

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

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Address  
Natural Gas Distribution Utility Cost and  
Revenue Issues Associated with Greenhouse  
Gas Emissions

Rulemaking No. 14-03-003  
(Filed March 13, 2014)

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE STATEMENT OF THE JOINT MINORITY PARTIES**

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ANGELES LATINO CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

April 10, 2014

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**PREHEARING CONFERENCE STATEMENT OF THE JOINT MINORITY PARTIES**

Pursuant to the March 19, 2014 Order Instituting Rulemaking, the National Asian American Coalition, the Ecumenical Center for Black Church Studies, and the Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce (“Joint Minority Parties”) hereby submit this Prehearing Conference Statement.

The Joint Minority Parties agree with the Order’s preliminary scope, particularly those issues relating to the “rules governing the use of revenue resulting from the sale of allowances that [the Air Resources Board] may allocate to natural gas corporations on behalf of ratepayers” and an examination of the need for “outreach and education activities related to the impacts of the Cap-and-Trade Program on natural gas end-use customers.”<sup>1</sup>

The Joint Minority Parties believe that, consistent with the policy objectives established in D.12-12-033, outreach and education activities should be funded, with D.12-12-033’s aim of ensuring that hard-to-reach customers, especially households where English is not the primary language spoken, have adequate information.<sup>2</sup> These efforts should also be conducted in coordination with other statewide efforts. We do, however, urge that this outreach go beyond notifying and explaining to “recipients of GHG allowance revenue, at a minimum, that they are

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<sup>1</sup> R.14-03-003, Order Instituting Rulemaking, filed March 14, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> D.12-12-033, Ordering Paragraph 11, p. 210.

receiving a credit as a result of California's GHG Cap-and-Trade program.”<sup>3</sup> These efforts miss a tremendous opportunity if they do not incorporate an energy efficiency component.

Though the Commission has not, in the past, allocated revenue for energy efficiency programs, we urge a change in this policy as customers, especially low-income customers, can greatly benefit from the corresponding reductions in their utility bills while furthering statewide conservation and reduction objectives.

With regard to the priority of these issues, the Joint Minority Parties urge that outreach on matters of allowance revenue and energy efficiency be considered early in the proceedings, as statewide outreach efforts are already underway.

April 10, 2014

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
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<sup>3</sup> D.12-12-033, Finding of Fact 145, p. 185.