

Decision 16-09-059 September 29, 2016

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Approval of its Energy Savings Assistance and California Alternate Rates for Energy Programs and Budgets for Program Years 2015-2017.

Application 14-11-007
(Filed November 18, 2014)

And Related Matters.

Application 14-11-009
Application 14-11-010
Application 14-11-011

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to December 8, 2016.

1. Background

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a) provides that ratesetting cases must be resolved within 18 months of the date the scoping memo is issued 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. The scoping memo for this proceeding was issued on April 10, 2015, and the deadline for resolving the issues in this proceeding is October 9, 2016.

These consolidated proceedings were initiated when the four large Investor Owned Utilities, filed their applications for the 2015-2017 California Alternate Rates for Energy and Energy Savings Assistance Program (ESAP).

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SCE), and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), filed their applications on November 18, 2014.

A prehearing conference was held on February 20, 2015. Evidentiary hearings were held on June 17-19, 2015. An oral argument was held on May 9, 2016, at which time the proceedings were submitted. The Commission has issued several important decisions in this proceeding. In Decision (D.) 15-12-024 dated December 17, 2015, the Commission adopted bridge funding from January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016. On the same date, D.15-12-047 approved the establishment of the Community Help and Awareness of Natural Gas and Electricity Services as an ongoing statewide program, effective January 1, 2016. On April 21, 2016, D.16-04-040, directed SoCalGas and SCE to take immediate steps to enhance, their ESAP efforts in low-income communities affected by the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility natural gas leak. On June 9, 2016, D.16-06-018 extended the bridge fund period authorized in D.15-12-024, from July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

On August 16, 2016, a proposed decision (PD) and alternate proposed decision (APD) was issued for public review and comment. These items were placed on the Commission's Agenda of September 15, 2016, as Item 50, and Item 50a. A Ratesetting Deliberative Meeting (RDM) was held on September 12, 2016, and these items were held to the October 13, 2016 Commission Meeting to provide the parties a second round of comments to the PD and APD resulting from input at the RDM and Party Comments. Therefore, an extension of the deadline is needed to allow time to review input from the Commission and Parties and revise the PD and APD as appropriate. Today's decision extends the deadline to December 8, 2016.

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 proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving quasi-legislative proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment is being waived.

Assignment of Proceeding

Catherine J.K. Sandoval is the assigned Commissioner and W. Anthony Colbert is the assigned ALJ in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The scoping memo for this proceeding was issued on April 15, 2015.
2. The deadline for resolving this proceeding is October 9, 2016.
3. The Commission has issued several major decisions in this proceeding.
4. An extension of the statutory deadline is needed to review input from the Commission and Parties and revise the PD and APD as appropriate. Today's decision extends the deadline to December 8, 2016.

Conclusions of Law

1. The deadline imposed by Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a) should be extended by 60 days.
2. In accordance with Rule 14.6(c)(4), the comment period is waived.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended to December 8, 2016.

This order is effective today.

Dated September 29, 2016, at San Francisco, California.

MICHAEL PICKER

President

MICHEL PETER FLORIO

CATHERINE J.K. SANDOVAL

LIANE M. RANDOLPH

Commissioners

Commissioner Carla J. Peterman, being necessarily absent, did not participate.