

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902G) and Southern California Gas Company (U904G) for Authority To Revise Their Rates Effective January 1, 2013, in Their Triennial Cost Allocation Proceeding.

Application 11-11-002
(Filed November 1, 2011)

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE**Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to December 23, 2013.

Background

Public Utilities Code Section 1701.5 provides that ratesetting matters such as this application shall be resolved within 18 months of issuance of the scoping memo for the proceeding, unless the Commission makes findings why that statutory deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending the 18-month deadline for a period not exceeding 60 days.

In this proceeding, the scoping memo was issued on February 24, 2012, therefore the 18-month deadline for resolving the proceeding was August 25, 2013. On August 15, 2013, the Commission issued Decision 13-08-016 and extended the statutory deadline to October 24, 2013. On November 1, 2011, San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Gas Company filed this application to revise rate for gas services on their respective systems effective

January 1, 2013. On December 21, 2011, the assigned Commissioner issued a ruling in this proceeding and in Rulemaking (R.) 11-02-019, modifying the schedule to allow operators to respond to Consumer Protection and Safety Division Reports and providing further direction on the reassignment of certain reasonableness, cost allocation, and cost recovery issues from the rulemaking to another proceeding.

On January 13, 2012, several parties filed protests to the application. On April 17, 2013, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued a ruling admitting specific documents from R.11-02-019 into the record of this proceeding. A series of evidentiary hearings were held and parties have been very active in this proceeding. A ruling was issued on July 26, 2013, to continue tracking interim pipeline safety enhancement plan costs in authorized Memorandum Accounts.

The outstanding issues are complex, highly contested and are very expensive. Consequently the analysis has been and continues to be slow and difficult to make the optimum long-term decisions warranted by the issues. Therefore, a 60-day extension of the statutory deadline until December 23, 2013, is necessary.

Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of decisions extending the deadline for resolving ratesetting proceedings. We waive the period for public review and comment pursuant to this rule.

Assignment of Proceeding

Michel Peter Florio is the assigned Commissioner and Douglas Long is the assigned ALJ in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. On August 15, 2013, the Commission issued Decision 13-08-016 extending the statutory deadline to October 24, 2013.
2. An extension of time until December 23, 2013 is necessary in order to allow a thorough review of complex contested issues.

Conclusions of Law

1. Pursuant to the authority granted the Commission under Public Utilities Code Section 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline for this proceeding should be extended to December 23, 2013.
2. Pursuant to Rule 14.6(c)(4), the comment period for the proposed decision should be waived.

IT IS ORDERED that the extension of the statutory deadline for this proceeding is extended to December 23, 2013.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____, at Redding, California.