site development.	\$ 55,000.00
Tactics - Paid	
Hard Costs, campaign production and media placement.	\$ 1,035,000.00
Paid Search, Online and Print Advertising, Broadcast TV, Direct Mail and Social programming.	
Agency fees, campaign production, implementation, optimization and reporting. Creative development and project management.	\$ 229,000.00
Tactics - Earned	
Agency Fees, strategic management, concept development, Social and PR project management.	\$ 90,000.00
Reserve	
Unplanned marketing opportunities.	\$ 325,222.56
TOTAL	\$ 1,825,222.56

Budget – Breakout by Target Market

	Residential	Business	Total
Research.	\$ 33,600	\$ 22,400	\$ 56,000
Messaging.	\$ 21,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 35,000
Redesign WHBTS.com	\$ 38,500	\$ 16,500	\$ 55,000
Marketing campaign: broadcast & digital media, paid search, direct mail, social and public relations.	\$ 543,000	\$ 492,000	\$ 1,035,000
Production costs.			
Public Relations & Social.	\$ 54,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 90,000
Agency Fees.	\$ 137,400	\$ 91,600	\$ 229,000
	\$ 827,500	\$ 672,500	\$ 1,500,000
	55%	45%	
Residential includes: Single- and Multi-family homeowners and property managers			
Business includes: Commercial & Small-business operations and Contractors & Installers			

Attachment 2
California Solar Initiative – Thermal Program
Statewide Market Facilitation Plan and Budget (2014)

Cost-sharing Amounts by Program Administrators

In order to allow the statewide continuation effort to be implemented, and because it is more cost efficient to co-fund a statewide digital effort than individually fund separate ones, CCSE, PG&E and SoCalGas will contribute their proportionate shares of the budget using the same percentages as the two-year statewide market facilitation plan (Table A). PG&E has notified the PAs that they will be contributing a portion of their proportionate share towards the statewide component of the 2014 Local Market Facilitation Plan from January to December 2014. The budget is revised to \$1,825,222.56 to reflect this adjustment from PG&E’s share, which was originally \$798,800 and is now \$624,022 (Table B)¹. To accommodate the reduction in budget based on PG&E’s share, funds were reduced in the “reserve” funds.

Table A

PROPORTIONATE SHARES	SCG	40.80%	\$ 816,000.00
	PG&E	39.94%	\$ 798,800.00
	CCSE	10.06%	\$ 201,200.00
	SCE	9.20%	\$ 184,000.00
			\$ 2,000,000.00

Table B

REVISED STATEWIDE IF APPROVED			
	SCG	40.80%	\$ 816,000.00
MINUS ELECTRIC	PG&E	39.94%	\$ 624,022.56
	CCSE	10.06%	\$ 201,200.00
	SCE	9.20%	\$ 184,000.00
			\$ 1,825,222.56

¹ Please reference PG&E’s local plan for additional details.

PG&E Gas and Electric
Advice Filing List
General Order 96-B, Section IV

1st Light Energy	Douglass & Liddell	OnGrid Solar
AT&T	Downey & Brand	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Praxair
Anderson & Poole	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
BART	GenOn Energy Inc.	SCD Energy Solutions
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SCE
Bartle Wells Associates	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SDG&E and SoCalGas
Braun Blasing McLaughlin, P.C.	Green Power Institute	SPURR
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	Hanna & Morton	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
California Energy Commission	In House Energy	Seattle City Light
California Public Utilities Commission	International Power Technology	Sempra Utilities
California State Association of Counties	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	SoCalGas
Calpine	Kelly Group	Southern California Edison Company
Casner, Steve	Linde	Spark Energy
Cenergy Power	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Sun Light & Power
Center for Biological Diversity	MAC Lighting Consulting	Sunshine Design
City of Palo Alto	MRW & Associates	Tecogen, Inc.
City of San Jose	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Clean Power	Marin Energy Authority	TransCanada
Coast Economic Consulting	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP	Utility Cost Management
Commercial Energy	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Power Solutions
County of Tehama - Department of Public Works	Modesto Irrigation District	Utility Specialists
Crossborder Energy	Morgan Stanley	Verizon
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NLine Energy, Inc.	Water and Energy Consulting
Day Carter Murphy	NRG Solar	Wellhead Electric Company
Defense Energy Support Center	Nexant, Inc.	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Dept of General Services	North America Power Partners	
Division of Ratepayer Advocates	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.	