



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Docket #: A.11-03-014

**CPUC SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON SMART METER
OPT OUT COSTS AND ALLOCATION**

SAN FRANCISCO, December 10, 2012 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has scheduled five Public Participation Hearings to hear from consumers about costs and cost allocation issues associated with providing an analog opt-out option for residential customers who do not wish to have a wireless gas or electric Smart Meter installed at their location.

Each Public Participation Hearing will run for two hours at the following locations:

BAKERSFIELD (PG&E and SoCalGas territories)

December 13, 2012, 6 p.m.
Bakersfield City Hall Council Chambers
1501 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93301

SANTA BARBARA (PG&E, SCE, and SoCalGas territories)

December 14, 2012, 3 p.m.
County Administration Building Board Hearing Room, 4th Floor
105 East Anapamu St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101

LOS ANGELES (SCE and SoCalGas territories)

December 17, 2012, 6 p.m.
Junipero Serra State Office Building
Carmel Room - Auditorium, 1st Floor
320 West 4th St., Los Angeles, CA 90013

SAN CLEMENTE (SCE, SoCalGas, and SDG&E territories)

December 18, 2012, 6 p.m.
San Clemente Community Center – Ole Hanson Fireside Room
100 N. Calle Seville, San Clemente, CA 92672

SANTA ROSA (PG&E territory)



December 20, 2012, 2 p.m.
Steel Lane Community Center – Dohn Room
415 Steele Ln., Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) will have representatives at the Public Participation Hearings to assist attendees who have questions or concerns. Intervenors may also provide representatives at the hearings. No presentations by the utilities or intervenors will be allowed. A time limit may be imposed, if necessary, to ensure that all members of the public are provided an opportunity to speak.

On February 1, 2012, the CPUC issued a Decision (D.12-02-014) that modified PG&E's Smart Meter program to include an opt out option. Similar decisions were issued for SDG&E (D.12-04-019) and SCE (D.12-04-018). These decisions adopted interim fees for customers electing to opt-out and directed that a separate phase be initiated to consider cost and cost allocation issues associated with opt-out options. The Public Participation Hearings are being held as part of this process.

Currently, customers participating in the opt-out option are assessed an initial fee of \$75 and a monthly charge of \$10 thereafter. Customers enrolled in the CPUC's low income program (California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE)) electing to opt-out are assessed an initial fee of \$10 and a monthly charge of \$5.

If special accommodations, such as assisted listening devices or language interpreters, are needed in order to attend a hearing, please send an email to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov or call toll free at 866-849-8390 or toll free TTY at 866-836-7825 at least three business days before the hearing date.

Written comments may be submitted to: CPUC Public Advisor, 505 Van Ness Ave., Room 2103, San Francisco, CA 94102 or via email to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov. Please refer to Application number A.11-03-014 on any written or email correspondence. All public comments received are provided to the CPUC's Commissioners and the Administrative Law Judge assigned to the case.

While a quorum of Commissioners and/or their staff may attend the Public Participation Hearings,

no official action will be taken.

For more information on Smart Meters, please visit

www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Demand+Response/ami.htm.

For more information on Public Participation Hearings, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/PPH.

For more information on the CPUC, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov.

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