

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



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Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for
Approval of Modifications to its SmartMeter™
Program and Increased Revenue Requirements to
Recover the Costs of the Modifications (U39M).

Application 11-03-014
(Filed March 24, 2011)

And Related Matters.

Application 11-03-015
Application 11-07-020

**THE DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES' RESPONSE
TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE RULING SEEKING
FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THE DIVISION OF
RATEPAYER ADVOCATES MARCH 30, 2012 MOTION AND REQUEST
TO WITHDRAW MARCH 30, 2012 MOTION**

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May 24, 2012

I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rule 11.4 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission), the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) respectfully submits this response to the May 15, 2012 Administrative Law Judge Ruling Seeking Further Information Regarding the March 30, 2012 Motion Filed by the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (ALJ Ruling). Based on the information provided in this response, DRA respectfully withdraws its March 30, 2012 “Motion for Leave to File under Seal” (Motion) certain information set forth in a written *ex parte* communication that occurred that day.

II. DISCUSSION

DRA filed its Motion requesting confidential status for portions of its report “Case Study of Smart Meter System Deployment: Recommendations for Ensuring Ratepayer Benefits” attached to the Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication filed on March 30, 2012. DRA redacted the information for which it sought confidential status from the public version of the report.

DRA’s Motion stated that the confidential information addresses the costs and benefits of deployment of Southern California Edison’s (SCE) “SmartConnect” advanced metering infrastructure to date. Based on communications with representatives of SCE, DRA asserted that the information redacted from the public version of the report, “is deemed market sensitive, and has been designated confidential pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 583 and General Order 66-C.”¹

The ALJ Ruling directs DRA and/or SCE to submit additional information in support of DRA’s assertion, including:

- Any prior Commission ruling which examined the information at issue and determined it to qualify under the Commission’s rules to be sealed from public view;
- Specific legal authority for finding a basis to exclude each piece of information at issue from public disclosure;

¹ DRA Motion, p.1.

- An argument for why each piece of information at issue qualifies for the proposed exclusion; and
- The specific period of time that the identified information shall remain under seal.

In the process of preparing the response to the ALJ Ruling, SCE determined that the redacted information was in fact, not market sensitive or confidential. DRA therefore no longer considers the information market sensitive or confidential and respectfully withdraws its motion.

III. CONCLUSION

Because SCE no longer considers information redacted from the public version of DRA respectfully withdraws Motion for Leave to File under Seal” certain information set forth in a written *ex parte* communication that occurred March 30, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ **DIANA L. LEE**

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