

April 23, 2020

ADVICE 120-W
(U 338-W)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
WATER DIVISION

SUBJECT: Adjustment of Existing Income Limitations for
California Alternate Rates for Energy

In compliance with the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) Energy Division's notice dated March 1, 2020 (Notice), and pursuant to Resolution E-3524, and Decision (D.)04-02-057 and D.12-08-044, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) hereby submits the following revised tariff sheets which are listed on Attachment A and are attached hereto.

PURPOSE

This advice letter revises Schedule W-1-R-CARE, *Santa Catalina Island California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Domestic Water Service*, to reflect that the household annual income limitations applicable to the CARE program for 2020-2021 will increase in compliance with the Energy Division's Notice. The Energy Division's Notice requests utilities to submit revised tariffs reflecting the revised income guidelines effective of June 1, 2020.

BACKGROUND

The Commission authorized the Low Income Ratepayer Assistance (LIRA) program by D.89-07-062 which became effective September 1989. SCE's electric Schedule D-LI, Low Income Rate – Domestic Service, became effective pursuant to D.89-09-044 on November 1, 1989. The program name was changed from LIRA to CARE effective January 1, 1995, in accordance with Senate Bill 491. Accordingly, SCE's electric rate schedule was renamed to Schedule D-CARE.

In compliance with Resolution W-4665, SCE established Schedule W-1-CARE which provides Santa Catalina Island (Catalina) low-income domestic water customers with a CARE discount.¹ Catalina customers who qualify for the CARE program for electric

¹ Advice 63-W established Schedule W-1-CARE. Advice 94-W renamed the schedule as W-1-R-CARE in compliance with D.14-10-048.

and/or gas service are enrolled automatically in the CARE program for water service. Furthermore, a CARE application will be required for participation and recertification in the CARE program unless the customer has completed an approved CARE application for electric and/or gas service and is currently receiving service under electric Schedule D-CARE or gas Schedule G-1-CARE. In accordance with Ordering Paragraph 12 of Resolution W-4665, low-income customers on Catalina receive a 20 percent discount from water service rates under Schedule W-1-CARE.

Household income limitations are used to determine whether a person or household qualifies for discounts provided under CARE schedules. In addition, pursuant to D.12-08-044's Categorical Eligibility and Enrollment Program, in lieu of providing income documentation, CARE customers who have been income verified by a qualifying categorical eligible low income program may submit proof of enrollment in an approved categorical eligibility program and qualify for CARE.

The Commission, in Resolution E-3524, directed the Energy Division to communicate new eligibility income levels to the utilities on May 1 of each year. The Commission further required the Energy Division to direct the utilities to file revised tariffs, effective June 1 of each year, reflecting the new income levels. However, D.12-08-044 moved the annual income letter release from May 1 to April 1 each year, to continue to allow continued ease of access for enrolling into the CARE program. In addition, D.12-08-044, Ordering Paragraph 88 (b) (ii) directs the Energy Division to include an approved updated list of categorical programs along with this updated annual income letter.

The Energy Division's Notice updates the 2020-2021 income limits in compliance with Public Utilities (PU) Code Section 739.1 (a)(1).² Beginning with the 2012-2013 annual income update, the Federal Poverty Guideline values and corresponding household size were used to determine and update the annual CARE income limits. The Commission transitioned to this approach because the methodology it used previously, pursuant to Resolution E-3524, which was adopted in February 1998, did not align with the requirements of PU Code Section 739.1(b)(1).

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES

This advice letter updates Schedule W-1-R-CARE by incorporating the new income levels and effective date of June 1, 2020 provided by the Energy Division.

² The Commission shall establish a program of assistance to low-income electric and gas customers with annual household incomes that are no greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline levels, the cost of which shall not be borne solely by any single class of customer. The program shall be referred to as the California Alternate Rates for Energy or CARE program. The Commission shall ensure that the level of discount for low-income electric and gas customers correctly reflects the level of need.

No cost information is required for this advice filing.

This advice letter will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other schedule or rule.

TIER DESIGNATION

Pursuant to General Order (GO) 96-B, Water Industry Rule 7.3.1(3), this advice letter is submitted with a Tier 1 designation.

EFFECTIVE DATE

In accordance with the Energy Division's Notice and Resolution E-3524, SCE requests that this advice letter will become effective on June 1, 2020.

NOTICE

Anyone wishing to protest this advice letter may do so by letter via U.S. Mail, facsimile, or electronically, any of which must be received no later than 20 days after the date of this advice letter. Protests should be submitted to:

Director, Water Division
CPUC
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102
E-mail: water_division@cpuc.ca.gov
Facsimile: (415) 703-2200

In addition, protests and all other correspondence regarding this advice letter should also be sent by letter and transmitted via facsimile or electronically to the attention of:

Gary A Stern Ph.D.
Managing Director, State Regulatory Operations
Southern California Edison Company
8631 Rush Street
Rosemead, California 91770
Facsimile: (626) 302-6396
E-mail: AdviceTariffManager@sce.com

Laura Genao
Managing Director, State Regulatory Affairs
c/o Karyn Gansecki
Southern California Edison Company
601 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 2030
San Francisco, California 94102
Facsimile: (415) 929-5544
E-mail: Karyn.Gansecki@sce.com

There are no restrictions on who may file a protest, but the protest shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which it is based and shall be submitted expeditiously.

