



FILED

03-10-11

09:18 AM

VDR/jyc 3/10/2011

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Michael Hetherington and Janet Hetherington

Complainants,

vs.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U39E)

Defendant.

Case 10-10-010
(Filed October 13, 2010)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

A prehearing conference (PHC) in this matter is set for April 8, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's Courtroom located at 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California. The purpose of a PHC is to determine the parties, positions of the parties, scope and schedule of the proceeding, and other procedural matters.

The parties are directed to file and serve a PHC statement no later than ten days before the scheduled PHC. Each party's PHC statement must include the following:

1. A concise statement of each issue to be heard in this matter;
2. A statement whether the party intends to conduct discovery;
3. A proposed procedural schedule for bringing this matter to a conclusion; and

4. An indication whether the party is amenable to attempting to resolve this dispute by mediation or other means of alternative dispute resolution, as described below.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

The Commission provides trained Administrative Law Judges (other than the ALJ assigned to this proceeding), without cost to the parties, to serve as facilitators, mediators, and early neutral evaluators to assist the parties in resolving their dispute. For more information about the Commission's ADR program, please go to the Commission's website at www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/adr/. Alternatively, the parties may select another ADR provider to assist them at their own expense, so long as the ADR process does not delay the schedule established for this proceeding.

Ex Parte Rules

Adjudicatory proceedings such as this complaint case are subject to the ex parte ban set out in Section 1701.2 (b) of the Public Utilities Code as further explained in the Commission's Rules, Article 8 (beginning with Rule 8.1). The prohibition extends to communications between any party and a decisionmaker (including all Commissioners, Commissioners' advisors and the assigned Administrative Law Judge) concerning any substantive matter having to do with the case, unless the communication occurs in a public hearing or on the record. Accordingly, letters, emails, and conversations (whether by telephone or in person) that concern substantive matters, rather than purely procedural ones, are not permitted.

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated March 10, 2011, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ VICTOR D. RYERSON

Victor D. Ryerson
Administrative Law Judge