

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA U-9

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R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION NO. G-2373

UTILITIES DIVISION
BRANCH/SECTION GAS/ELECTRIC
DATE: October 22, 1980

SUBJECT: Pacific Gas & Electric Company. Order Authorizing Temporary Deviation from Filed Tariffs to Establish an Experimental Plan for Estimated Billing.

WHEREAS: PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E), by Advice Letters Nos. 1100-G and 817-E, both filed August 15, 1980, requests Commission approval to establish experimental plans applicable to both gas and electric service for estimated billing when a customer's meter cannot be read.

1. The plans deviate from the Preliminary Statement and from Rule No. 9, which requires customer's meters to be read on a regular basis of not less than 27 days nor more than 33 days.
2. The pilot plans, which are set up on a 3 months basis, will be conducted in the Watsonville service area, which has 14,000 single family gas customers and 18,000 single family electric customers and in the Fresno service area with 137,000 gas and 147,000 electric single family customers.
3. Estimated usage will be calculated by applying a seasonal trend or percentage-of-usage change factors to the average daily usage of the customer's last bill. Estimated usage will be the adjusted average daily usage times the number of days in the current billing period and will be billed at current rates.
4. Single-family residential accounts will be estimated if the account was billed in the prior billing period. Commencing bills will not be estimated.
5. Multi-family and small commercial accounts will not be estimated under the experimental plan but may later be estimated if the estimated techniques are proven successful.
6. The deviation with respect to any one customer will not be for more than one billing cycle as no account will receive an estimated bill two months in a row.
7. Any difference between estimated bill and actual usage will be made at the next billing for actual meter reading.
8. Approval as soon as possible is requested in order to conduct the experiment during the heating season, and

WHEREAS: We find that these proposed plans will not increase any rate or charge and will only affect those customers in the test areas, whose meters cannot be read for one reason or another; therefore, good cause appearing.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Authority is granted under Section XA of General Order No. 96-A and under Section 701 of the Public Utilities Code for Pacific Gas & Electric Company to place the above experimental plans into effect as of this date.

2. Each of the above advice letters shall be marked to show that they were accepted for filing under Resolution No. G-2373 of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California. 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 October 22, 1980, the following Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

Executive Director