

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION: G-2632
EVALUATION & COMPLIANCE DIVISION
BRANCH: Energy
DATE: April 3, 1985

RETURN TO ENERGY BRANCH

R E S O L U T I O N

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY (PG&E), GAS, ELECTRIC AND STEAM DEPARTMENTS. ORDER AUTHORIZING IMPLEMENTATION OF THREE REFUND PLANS FOR GAS, ELECTRIC AND STEAM SERVICE FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY \$77,666,000 PLUS APPROPRIATE INTEREST

By Advice Letters Nos. 1310-G, 1061-E and 85-S, all filed February 20, 1985, PG&E requests authorization to implement Gas Refund Plan No. 14, Electric Refund Plan No. 6 and Steam Sales Refund Plan No. 6, respectively, applicable systemwide. The facts are as follows:

1. The proposed refund plans reflect funds received from California Producers (C.P.), El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) and Mountain Fuel Supply Company (Mountain).
2. The total refundable amount, including interest, through January 31, 1985, is reported to be \$77,665,594.75 of which \$23,055,327.75 is allocated to the electric department and \$115,140.87 to the steam department, with the balance of \$54,495,126.13 allocated to the gas department.
3. Additional interest of approximately \$1.6 million will be accrued through the refund month. The interest rate is the variable commercial prime rate compounded monthly, as defined in PG&E's Tariff Rule No. 7.
4. The utility has a balance of \$128,723.81 (including interest through 1/31/85) remaining from the prior refund plan in 1981. This amount has been excluded from these refund plans due to the possible conflict with Cory vs CPUC 33 C.3d 522(1983) and the potential effect of CCP Section 1519.5.
5. Refunds will be made to customers in two phases. Phase I, includes all Priority P-1 customers, and will be made in the billing month following Commission approval (April, 1985) and Phase II, which includes all other customers, will be made in the following billing month.
6. The refund amount reflects overcollections for several time periods between 1979 and 1984. A summary of the refund amounts received and payable (as of 1/31/85) is set forth in Attachment A to this resolution.

7. Rate calculations of refundable amounts will be adjusted to provide for an amount sufficient to refund adjustments upon inquiry. Based on historical data, this contingency fund is approximately 0.25% of the total refundable amount.
8. The total amount to be refunded will be allocated to each class of service in proportion to the revenues billed each class of service during each individual refund period. The allocation of this amount is set forth in Attachment B to this resolution.
9. Prior to allocation to class of service, the total electric refund will be adjusted to exclude amounts which are applicable to PG&E for fuel expenses, under the Annual Energy Rate (AER) and amounts subject to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) jurisdiction. This reduces the total electric refund (as of 1/31/85) from \$23,055,427.75 to \$21,928,595.44.
10. The total amount to be refunded to electric customers will be allocated to each class of service during the 12-month period ending with the current billing date that the refund is made. The allocation of this amount is set forth in Attachment C to this resolution.
11. Phase I of Electric Refund Plan No. 6 will provide refunds to each residential, small light & power (SL&P) and medium light (ML&P) customer which will be equal to the number of kilowatt hours (Kwh) billed in the 12-month period ending with the current billing date multiplied by the refund rate. The refund rate shall be determined by dividing the amount of the refund allocation by the sum total of all Kwh estimated to be utilized in computing refunds to that class.
12. Phase I of Gas Refund Plan No. 14 will provide refunds to each residential and non-residential P-1 customer which will be equal to the number of therms billed in the 12-month period ending with the current billing date multiplied by the refund rate. The refund rate shall be determined by dividing the amount of the refund allocation by the sum total of all therms estimated to be utilized in computing refunds for that class.
13. For residential gas and/or electric customers, with at least 60 days service, but less than 12 months, an estimated 12-months usage will be determined based on recorded experience. Residential customers with less than 60 days service will receive an average residential refund.
14. For each street lighting electric customer, the refund will equal the number of Kwh billed during the refund month multiplied by the refund rate. The refund rate shall be determined as above.

