



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

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Continue  
Implementation and Administration, and  
Consider Further Development of California  
Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Rulemaking 15-02-020  
(Filed February 26, 2015)

**JOINT NOTICE OF *EX PARTE* COMMUNICATION**

Pursuant to Rule 8.4 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) hereby give notice of the following joint *ex parte* communication. The communication occurred on Thursday, August 11, 2016, at 2:30 PM at the San Francisco offices of California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and lasted for approximately 30 minutes. The communication was oral. No written materials were provided.

Matt Plummer, State Agency Representative, Regulatory Affairs, PG&E, initiated the communication with Jennifer Kalafut, Energy Advisor to Commissioner Carla Peterman. Ehren Seybert, Energy Advisor to Commissioner Peterman, participated via telephone. Dawn Anaiscourt, Director, CPUC Regulatory Affairs, SCE, and Billy Blattner, Manager, Regulatory Relations, SDG&E, were also in attendance.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss changes to the Bioenergy Market Adjusting Tariff (BioMAT) program. Mr. Plummer, Ms. Anaiscourt, and Mr. Blattner noted that many of the issues raised by parties—like changes to the starting price—were

litigated and rejected in the original BioMAT proceeding. The program is being revisited this year because of the tree mortality emergency.<sup>1</sup> Thus, any changes to the program should be directly related to the emergency and linked to the use of high hazard fuel zone (HHZ), as designated by Cal Fire. They also stated that removal of a requirement for a valid interconnection study is consistent with bioenergy parties' position that interconnection certainty is sufficient to facilitate the procurement of forest biomass. If the Commission requires additional change beyond interconnection, the IOUs believe switching to monthly auctions, reducing the price acceptance period from 10 to 5 business days and reducing the market depth requirements for downward adjustments would cost ratepayers less than other alternatives proposed by industry parties.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Erik B. Jacobson

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/10.30.15\\_Tree\\_Mortality\\_State\\_of\\_Emergency.pdf](https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/10.30.15_Tree_Mortality_State_of_Emergency.pdf)