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

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Revisit Net
Energy Metering Tariffs Pursuant to Decision
D.16-01-044, and to Address Other Issues
Related to Net Energy Metering.

R.20-08-020

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
COMPANY (U 338-E), PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (U 39-E) AND
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY (U 902-E)**

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Dated: March 2, 2021

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Pursuant to Rule 8.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) (collectively, the Utilities)¹ hereby give notice of possible *ex parte* communications in the above-captioned proceeding. While *ex parte* communications may not have occurred to date and may not occur in the future, the Utilities provide this notice in an abundance of caution.

The communications at issue will come in the form of digital advertising and social media posts on Twitter and Facebook and will be delivered by Affordable Clean Energy for All (“ACEA” or “Coalition”) -- a coalition of diverse interests including seniors, environmental, faith-based, small-business environmental, community and clean energy organizations as well as

¹ Pursuant to Rule 1.8(d) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, PG&E and SDG&E have authorized SCE to sign and tender this notice on their behalf.

the Utilities. Examples of the digital advertising and social media effort are attached hereto as Attachment A. In addition, the Coalition's website -- www.fixthecostshift.com -- has links to its social channels where all posts can be viewed. The effort will commence concurrent with this notice's filing and will likely continue throughout the pendency of the above-captioned matter. The effort is not funded with customer dollars.

As noted above, it is not clear whether any of the material in this effort would have reached any CPUC decisionmakers, as that term is used in the Commission's *ex parte* rules. For that reason, it is also not clear that this notice would be required under CPUC rules. Nonetheless, in an abundance of caution, the Utilities file this notice to make the record of these communications clear to those participating in the above-captioned proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 2, 2021

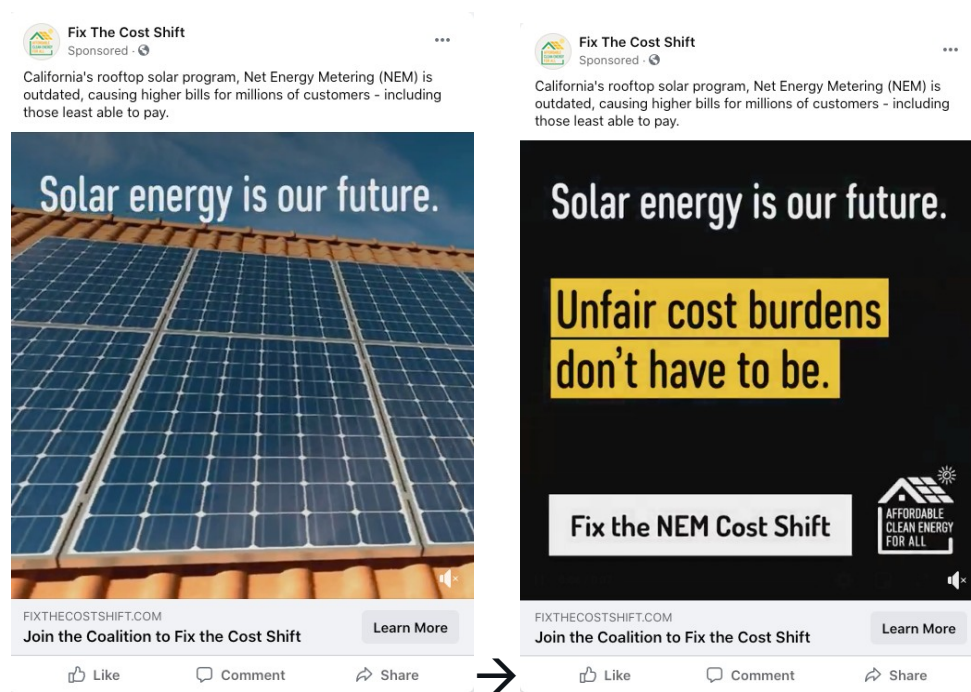
Attachment A

Copy:

California's rooftop solar program, Net Energy Metering (NEM) is outdated, causing higher bills for millions of customers—including those least able to pay.

Headline:

Join the Coalition to Fix the Cost Shift





Copy:

CA's Net Energy Metering program benefits the wealthy and shifts shared costs to those least able to pay.


