

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

The Painted Turtle,

Complainant,

v.

Southern California Edison Company,

Defendant.

Case 05-07-007  
(Filed July 12, 2005)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING  
DIRECTING DEFENDANT TO PROVIDE CERTAIN INFORMATION IN  
ANSWER; SETTING TELEPHONIC PREHEARING CONFERENCE (PHC);  
AND CALLING FOR PHC STATEMENTS**

On July 12, 2005, The Painted Turtle filed this complaint against Southern California Edison Company (Edison) concerning a billing and meter reading dispute. The Commission served Edison with instructions to answer on July 21, 2005; thus, Edison's answer is currently due on August 22, 2005.

If the parties are unable to settle this matter prior to Edison filing its answer, this ruling directs Edison to set forth certain information in its answer. The ruling also sets a telephonic PHC and directs the parties to file PHC statements prior to the PHC.

**Edison's Answer**

In addition to other information Edison wishes to include in its answer to its complaint, Edison shall set forth the following information:

- Complainant does not allege any interruption in service. However, Edison should state whether service to complainant continues while this controversy is pending, and if so, how the parties are currently addressing the disputed bill.
- Why Edison changed the metering system from a multiple to a single meter system in late 2003.
- Whether Edison checked the single meter installed in late 2003 to determine whether it was operating properly. If so, when did this test occur and did Edison provide complainant with detailed results and an explanation of its meter testing?
- The reasons for Edison's installation of a new meter system in early 2005.
- The amount of complainant's monthly energy bill and the amount of energy used, by month, for 15 months preceding the 2003 meter change and for each month following the 2003 meter change.
- Why Edison did not bill complainant regularly for the period of January 12, 2004 through October 7, 2004, and why Edison had to back-bill complainant.
- Why Edison billed the complainant at the GS-2 rate during the disputed billing period.

## **PHC**

This ruling sets a telephonic PHC for Tuesday, August 30, 2005, commencing at 10:00 a.m. Parties shall call the following toll free number: 1-877-347-9604. The participant password is 771069. The PHC will be transcribed. A PHC is called to determine the parties, positions of the parties, issues, and other procedural matters.

### **PHC Statements**

Parties shall file PHC statements no later than Wednesday, August 24, 2005. The parties shall meet and confer prior to filing the PHC statements. The PHC statements shall address (a) the possibilities of settlement; (b) the need for hearing (i.e., state whether hearings are necessary and if so, list the material issues of disputed fact which require an evidentiary hearing; (c) the issues to be considered; (d) the proposed schedule for the proceeding in order for the Commission to resolve this proceeding within 12 months of its initiation (see Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(d)); and other procedural issues necessary for a prompt resolution of this proceeding.<sup>1</sup>

#### **IT IS RULED that:**

1. Southern California Edison Company (Edison) shall include the information set forth in the ruling in its answer.
2. The Commission has set a telephonic prehearing conference (PHC) in the above-captioned matter for Tuesday, August 30, 2005, commencing at 10:00 a.m. The toll-free participant call-in number is set forth in the text of this ruling.
3. Parties shall file PHC statements no later than Wednesday, August 24, 2005. A temporary service list is attached to this ruling. The parties shall also serve the counsel for Edison who files a response to this complaint (this has not yet been filed, so this name cannot now be added to the temporary service list.) Please also serve the undersigned with PHC statements by same day email service at [jjj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jjj@cpuc.ca.gov).

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<sup>1</sup> Complainant has addressed some of these issues in the complaint, but may elaborate on them if it wishes. Edison has not yet responded to the complaint, and therefore has not addressed these issues.

4. Parties shall not wait for the PHC to commence discovery. If the parties are unable to resolve discovery disputes, they may tender their discovery disputes to the Commission pursuant to the procedure set forth in Resolution ALJ-164.

Dated July 28, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JANET A. ECONOME

Janet A. Econome  
Administrative Law Judge

**ATTACHMENT  
Temporary Service List**

Appearances

David Blake Chatfield  
2625 Townsgate Road, Suite 330  
Westlake Village, CA 91361  
Telephone: 805/267-1220  
Facsimile: 805-267-1211  
For: The Painted Turtle

Southern California Edison Company  
Attention: Consumer Affairs  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, Room 390  
Rosemead, CA 91770

State Service

Los Angeles Docket Office  
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
LAdocket@cpuc.ca.gov

Janet A. Econome  
Administrative Law Judge Division  
505 Van Ness Avenues, Room 5113  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 703-1494  
jjj@cpuc.ca.gov

Information Only

The Painted Turtle  
1300 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Santa Monica, CA 90401  
(310) 451-1353

**(END OF ATTACHMENT)**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Directing Defendant to Provide Certain Information in Answer; Setting Telephonic Prehearing Conference (PHC); and Calling for PHC Statements on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated July 28, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID  
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Fannie Sid

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

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The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074,

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TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.