

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY AND
COMPLIANCE DIVISION
Energy Branch

RESOLUTION E-3191
May 4, 1990

R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION E-3191. SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY REQUESTS AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH SEPARATE GAS AND ELECTRIC COLLABORATIVE TRACKING CLAUSE MEMORANDUM ACCOUNTS.

BY ADVICE LETTERS 787-E AND 712-G. FILED ON MARCH 16, 1990.

SUMMARY

1. By Advice Letters 787-E and 712-G, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) requests authority to establish separate gas and electric Collaborative Tracking Clause (CTC) memorandum accounts to record expenditures for specific Demand Side Management (DSM) programs pending their approval by the Commission in SDG&E's collaborative group application.
2. This Resolution authorizes SDG&E to establish the memorandum accounts, subject to certain conditions.

BACKGROUND

1. In July 1989 the Commission held an en banc hearing on the subject of Demand Side Management (DSM) issues in California. The en banc led to the formation of an informal collaborative group whose task was to address specific DSM issues. The collaborative group presented the Commission with its report in January 1990.
2. As a result of its participation in the collaborative group, SDG&E agreed to file an application with the Commission in the spring of 1990 proposing new DSM programs for 1990 and 1991.

NOTICE

1. Public notice of this filing was made by mailing copies of the advice letters to other utilities, governmental agencies and to all interested parties who requested such notification. Notice of the filing of the advice letters was published in the Commission calendar on March 23, 1990.

PROTESTS

1. No protests have been received by the Commission Advisory and Compliance Division (CACD).

DISCUSSION

1. In the Advice Letters, SDG&E states:

"It is anticipated that once approved by the Commission, expenditures for the new DSM activities will receive expense treatment in a balancing account. SDG&E is already incurring expenses associated with these new activities in an effort to implement them as soon as possible. Immediate establishment of the CTC is requested so that these expenses can be included in the balancing account once the expenditures are authorized and the balancing account is established."

2. Although CACD received no protests regarding these Advice Letters, the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) filed comments with CACD. DRA stated that it has no objection to SDG&E establishing the CTC accounts, but requested that the resolution approving them make clear that the establishment of a balancing account and the authorized levels of expenditures for the proposed DSM programs are still subject to Commission approval and that the expenses recorded in the CTC are also subject to a reasonableness review by the Commission.

3. SDG&E responded that it had no objection to DRA's request. In its reply SDG&E requested authorization to transfer expenses recorded in the CTC accounts for programs later approved by the Commission to the appropriate balancing account.

4. CACD recommends that the Commission approve SDG&E's proposed memorandum account for expenses associated with the Collaborative group DSM programs subject to the following conditions:

- SDG&E will keep detailed records of the expenses recorded in the CTC, including the specific program for which the expense was incurred and the nature of the expense (e.g. salary, specific equipment, printing, etc.);
- SDG&E may seek recovery of expenses recorded in the CTC only for programs approved by the Commission and up to the level authorized by the Commission in its decision on SDG&E's collaborative group application; and,
- All expenditures shall be subject to reasonableness review.

FINDINGS

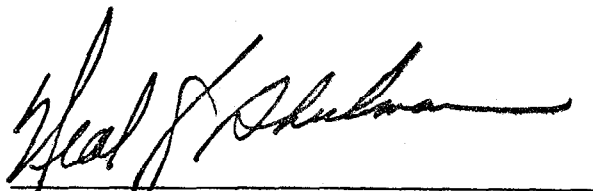
1. SDG&E requests authority to seek recovery of expenses recorded in the CTC memorandum accounts following Commission approval of specific DSM programs.
2. The Commission has not authorized SDG&E's additional DSM projects, nor has it established a method of recovering expenses associated with them.
3. SDG&E should be authorized to seek recovery of reasonable expenses associated with DSM programs that are authorized by the Commission.
4. SDG&E should keep a detailed record of expenditures recorded in the CTC memorandum accounts.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. San Diego Gas & Electric Company is authorized to establish separate gas and electric Collaborative Tracking Clause memorandum accounts. Recovery of expenses recorded in these accounts is subject to Commission approval of the specific DSM programs for which they are incurred, to any expenditure limits set by the Commission, and to a reasonableness review.
2. San Diego Gas & Electric Company shall maintain a detailed and complete record of all expenditures recorded in the memorandum accounts.
3. Advice Letters 787-E and 712-G and their accompanying tariff sheets shall be marked to show they were approved by Resolution E-3191.
4. This Resolution is effective today.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on May 4, 1990. The following Commissioners approved it:

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
FREDERICK R. DUDA
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. OHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
Commissioners



Neal J. Shulman
Executive Director