

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Copy for:

RESOLUTION NO. G-2175

Orig. and Copy  
to Executive Director

R E S O L U T I O N

UTILITIES DIVISION  
BRANCH/SECTION: Gas  
DATE: December 6, 1977

.....Director  
.....Numerical File  
.....Alphabetical File  
.....Accounting Officer

SUBJECT: Order Authorizing Revision of Lifeline Rate Structure and Granting of a Fuel Cost Increase For LPG Utility Company

WHEREAS: DEL NORTE GAS COMPANY, by Advice Letters Nos. 20 and 21, filed November 1977 and November 21, 1977, respectively, having requested authority under Sections 454, 491 and 739 of the Public Utilities Code to increase its rates to offset a series of LPG purchase price increases and to file revised tariff schedules, as set forth on Cal. P.U.C. Sheets Nos. 112-G to 117-G, inclusive, with the following results:

1. Commission Res. No. G-1876, dated April 27, 1976, established lifeline quantities for all LPG utility companies. Subsequently, the Commission adopted the position of setting LPG lifeline quantities at 60% of average recorded sales by Res. Nos. G-2057 and G-2090, dated March 29, 1977 and June 1, 1977, respectively.

2. Del Norte Gas Co. has determined that the average monthly consumption for residential use is 28.5 therms during the summer and 73.0 therms during the winter; thus, the utility proposes to set lifeline quantities at 15 therms during summer months and 45 therms during winter months, which is approximately 60% of average recorded sales.

3. By Advice Letter No. 21, the utility proposes to increase rates by 27.5¢ per 100 c.f. (approximately 69.3¢ per therm) for all nonlifeline usage, to increase annual revenue \$29,653. This increase consists of \$26,070 in increased LPG fuel costs totaling an additional 6.6 cents per gallon and \$3,583 for annualized costs of cathodic protection; a concept first proposed by Russian River Gas Co. in Advice Letter No. 35-G, and subsequently adopted by Commission Res. No. G-2014, dated January 5, 1977.

4. This rate filing will increase the average residential customer's monthly summer bill of 28.5 therms (1,131 c.f.) by \$1.46 from \$15.32 to \$16.78 and the average winter bill of 73.0 therms (2,897 c.f.) by \$3.02 from \$36.42 to \$39.44 with the equivalent nonlifeline customer's monthly bill increasing by \$2.83 from \$15.32 to \$18.15 in the summer and by \$7.70 from \$36.42 to \$44.12 in the winter.

5. We find that these filings are in conformance with the will and intent of Section 739 of the Public Utilities Code concerning lifeline rates; therefore, good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Authority be granted under Sections 454, 491, and 739 of the Public Utilities Code for Del Norte Gas Co. to place the above advice letters and tariff sheets into effect for meter readings taken on or after December 10, 1977.

2. The above tariff sheets be marked to show that they were issued under Resolution of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California No. G-2175. The effective date of this Resolution is the date hereof.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular conference of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California, held on the 6th day of December, 1977, the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

.....  
Executive Director