

DMG/ar9 7/27/2015



**FILED**  
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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding Policies, Procedures and Rules for Development of Distribution Resources Plans Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 769.

Rulemaking 14-08-013  
(Filed August 14, 2014)  
  
(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Approval of Its Distribution Resources Plan.

Application 15-07-002  
(Filed July 1, 2015)  
  
(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E) For Approval of Distribution Resource Plan.

Application 15-07-003  
(Filed July 1, 2015)  
  
(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

In the Matter of the Application of PacifiCorp (U901E) Setting Forth its Distribution Resource Plan Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 769.

Application 15-07-005  
(Filed July 1, 2015)  
  
(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

In the Matter of the Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Adoption of its Electric Distribution Resources Plan Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 769 (U39E).

Application 15-07-006  
(Filed July 1, 2015)  
  
(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

Application of Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric) LLC (U933E) for Approval of Its Distribution Resources Plan.

Application 15-07-007  
(Filed July 1, 2015)

(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

In the Matter of the Application of Golden State Water Company on Behalf of its Bear Valley Electric Service Division (U913E) for Approval of its Distribution Resource Plan.

Application 15-07-008  
(Filed July 1, 2015)

(NOT CONSOLIDATED)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING 1) CONSOLIDATING PROCEEDINGS; 2) SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE, AND 3) GRANTING MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

**1. Consolidation of Proceedings**

Rulemaking (R.) 14-08-013 was opened to provide guidance to utilities regarding their July 1, 2015 Distribution Resource Plan (DRP) filings. An Assigned Commissioner's Ruling was issued on February 6, 2015, providing detailed guidance on the content and structure for such filings. That Ruling at 13 stated: "Given that the DRPs may necessitate cost recovery to be fully implemented, the Utilities are directed to file the DRPs as Applications which the Commission may then consolidate with this Rulemaking into a single proceeding."

The subject matter of the six DRP Applications overlap considerably with R.14-08-013. Further, the six Applications appear to raise issues which should be considered together. It would be more efficient both for parties and the Commission to consolidate these proceedings to allow consistent and effective consideration of DRP issues. Therefore, this Ruling consolidates the six DRP Applications with each other and R.14-08-013.

## **2. Prehearing Conference**

The prehearing conference for the consolidated Applications and R.14-08-013 will be held on September 23, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Courtroom at 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. At the prehearing conference, parties should be prepared to discuss whether one or more of the Applications should be considered on a different timeline than the others.

## **3. Motion for Extension of Time**

On July 21, 2015, pursuant to Commission Rule 11.6, the Interstate Renewable Energy Council, Inc. (IREC) submitted a motion for extension of time to protest or respond to the DRP Applications filed by the utilities on July 1, 2015. IREC requests that protests and responses be due on August 31, 2015.

Under Commission Rule 2.6(a), “[u]nless otherwise provided by rule, decision, or General Order, a protest or response must be filed within 30 days of the date the notice of the filing of the application first appears in the Daily Calendar.” The plans from Southern California Edison Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company appeared on the Daily Calendar on July 2, 2015, and the plans from PacifiCorp, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Liberty Utilities, and Bear Valley Electric Service appeared on the Daily Calendar on July 3, 2015, but since August 1 and August 2 are weekend days, protests and responses to all plans would be due August 3, 2015.

IREC requests a four-week extension of time to respond to the plans because: a) parties must review up to six separate applications, several of which exceed 300 pages in length; b) the plans contain detailed and highly technical information, which will take parties more than 30 days to evaluate and assess; c) some utilities have indicated that they will hold meetings to discuss their DRPs and answer questions, however these are not expected to occur until the

end of July; d) the DRPs represent an important step toward a new paradigm for distribution planning in California and it is essential that they receive thorough evaluation from interested parties on each of their components; and e) many parties interested in the DRP applications are also currently engaged in the Commission's proceeding to develop a successor tariff or contract to net metering, the "NEM 2.0" proceeding (R.14-07-002), and are concurrently developing detailed proposals due in that docket on August 3, 2015.

A number of parties to R.14-08-013 expressed support for an extension and no party indicated an objection to the extension. The Motion is granted.

Due to the expected complexity of protests and/or responses to the Applications, I will also extend the time for Applicants' replies per Rule 2.6(e). The due date for replies will be September 15, 2015.

**IT IS RULED** that:

1. Rulemaking 14-08-013 and Applications (A.) 15-07-002, A.15-07-003, A.15-07-005, A.15-07-006, A.15-07-007 and A.15-07-008 are hereby consolidated.
2. A prehearing conference for the consolidated proceedings is set for September 23, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission Courtroom in San Francisco.

3. The date for protests and responses to Applications (A.) 15-07-002, A.15-07-003, A.15-07-005, A.15-07-006, A.15-07-007 and A.15-07-008 are hereby extended to August 31, 2015. The date for applicants to reply to any protests or responses is hereby set as September 15, 2015.

Dated July 27, 2015, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ DAVID M. GAMSON

David M. Gamson  
Administrative Law Judge