In accordance with Water Industry Rule 4.1 of GO 96-B, SCE is serving copies of this advice letter to the interested parties shown on the attached Water GO 96-B and A.11-05-017 et al service lists. Address change requests to the GO 96-B service list should be directed by electronic mail to AdviceTariffManager@sce.com or at (626) 302-4039. For changes to all other service lists, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or by electronic mail at Process_Office@cpuc.ca.gov.

Further, in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 491, notice to the public is hereby given by filing and keeping the advice filing at SCE's corporate headquarters. To view other SCE advice letters filed with the Commission, log on to SCE's web site at <https://www.sce.com/wps/portal/home/regulatory/advice-letters>.

For questions, please contact Prabha Cadambi at (626) 302-8177 or by electronic mail at Prabha.Cadambi@sce.com.

Southern California Edison Company

/s/ Gary A. Stern, Ph.D.
Gary A. Stern, Ph.D.

GAS:pc:jm
Enclosures

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF WATER AND AUDITS**

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Utility Name: Southern CA Edison

Date Mailed to Service List: Apr. 23, 2020

CPUC Utility #: WTC 338

Protest Deadline (20th Day): May 13, 2020

Advice Letter #: 120-W

Review Deadline (30th Day):

Tier 1 2 3 Compliance

Requested Effective Date: Jun. 1, 2020

Decisions 04-02-057 and
12-08-044; and Resolution E-

Authorization 3524

Rate Impact: \$

Description: Adjustment of Existing Income Limitations
for California Alternate Rates for Energy

The protest or response deadline for this advice letter is 20 days from the date that this advice letter was mailed to the service list. Please see the "Response or Protest" section in the advice letter for more information.

Utility Contact: Darrah Morgan

Utility Contact 2: Jeanette Melgar

Phone: (626) 302-2086

Phone 2: (626) 302-4039

Email: advicetariffmanager@sce.com

Email 2: advicetariffmanager@sce.com

DWA Contact: Tariff Unit

Phone: (415) 703-1133

Email: Water.Division@cpuc.ca.gov

DWA USE ONLY

DATE

STAFF

COMMENTS

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____

**CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DIVISION OF WATER AND AUDITS**

Advice Letter Cover Sheet

Schedules W-1-R-CARE
Table of Contents

APPROVED

WITHDRAWN

REJECTED

Signature: _____

Comments: _____

Date: _____

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 1205-W	Schedules W-1-R-CARE	Revised 1067-W
Revised 1206-W	Table of Contents	Revised 1181-W
Revised 1207-W	Table of Contents	Revised 1103-W

Schedule W-1-R-CARE Sheet 2
SANTA CATALINA ISLAND CALIFORNIA ALTERNATE RATES FOR ENERGY (CARE)
RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE

(Continued)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Residential service is the provision of water for domestic use at a dwelling premises, including water used on the premises for sprinkling of lawns; gardens and shrubbery; washing vehicles; and other similar and customary purposes pertaining to single or multifamily dwellings.
2. CARE Household: A CARE Household is a household where the total gross income from all sources is less than shown on the table below based on the number of persons in the household. Total gross income shall include income from all sources, both taxable and nontaxable. Persons who are claimed as a dependent on another person's income tax return are not eligible. These income limits are effective as of June 1, 2020. (T)

<u>No. of Persons In Household</u>	<u>Total Gross Annual Income</u>	
1-2	\$34,480	(I)
3	43,440	
4	52,400	
5	61,360	
6	70,320	
7	79,280	
8	88,240	(I)

For Households with more than six persons, add \$8,960 annually for each additional person. (I)

3. Application and Eligibility Declaration: An application and eligibility declaration on a form authorized by the Commission is required for each request for service under this Schedule unless the Customer has completed an approved electric or gas service application for CARE. If a customer qualifies for CARE as an electric or gas service customer they are also eligible for Schedule W-1-R-CARE. Renewal of a customer's eligibility declaration will be required every two years and may be required on an annual basis. Customers are only eligible to receive service under this rate at one residential location at any one time and the rate applies only to a customer's permanent primary residence. This Schedule is not applicable where, in the opinion of SCE, either the accommodation or occupancy is transient.
4. Commencement of Rate: Eligible customer shall be billed on this Schedule commencing no later than one billing period after receipt and approval of the customer's application by SCE.
5. Verification: Information provided by the applicant is subject to verification by SCE. Refusal or failure of a customer to provide documentation of eligibility acceptable to SCE, upon request by SCE, shall result in removal from this Schedule.

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)
Advice 120-W
Decision 04-02-057; 12-08-044

Issued by
Carla Peterman
Senior Vice President

(To be inserted by Cal. PUC)
Date Filed Apr 23, 2020
Effective _____
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Southern California Edison
Rosemead, California

Revised Cal. PUC Sheet No. 1206-W
Cancelling Revised Cal. PUC Sheet No. 1181-W

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(To be inserted by utility)

Advice 120-W
Decision 04-02-057; 12-08-044

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Senior Vice President

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Sheet 2

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RATE SCHEDULES

<u>Schedule No.</u>	<u>Title of Sheet</u>	<u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>
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(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice 120-W
Decision 04-02-057; 12-08-044

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Senior Vice President

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