15. Residential refund amounts to each eligible PG&E employee will be reduced by 25% to adjust for employee discount.

16. Refunds for Steam Sales Refund Plan No. 6 will be made to steam customers in the same billing month as the Phase I refunds are made to the gas and/or electric customers and will be equal to the thousands of pounds of steam billed during the refund month multiplied by the refund rate. The refund rate (per 1,000 lbs) shall be determined by dividing the amount of the refund by the total thousands of pounds of steam estimated to be billed to all steam sales customers during the refund month.

17. Phase II of Electric Refund Plan No. 6 will provide refunds to all public authority, railway and large light and power (LL&P) customer and will be equal to the number of Kwh billed in the 12-month period ending with the current billing date multiplied by the refund rate. The refund rate shall be determined by dividing the amount of the refund allocation by the sum total of all Kwh estimated to be utilized in computing refunds for each class.

18. Phase II of Electric Refund Plan No. 6 also includes all agricultural customers who will receive a refund equal to the billing demand during the refund month as though all such customers were billed on Schedule PA-1, multiplied by the refund rate. The refund rate shall be determined as above.

19. Phase II of Gas Refund Plan No. 14 will provide refunds to all customers not designated as Priority P-1 and will be based on the total number of therms sold to each customer during the billing periods of:

June 1, 1980 to January 31, 1981
October 1, 1981 to July 31, 1983

The refund will equal the sum total of all therms sold to that customer during each of the two periods multiplied by the corresponding refund rate. The refund rate will be determined by dividing the amount allocated by the sum total of all therms sold during the two periods.

20. Refunds to eligible active customers will be reflected as a credit to their billing during the refund month with checks mailed to eligible former customers who are locatable.

21. The staff recommends that PG&E be ordered to make reasonable efforts to locate former customers who were customers during the refund period. With respect to P-2, P-3, P-4 and P-6 customers, these efforts should specifically include a search of PG&E's gas priority records (kept to implement Gas Rule 21) covering the refund period to locate these customers.

22. PG&E will evaluate all requests from customers through November 1, 1985, who either did not receive a refund or who contend that the refund is inadequate. Adjustments will be made where deemed appropriate.

23. Each customer receiving a refund credit on his bill will receive a message on the bill detailing the purpose of the refund. PG&E has already submitted press releases in major newspapers throughout the state announcing that the utility was seeking Commission approval to make the refunds. The Commission Staff recommends that PG&E be required to publish notice of the refunds in a newspaper of general circulation in its service territory requesting all who believe they are entitled to a refund to contact PG&E. It is recommended that this notice specifically include former customers.

24. These refund plans has been reviewed by the Evaluation & Compliance Division of the Commission Staff and approval is recommended as long as adequate notice is made through local news media to alert possible former customers as to the availability of the refund.

25. Public notification of these filings have been made by mailing copies of the three advice letters to other utilities, governmental agencies, and to all interested parties who requested such notification. In addition, PG&E made press releases as stated above. The Commission Staff has received no protests in this matter.

26. We find that these filings are just and reasonable and that the refund plans should be implemented as soon as possible in order for the customers to receive the refunds in an expeditious manner. We further find that the staff's recommendations concerning publication and efforts to locate former customers should be adopted in this order.

THEREFORE:

1. Pacific Gas & Electric Company is authorized by Section 453.5 of the Public Utilities Code to place Advice Letters Nos. 1310-G, 1061-E and 85-S into effect as of April 3, 1985, which constitutes regular statutory notice, and to implement Phase I of the respective refund plans for the May, 1985 billing cycle.

2. Pacific Gas & Electric Company shall notify the public of these refunds in accordance with Paragraphs 23 and 24 above.

3. Pacific Gas & Electric Company shall keep records of the refunds and shall submit reports to the Commission on the disposition of any unrefunded amounts by January 31, 1986. These reports shall include specific data as to the results of efforts to locate former customers.

4. The above advice letters and respective refund plans shall each be marked to show that they were authorized for filing by Commission Resolution G-2632. This resolution is effective today.

