

Decision 16-11-023, November 10, 2016

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Investigation and Ordering Pacific Gas and Electric Company to Appear and Show Cause Why It Should not be Sanctioned for Violations of Article 8 and Rule 1.1 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure and Public Utilities Code Sections 1701.2 and 1701.3.

Investigation 15-11-015
(Filed November 23, 2015)

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to May 17, 2017.

1. Background

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(e) provides that adjudication cases must be resolved within 12 months of initiation unless the Commission makes findings why that deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending that deadline. In this proceeding, the 12-month deadline for resolving this proceeding is November 18, 2016.

The parties are engaged in a lengthy and detailed meet-and-confer process to resolve as many issues as possible. On October 14, 2016, the parties filed and served a joint status report with a proposed procedural schedule that would conclude their settlement efforts in January, 2017. To allow the parties to complete their settlement efforts and to prepare a decision, the statutory deadline should be extended.

In the parties' joint status report of October 14, 2016, the parties request until January 12, 2017, to complete settlement discussions and to file a status report on January 13, 2017. If the parties are not able to resolve the issues in this proceeding, they propose a schedule that concludes with briefing and submission of this proceeding in February, 2017. Pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(a), the decision in this matter must be filed with the Commission and served upon all parties to the action or proceeding not later than 60 days after the matter has been submitted for decision. Therefore, an extension of the statutory deadline until May 17, 2017, is necessary to allow the parties to complete settlement discussions or file briefs, and to prepare and file a proposed decision.

2. 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 adjudicatory proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment on an extension order issued pursuant to § 1701.2(e) is being waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

President Michael Picker is the assigned Commissioner and Robert Mason III is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this adjudication proceeding is November 18, 2016.

2. The Parties plan to begin settlement talks on November 30, 2016, and will pursue settlement talks in good faith in the time contemplated by the schedule the parties have proposed.

3. An extension of the statutory deadline until May 17, 2017, is necessary to allow the parties to complete settlement discussions.

Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to the Commission's authority under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(e), the statutory deadline should be extended to May 17, 2017.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until May 17, 2017.

This order is effective today.

Dated November 10, 2016, at San Francisco, California.

MICHAEL PICKER
President
MICHEL PETER FLORIO
CATHERINE J.K. SANDOVAL
CARLA J. PETERMAN
LIANE M. RANDOLPH
Commissioners