

Chapter 1

Introduction

*From
SCE's Manual*



The ESP Handbook

A Guide to Conducting Business with Southern California Edison under Direct Access

***Version 2.5
November 23, 1998***

This draft document was developed to facilitate the implementation of Direct Access and to assist ESPs in understanding SCE's current thinking on policies and procedures associated with Direct Access. The policies, procedures, and business practices described herein may change without prior notice. SCE will attempt to provide updates to this document in as timely a manner as possible.

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Welcome

Dear Electric Service Provider:

Southern California Edison (SCE) is continuing its efforts to make the changes in business practices required for successful implementation of Direct Access in California. As part of this effort, we are providing this update to the Electric Service Provider (ESP) Handbook, which was originally published on October 1, 1997, as part of The ESP Direct Access Kit, Version 1.0. This updated handbook is appropriately designated as **Version 2.5**.

Version 2.5 of the ESP Handbook builds on the original policies and procedures described in Versions 1.0 and 2.0 - 2.4. This handbook remains a work in progress and will be updated as necessary to reflect business process changes and regulatory developments.

We value you as a customer and will continue to work with you to ensure that our relationship is productive and rewarding. Please feel free to contact us at:

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Preface

This handbook has been developed by Southern California Edison (SCE), the regulated utility of Edison International, to be used by Electric Service Providers (ESPs) interested in providing Direct Access services within the SCE service territory. This handbook is intended to provide ESPs with a comprehensive overview of SCE's Direct Access procedures so they can better interact with SCE in establishing and providing Direct Access services.

Please view this book as a source of initial guidance to ESPs interested in providing Direct Access services and interacting with SCE. This ESP Handbook is a work in progress in response to the challenging issues raised by the establishment of the new competitive electric services market. It reflects SCE's current thinking; however, SCE reserves the right to modify this handbook to reflect regulatory and/or business process changes without notice.

All ESPs planning to participate in Direct Access should develop an understanding of the California electricity market restructuring process. We recommend that ESPs review the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) website at www.cpuc.ca.gov for further information on restructuring, including:

- The CPUC May 6, 1997 Decision regarding Direct Access Implementation (D.97-05-040)
- The CPUC October 30, 1997 Decision on Load Profiling (D.97-10-086)
- The CPUC October 30, 1997 Decision on the California UDC's Direct Access Implementation Plans, Tariffs, and Service Agreements (D.97-10-087)
- The CPUC December 3, 1997 Decision on the Meter and Data Communications Standards Workshop Report (D.97-12-048)
- The CPUC December 16, 1997 Decision on the Retail Settlement and Information Flow Workshop and Related Filings (D.97-12-090)
- The CPUC March 26, 1998 Decision regarding Consumer Protection (D.98-03-072)
- The CPUC May 6, 1997, July 2, 1998 and September 17, 1998 Decisions regarding Revenue Cycle Services Unbundling (D.97-05-039, D.98-07-032 and D.98-09-070)
- Other Direct Access Workshop Reports and Comments



The ESP Handbook

Chapter 1 *The New Direct Access Marketplace*

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Chapter 1: The New Direct Access Marketplace

As a result of electric industry restructuring in California, Southern California Edison's (SCE) role in the electricity market has changed. A brief overview of these changes follows.

SCE's Role in Generation

SCE continues to own and operate generation facilities. In the Direct Access market, SCE sells its power directly to the Power Exchange and procures all of its power needs from the Power Exchange. The Power Exchange is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and is independent of the utilities. This entity acts as the central clearinghouse into which all generators may sell their power. Competitors in the market may obtain their required electricity through the Power Exchange or other sources.

SCE's Role in Transmission

Traditional utilities, including SCE, continue to own their transmission facilities, but have turned operational control of these facilities over to the Independent System Operator (ISO). The ISO operates the overall transmission system to ensure that all generation suppliers have equal opportunity to send their electricity through the transmission system to consumers, and to maintain the balance between the supply and demand for electricity. The ISO also assumes responsibility for the safety and reliability of the transmission system.

SCE's Role in Distribution

SCE continues to own and operate the regulated distribution lines in its franchise territory and is responsible for the reliable and safe delivery of electricity to end-use customers. SCE provides energy suppliers, retailers, and aggregators with necessary resources, including distribution services, and dependable and impartial information to ensure that energy suppliers have the necessary resources for participation in the Direct Access market. As part of its distribution role, SCE continues to provide the following services to customers:

- Metering services (ownership, installation, removal, calibration, testing, and maintenance)
- Meter reading and usage data management
- Billing and related services (telephone information centers, payment processing, credit services, etc.)

The Role of Electric Service Providers

In the new competitive electricity marketplace, end-use customers can buy electricity from their current utility, or retail suppliers, known as Electric Service Providers (ESPs). Energy is delivered to consumers in SCE's service territory using SCE's distribution network. Under Direct Access, ESPs can also offer metering and billing services to their customers.

ESPs planning to provide ESP Consolidated Billing will first be required to demonstrate their ability to present SCE charges on their consolidated bill statement in a manner that is satisfactory to SCE.

Direct Access metering services include meter ownership, installation, calibration, maintenance, and meter reading services. For the purposes of Direct Access, an ESP can provide these services by becoming a meter owner, a Meter Service Provider (MSP) –the entity providing installation, calibration and maintenance, and a Meter Data Management Agent (MDMA) –the entity providing meter reading services. An ESP can also contract with a certified MSP and/or a qualified MDMA for the provision of metering services to the ESP's customers.

In order to provide meter services, an MSP must be certified by the CPUC.(Refer to Chapter 7, Section 7.1).

The MDCS Decision also requires an MDMA to be qualified by the utility in order to provide meter data management services. SCE's qualification process is contained in the Meter Data Management Qualification Package distributed at the General meeting held on December 22, 1997. Copies of this may be obtained at <http://www.sce-mdma.com> or by calling the Metering Operations Support Desk at (800) 203-4634.

***From
SDG&E's Manual***

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION FOR ELECTRIC SERVICE PROVIDERS

Introduction

Beginning Jan. 1, 1998, California's electric utility industry will be open to competition. As part of this change, customers will have direct access to providers of electricity, allowing them to buy electricity from a number of *electric service providers* (ESPs).

The information in this guide is to facilitate business between ESPs and SDG&E. Some of the information in this guide is pending final decisions from the California Public Utilities Commission. Much of this information is available on the SDG&E Web site at **www.sdge.com**, including applicable forms and CPUC rulings.

All contacts for working with SDG&E are listed within the text of this manual as well as compiled into a roster in the manual's appendix.

Acronyms used in this manual:

AMT	Advanced Metering Team
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CTC	Competition Transition Charge
DA	Direct Access
DAPC	Direct Access Project Coordinator
DASR	Direct Access Service Request
EDI	Electronic Data Interface
ESP	Electric Service Provider
MDCR	Meter and Data Communications Request
MDCS	Meter and Data Communications Standards
MDMA	Meter Data Management Agent
MPOE	Minimum Point of Entry
MRP	Meter and Revenue Protection
MSP	Meter Service Personnel
UDC	Utility Distribution Company
VAN	Value Added Network

***From
PG&E's Manual***

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