

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION NO. G-2238

RESOLUTION

UTILITIES DIVISION
BRANCH/SECTION: Gas
DATE: August 8, 1978

RETURN TO GAS BRANCH

SUBJECT: Order Authorizing Report to be Made Available to the Public

WHEREAS: The report entitled "First Report on Program for the Individual Metering of Multi-Unit Residential Complexes" contains information relative to natural gas metering requirements of Multi-Unit Residential Complexes in California; and

1. The report is based on the California Public Utilities Commission Decision No. 88651 dated April 4, 1978.

2. It would appear to be in the public interest for the information to be released to the public; therefore, good cause appearing,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The above described report be made available to the public, effective this date. 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 8th day of August, 1978, the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

RETURN TO GAS BRANCH

Case No. 9988

Decision No. 88651 (April 4, 1978)

Prepared by: S. K. Gokhale

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Utilities Division
Gas Branch

FIRST

REPORT ON

PROGRAM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL METERING

OF MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL COMPLEXES

CPUC No. S-2425

Cooperative Agreement No.

CA-04-70229-00

Interagency Agreement No.

400-064 (718)

San Francisco, California

July 18, 1978

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Program to Eliminate Master Meters

First Report

July 1978

Section I: Individual Metering of New Residential Facilities.

1. Utilities are required to file tariffs to provide for separate metering of new residential multi-unit facilities including mobile home parks.

Section II: Individual Metering of Existing Residential Facilities.

1. Utilities are required to file proposals by September 11, 1978.
2. A preliminary inquiry has been made by the staff.
3. Utility status.

PG&E - No program yet.

Program preparation in progress.

Contacts: Kermit Kubitz

John Crews

SoCal - No program yet.

Program preparation in progress.

Contact: Walter F. Stanley

SDG&E - Program in effect.

253 conversions as of March 31, 1978.

Amendment to program in progress.

Contacts: Thomas I. Jarrard

J. F. Abeggan

4. Second report to be issued in September, 1978.

Section I:

Individual Metering of New Residential Facilities Including Mobile Home Parks.

Subject:

Ordering Paragraph 4 of the Decision 88651 in Case 9988.

Background:

In Decision 86087 the Commission had expressed concern that: "not metering individual units of multi-unit complexes could encourage wasteful use of energy". In Decision 88651 the Commission found that: "Metering or sub-metering of individual residential units of multi-unit complexes encourages conservation of energy." The tangible way for the consumer of natural gas to determine the results of his conservation efforts is to receive service through his own separate meter. The Commission believes that all new construction of multi-unit complexes should be required to be individually metered where gas service is to be used directly by each individual unit. Ordering Paragraph 4 of Decision 88651 requires that-

"Each respondent gas utility shall file tariffs to provide for separate metering by the utility for gas service to:

- a. New residential mobile home parks where such mobile home tenants use gas directly in gas appliances in each occupancy.
- b. New multi-unit residential structures where such multi-unit tenants use gas directly in gas appliances in each occupancy and which require venting.

If a utility has made a written commitment to provide master-metering service as provided in 4b prior to the effective date of this order, such commitment shall become null and void if construction does not commence within twelve months from the effective date of this order."

Respondent Utilities:

This order applies to all regulated gas utilities within the State of California.

Section II:

Individual Metering of Existing Residential Facilities.

Subject:

Response of Utilities to Ordering Paragraph 5 of D-88651 in Case 9988 Phase II Regarding Separate Metering of Multi-Unit Master Meter Residential Facilities Using Natural Gas.

Background:

Ordering Paragraph 7 of Decision 86087 (dated July 13, 1976) in Case 9988 first required that: "respondent gas and electric utilities shall file proposals for metering of individual multi-unit residential complexes."

Ordering Paragraph 5 of Decision 88651 Phase II in Case 9988 required that: "All respondent electric and gas utilities shall immediately initiate an extensive program or expand upon existing programs to encourage the separate metering of units in existing multi-unit residential facilities now served only through a master meter. Each respondent shall file within ninety days after the effective date of this order a comprehensive outline of their program. Thereafter, each respondent shall file semi-annually a report covering progress achieved and further actions proposed." Decision 88969 in Case 9988 denied Southern California Gas Company's petition for rehearing of Decision 88651. Since the effective date of Decision 88969 was June 13, 1978, the respondent utilities are required to file the comprehensive program reports by September 11, 1978.

In pursuit of the Commission's orders in the above decisions, letters were sent to PG&E, SoCal and SDG&E on June 28, 1978, requesting information about their activities concerning Ordering Paragraph 5 of Decision 88651. Attached are a typical letter and responses. Following is a summary of their response to the information request.

Summary

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Current status of the project effort: PG&E does not have a program in effect that will encourage master meter multi-unit residential customers of natural gas to convert to separate metering or submetering. As a result there has not been any such conversions to date attributable to direct effort by PG&E.

Time table for future programs: PG&E is currently developing a program which they will file before September 11, 1978. No information about any specifics of that program can be obtained at this time.

Primary Responsibility for Programs: 1) Kermit Kubitz
2) John Crews

Southern California Gas Company

Current status of the project effort: SoCal does not have a program in effect currently and no effort has been made to encourage separate metering or submetering.

Time table for future programs: About 5 persons from various departments are devoting a portion of their time in developing a response to Ordering Paragraph 5. No more specific information about the program can be obtained until such program is developed. SoCal is also doubtful about the cost effectiveness of such a program and energy savings resulting thereof.

Primary Responsibility: Walter F. Stanley

San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Current status of the project effort: SDG&E is apparently the only utility having a Conservation Metering Program in effect to encourage separate or sub-metering of multi-unit residential facilities. SDG&E started such an effort since receipt of a letter of request from Mr. Sipe of CPUC dated June 2, 1977. That request pertained to Ordering Paragraph 7 of D-86087 in Case 9988. SDG&E has been filing reports on results of their program periodically for electric as well as gas master meter multi-unit residential facilities. Last such report was filed in April 1978 and following is a summary of their total effort to April 1978.

Master Meter Apartment Conversions

(1)	Master Meters to Individual Meters	Gas Meters
	Reported to 12/31/77	195
	Additional to 3/31/78	32
	Total	227
(2)	Master Meters to Submeters	Gas Meters
	Reported to 12/31/77	None
	Additional to 3/31/78	26
	Total	26

Time table for future programs: SDG&E is developing an amendment to their existing program and will file such an amended program as required by Ordering Paragraph 5 by September 11, 1978.

Number of people working on the response = 5

Number of people expected to work on implementation of such a program when developed = 42 Customer Extension Planners. SDG&E has about 10,000 GM accounts. SDG&E is preparing to send this month a letter and a response card to about 300 of these accounts. These cards will spell out the benefits of submetering and/or separate metering. The response will be analyzed to develop the final amended program to be filed with the Commission.

Primary responsibility for program: Thomas I. Jarrard
J. F. Abegglen