Those without solar pay \$2.8 billion more annually to subsidize solar customers who no longer pay their fair share towards the grid and mandated policy programs.

Headline:

Fix the NEM Cost Shift - Join the Coalition




**Fix The Cost Shift**
Sponsored · 

CA's Net Energy Metering program benefits the wealthy and shifts shared costs to those least able to pay.
Those without solar pay \$2.8 billion more annually to subsidize solar customers who no longer pay their fair share towards the grid and mandated policy programs.





Californians who can't have rooftop solar


[FIXTHECOSTSHIFT.COM](#)
Fix the NEM Cost Shift - Join the Coalition [Learn More](#)

 Like  Comment  Share

→

**Fix The Cost Shift**
Sponsored · 

CA's Net Energy Metering program benefits the wealthy and shifts shared costs to those least able to pay.
Those without solar pay \$2.8 billion more annually to subsidize solar customers who no longer pay their fair share towards the grid and mandated policy programs.






Californians who can't have rooftop solar are paying for those who can

Fix the NEM Cost Shift

AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL

[FIXTHECOSTSHIFT.COM](#)
Fix the NEM Cost Shift - Join the Coalition [Learn More](#)

 Like  Comment  Share

Copy:

California needs to fix the NEM cost shift!

Headline:

Join the Coalition - Fix the NEM Cost Shift

**Fix The Cost Shift**

Sponsored · 

CA's Net Energy Metering program benefits the wealthy and shifts costs to those least able to pay.

California needs to fix the NEM cost shift!



FIXTHECOSTSHIFT.COM

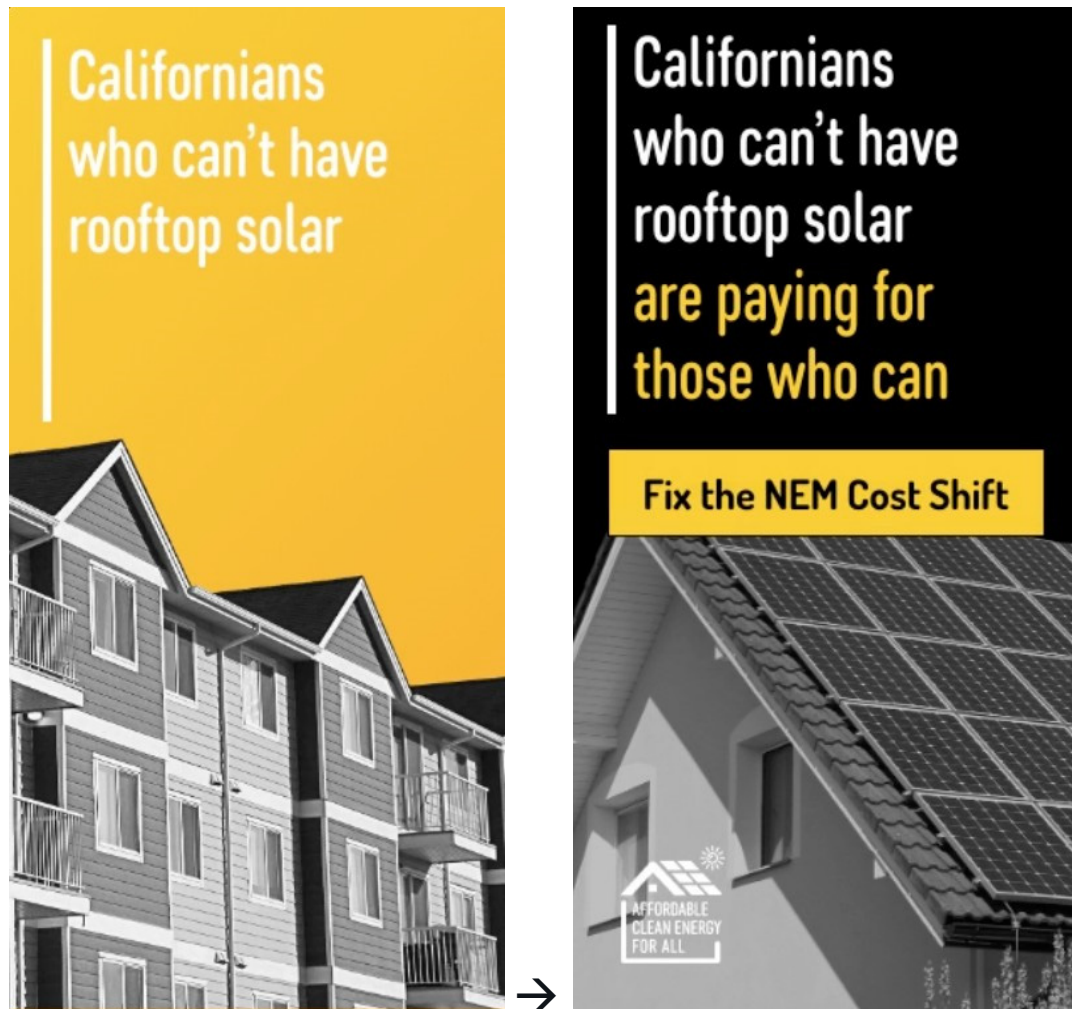
Join the Coalition - Fix the NEM Cost Shift