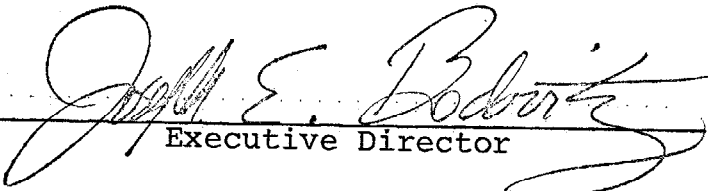
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Meeting of April 3, 1985

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I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on April 3, 1985. The following Commissioners approved it:

DONALD VIAL
President

VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C GREW
WILLIAM T BAGLEY
FREDERICK R. DUDA
Commissioners


Executive Director

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
Summary of Refund Amounts Received and Payable
(as of January 31, 1985)

Source and Docket No.	Date Received	Period Covered	Amount	
			Received	Refundable ¹
<u>California Producers</u>				
RM 84-6-000 RM 84-6-001 RM 84-6-002	10/84-12/84	1/1/82 - 6/30/84	15,548,618.76	15,779,116.35
<u>El Paso</u>				
RP 79-12	4/1/81	6/1/80 - 1/31/81	4,690,033.84	7,263,172.27
RM 78-23 RM 81-37	8/14/81	4/1/79 - 5/31/81	373,128.99	548,756.81
TA 81-2-33 TA 82-1-33 TA 82-2-33	6/81 - 5/82	4/1/81 - 5/31/82	5,080,290.47	7,191,333.19
RP 82-33-000	7/5/83	7/1/82 - 3/31/83	10,129,414.49	11,797,607.42
TA 82-1-33-000	8/19/83	10/1/81 - 3/31/82	4,581,529.15	5,294,452.36
TA 82-2-33 TA 83-1-33	8/1/84	7/1/81 - 3/31/83	2,435,815.20	2,565,085.24
RM 84-6-000 RM 84-6-001 RM 84-6-002	10/84-12/84	10/1/81 - 7/31/83	26,955,592.01	27,251,542.46
<u>Mountain Fuel Supply</u>				
RP 82-162-005 RP 82-162-006 CP 80-78 CP 80-160	1/12/84	2/1/83 - 12/31/83	152,116.07	169,179.26

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
 Summary of Refund Amounts Received and Payable
 (as of January 31, 1985)
 (Continued)

Source and Docket No.	Date Received	Period Covered	Amount	
			Received	Refundable ¹
Total			69,946,538.98	77,860,245.36
less contingency amount (0.25%)				(194,650.61)
Total Refund			69,946,538.98	77,665,594.75

PGandE proposes that the balance of \$128,723.81 from the 1981 refund be excluded from this refund plan due to potential conflict with Cory v. CPUC 33 C.3d 522(1983) and the potential effect of CCP Section 1519.5.

¹Includes accrued interest through (refund month) with interest estimated for (refund month). Interest is compounded monthly at the rates prescribed by the CPUC in Decision No. 91269, dated January 29, 1980.

Allocation of Refunds to Classes of Service

- (a) The total amount to be refunded will be allocated to each class of service in proportion to the revenues billed each class of service during each individual refund period:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Refund Allocation</u>
Residential	\$21,657,385.25
Nonresidential	
G-2 - P1	9,021,793.80
Other	8,117,869.69
G-50	6,759,263.93
G-52	6,167,295.65
G-55A	420,264.76
G-57	500,822.81
G-58	163,521.57
Resale	
G-60	358,060.51
G-61	20,829.26
G-62	7,725.93
G-63	484,454.41
SoCal Gas	815,838.56
<u>Interdepartmental</u>	
Steam	115,140.87
Steam Electric	23,055,327.75
Total	77,665,594.75

- (b) Refund amounts allocated to PGandE's steam electric generating plants and PGandE's steam sales plants shall be further refunded pursuant to Electric Refund Plan No. 6 and Steam Sales Refund Plan No. 6, respectively, which are to be implemented concurrently with this gas refund plan.

Allocation of Electric Refunds to Classes of Service

The total amount to be refunded will be allocated to each class of service in proportion to the sales billed each class of service during the 12-month period ending with the current billing date:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Refund Allocation</u>
Residential	\$ 7,471,908.95
SL & P	2,265,070.68
ML & P	4,917,858.19
Agricultural	1,133,778.02
Street Lighting	116,812.12
Public Authority	148,669.98
Railway	84,502.39
LL & P	5,789,995.11
Total	\$21,928,595.44