

Decision 18-11-055 November 29, 2018

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Authority to Increase its Authorized Revenues for Electric Service in 2018, among other things, and to Reflect that increase in Rates.

Application 16-09-001

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to June 3, 2019.

1. Background

Based on the filing date of this Application, the version of Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a)¹ then in effect provided that ratesetting cases shall be resolved within 18 months of the date the scoping memo issued, unless the Commission establishes an alternative timeline in the Scoping Memo or issues an order extending that deadline. On December 2, 2016, the Scoping Memo was issued in this proceeding setting the statutory deadline for June 3, 2018. Decision (D.) 18-05-045, issued on May 31, 2018, extended the statutory deadline to December 3, 2018. This decision further extends the statutory deadline to June 3, 2019.

¹ This proceeding was filed prior to changes made to Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a). These changes only apply to cases filed after December 31, 2016.

On September 1, 2016, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) filed this application to increase its authorized revenue, electric rates, and charges effective January 1, 2018. A Prehearing Conference was held on October 25, 2016, followed by Public Participation Hearings in the cities of Fontana, Lancaster, Azusa, Long Beach, South Gate, Santa Ana, Santa Barbara, and Oxnard. Evidentiary Hearings were held on July 13 through August 2, 2017 and on March 19, 2018.

On September 14, 2017, the Commission issued D.17-09-007 adopting as filed, a settlement agreement between SCE and the City of Lancaster. In this decision, the Commission approved SCE's proposal to modify its Community Choice Aggregator fee structure. The proceeding remained open to resolve SCE's application.

On December 22, 2017, the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 was signed into law. This law reduced the federal income tax rate from 35% to 21%, along with other changes which affect SCE's revenue requirement and Results of Operations model. In order to address these changes, the assigned Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) required additional testimony and scheduled an additional day of hearing on March 19, 2018. Thereafter, oral argument was held on June 20, 2018 and numerous rulings have been issued to address motions filed by the parties and to identify and admit into evidence additional exhibits. An extension of time beyond the current statutory deadline of December 3, 2018, is necessary so that the Proposed Decision may address these changes and for the Commission to consider the Proposed Decision. Therefore, the statutory deadline of this proceeding is extended until June 3, 2019.

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 ratesetting proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment is being waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Michael Picker is the assigned Commissioner and Stephen C. Roscow and Eric Wildgrube are the assigned ALJs in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this ratesetting proceeding is December 3, 2018.
2. On September 14, 2017, the Commission issued D.17-09-007 adopting as filed, a settlement agreement between SCE and the City of Lancaster.
3. Decision 18-05-045 issued on May 31, 2018, extended the statutory deadline to December 3, 2018.
4. An extension of the statutory deadline is necessary to issue and consider the Proposed Decision including the impact of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 on SCE's application.

Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code §1701.5(a), the statutory deadline should be extended to June 3, 2019.

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until June 3, 2019.

2. Application 16-09-001 remains open.

This order is effective today.

Dated November 29, 2018, at San Francisco, California.

MICHAEL PICKER

President

CARLA J. PETERMAN

LIANE M. RANDOLPH

MARTHA GUZMAN ACEVES

CLIFFORD RECHTSCHAFFEN

Commissioners