

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**FILED**

12-15-09  
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Application of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS  
COMPANY (U-904-G) for Approval of Advanced  
Metering Infrastructure.

Application 08-09-023

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**

Pursuant to Rule 8.3(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, The Utility Reform Network (TURN) gives notice of the following *ex parte* communication. On December 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Messiah Lutheran Church in Los Angeles, California, Dr. Mark Toney of TURN participated in an *ex parte* conversation with Commissioner Timothy Simon, his advisor Paul Phillips, and Jamie Fordyce, advisor to Commissioner Dian Grueneich, at a community forum hosted by the Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches. TURN did not present any written materials during this forum.

Dr. Toney addressed the fundamental problems with the Southern California Gas Company's proposal to replace all of its natural gas meters at a cost of \$1 billion and the loss of nearly 1,000 union meter reader jobs. He emphasized that the customer benefits of the SoCalGas proposal would go to only 13% of the utility's customers, while most other customers will see higher rates as a result of the meter replacement program. Dr. Toney pointed out the clear benefit to SoCalGas of investing an additional \$1 billion in rate base and earning its authorized return on this additional amount for years to come. Given the current economic conditions in SoCalGas's service territory and the fact that most meter readers come from communities of color (as this position has

been a key to recruitment of communities of color into utility work forces), it would be particularly damaging to approve the utility's proposal at this time. Dr. Toney also mentioned alternatives such as solar thermal water heating programs that could serve to create thousands of new jobs and deliver immediate and long-term customer and conservation benefits.

Copies of this Notice may be obtained by contacting Larry Wong at 415-929-8876, x. 300 or [adminassistant@turn.org](mailto:adminassistant@turn.org).

December 15, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By:           /S/          

Robert Finkelstein  
Legal Director

**THE UTILITY REFORM NETWORK**  
115 Sansome Street, Suite 900  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Phone: (415) 929-8876  
Fax: (415) 929-1132  
E-mail: [bfinkelstein@turn.org](mailto:bfinkelstein@turn.org)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Larry Wong, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

On December 22, 2009 I served the attached:

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION**

on all eligible parties on the attached lists **A.08-09-023** by sending said document by electronic mail to each of the parties via electronic mail, as reflected on the attached Service List.

Executed this December 22, 2009, at San Francisco, California.

/S/  
Larry Wong

**Service List for A.08-09-023**

apetersen@rhoads-sinon.com  
asteinberg@semprautilities.com  
barbalex@ctel.net  
bboyd@aclaratech.com  
bheeshm.chaudhary@db.com  
bjeider@ci.burbank.ca.us  
bschuman@pacific-crest.com  
cadowney@cadowneylaw.com  
carl.wood@verizon.net  
carter.b.shoop@db.com  
case.admin@sce.com  
cem@newsdata.com  
ceyap@earthlink.net  
cguss@anaheim.net  
cjb@cpuc.ca.gov  
ctd@cpuc.ca.gov  
dean.bethmann@itron.com  
eklinkner@cityofpasadena.net  
george.uran@sensus.com  
ghealy@semprautilities.com  
jbf@cpuc.ca.gov  
jeff@jbsenergy.com  
jerry.utecht@itron.com  
jhe@cpuc.ca.gov  
jleslie@luce.com  
john.quealy@canaccordadams.com  
jrohrbach@rrienergy.com  
kirby.bosley@jpmorgan.com  
kmc@cpuc.ca.gov  
lmi@cpuc.ca.gov  
loe@cpuc.ca.gov  
map@cpuc.ca.gov  
mark.sigal@canaccordadams.com  
miino@rhoads-sinon.com  
mrw@mrwassoc.com  
npedersen@hanmor.com  
nsuetake@turn.org  
paul.gendron@JPMorgan.com  
pk@utilitycostmanagement.com  
rcavalleri@semprautilities.com  
rl4@cpuc.ca.gov  
rmason@rwbaird.com  
rmorillo@ci.burbank.ca.us  
robert.pettinato@ladwp.com  
rothenergy@sbcglobal.net  
rprince@semprautilities.com  
sdebross@rhoads-sinon.com  
sendo@cityofpasadena.net  
sjkeene@iid.com  
slins@ci.glendale.ca.us  
spatrick@sempra.com

ssciortino@anaheim.net  
tar@cpuc.ca.gov  
wharrison@rwbaird.com