Learn More

 Like

 Comment

 Share



Social Media Posts

- 1) Affordable Clean Energy for All is a coalition representing renewable energy companies, electricity customers, seniors, small-business, faith-based & other diverse community groups who've joined together to advocate for needed reform to CA's Net Energy Metering (NEM) program.
- 2) Updates to the NEM program are necessary to ensure all electricity customers – those with solar and those without – continue to pay their fair share of costs associated with

the electric grid and state-mandated public policy programs. #FixtheCostShift
www.fixthecostshift.com

- 3) The CPUC is considering changes to CA's solar rooftop program, Net Energy Metering (NEM), created in '95 to incentivize Californians to install solar panels on their homes. It's time to update 25-year-old program to reflect today's environmental and energy policy goals.
- 4) It's time to update CA's rooftop solar program to reflect today's reduced cost of clean energy, ensure everyone who uses the electric grid pays their fair share, and to stop unnecessary bill increases on customers without solar. #FixtheCostShift
www.fixthecostshift.com
- 5) Did you know? Today, electricity customers w/o solar systems pay \$2.8 BILLION more annually in their bills (as much as \$200 per customer each year) to cover the costs of the grid that customers with solar use, but do not pay for. It's time to #FixtheCostShift
- 6) A reliable, resilient electric grid is more critical than ever, but the current Net Energy Metering program prevents solar customers from paying their fair share, driving up electricity bills for customers without rooftop solar. It's time to #FixtheCostShift
- 7) Wealthier Californians are more likely to install rooftop solar and benefit from the Net Energy Metering subsidy program. The fact well-off homeowners benefit from energy subsidies more than those who rent or can't afford solar reinforces the need for reform. #FixtheCostShift
- 8) The current Net Energy Metering program is driving up the cost of electricity for millions of Californians-including those least able to pay. Electricity customers w/o solar systems pay \$2.8 BILLION more annually in their bills. #FixtheCostShift www.fixthecostshift.com
- 9) Today, electricity customers without rooftop solar are paying as much as \$200/year to cover costs no longer being paid by customers with rooftop systems. If net energy metering isn't updated, this will grow to more than \$300/year. Let's #FixtheCostShift
- 10) Did you know? Electricity customers who qualify for low-income bill assistance pay solar rooftop subsidies. But customers w/ rooftop systems who are disproportionately wealthy no longer contribute their fair share towards low-income assistance. #FixtheCostShift
- 11) Affordable Clean Energy for All believes Californians should be free to generate or store their own clean energy, but those choices should not substantially increase the bills of customers who don't have that option. #FixtheCostShift www.fixthecostshift.com

- 12) It makes no sense to mandate electricity customers pay 8x more for solar power from a rooftop system if the same environmental benefits can be achieved by purchasing solar from another source for less. It's time to #FixtheCostShift for Net Energy Metering.
- 13) We all rely on and need a resilient grid and all customers—those with solar systems and those without—should contribute equitably towards its maintenance. It's unfair that the current NEM program expects customers without solar to cover more of the costs of grid maintenance.