ALJ/RMD/nd3 2/2/2022



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

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Authority, Among Other Things, to Increase Rates and Charges for Electric and Gas Service Effective on January 1, 2023 (U39M).

Application 21-06-021

### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING NOTICING DATES AND TIMES OF REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS

This ruling serves to notice the dates and times for six remote public participation hearings in this proceeding.<sup>1</sup> The public participation hearings are scheduled to occur on March 1, 2022, March 10, 2022, and March 22, 2022. The March 10, 2022 hearing will focus on San Joaquin Valley customers but all the hearings will cover entire service territory of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The links/phone numbers to access these remote hearings is set forth below. These hearings are scheduled before the remote evidentiary hearings to provide time for consideration of issues identified by the public, including customers of PG&E. Below find additional information regarding how to participate. PG&E is also directed below to take certain actions to facilitate participation by the public at these hearings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On June 30, 2021, PG&E filed Application 21-06-021, requesting authority to approve its Test Year (TY) 2023 general rate case with attrition years 2024, 2025, and 2026. PG&E's Application and other documents filed in this proceeding are available on the Commission's website at the Docket Card.

# 1. Public Participation Hearings

EVENT	DATE
Public Participation Hearings	March 1, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Public Participation Hearings	March 10, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Public Participation Hearings	March 22, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Webcast (to observe/listen): www.adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/ Phone number (to provide verbal comments): 1-800-857-1917 Passcode: English 6032788# Spanish 3799627#

Press "\*1" to alert the operator you want to speak. Updates and further information are available at: <u>www.cpuc.ca.gov/pph.</u>

Written public comments may be provided at anytime during the proceedings via the Commission's website at the Docket Card for this proceeding, using the Public Comment tab at: <u>https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2106021</u>.

The public participation hearings will rely on live video streaming (also referred to as "webcast") and telephonic services due to restrictions on public gatherings because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To observe only, members of the public may access the hearings from a phone or computer to view-only and to provide live verbal comments, members of the public must use the phone line. A video of these hearings will be posted within a few days on the Commission's website at:

# https://adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/.

In addition, to provide verbal comments, members of the public must use the toll-free telephone number and participation code. The public will have the ability to hear a simultaneous Spanish translation and provide comments in Spanish. When it is time for comments, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) will make an announcement on the telephone line. Participants must then press "star

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one" to alert the telephone operator, who will then queue the speakers one at a time and announce each speaker's name and city at the allotted time during the hearing. Public officials wishing to speak should provide the telephone operator with their name, title, and governmental entity. Based on the number of speakers are waiting in the queue, the ALJ may limit speakers to three minutes so that all speakers an opportunity to comment and to promote an orderly hearing.

The Commission's court reporters will transcript/record the statements made during the hearings and post the transcripts in the Commission's website at the Docket Card for this proceeding, which may be accessed at: <a href="https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2106021">https://apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2106021</a>. The actual date when the reporter will post the transcripts on the website is not know at this time.

#### 2. Directives to PG&E

PG&E shall prepare the name, title, and telephone number of at least one PG&E senior customer service representative who can be reached by customers during the hearings for individual service or billing issues and PG&E representative prepared to respond to specific questions about material in the Application. PG&E shall provide this information to the Public Advisor's Office no later than seven days before the first public participation hearing. This information may be posted for the public during the hearings.

Pursuant to Rule 13.1(b) and (c) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules),<sup>2</sup> PG&E is directed to take, at a minimum, the below actions to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rule 13.1(b) and (c) provides, as follows:

<sup>(</sup>b) Whenever any electrical, gas, heat, telephone, water, or sewer system utility files an application to increase any rate, the utility shall give notice of any public participation hearing that may be set in the proceeding, not less than five nor more than 30 days before the date of the public participation hearing, to entities or persons who may be affected thereby, by posting notice in public places,

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ensure the customer notice regarding the public participation hearings is distributed in a comprehensive matter:

- Post notice of the public participation hearings in at least one newspaper in each geographic region in its service territory. In a geographic region with a notable number of non-English speaking customers, post notice of the public participation hearings in a regional newspaper in those languages and secure radio advertising broadcasted in non-English languages;
- Include notice of the public participation hearings in mailed bill to customers that currently receive bills via the United States Postal Service;
- Send e-mail messages to all customers that have provided PG&E with an e-mail address and the *subject line* of this e-mail must clearly advise the recipient that these public participation hearings will be held in this proceeding. The body of the e-mail must include the same information as approved by the Commission's Public Advisor's Office in the bill notice. In addition, e-mail messages shall not be combined with an e-mail electronic bill but, instead, be sent separately from a customer's electronic bill;
- Publicize the public participation hearings on all social media platforms used by PG&E;
- Post notice of these public participation hearings on PG&E's website in a prominent location so that customers easily access the notice/information; and
- Ensure all the above communication methods are compatible with electronic or remote access and clearly

which may include the website of the utility, and by publishing notice in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in the area or areas concerned, of the time, date, and place of hearing. Proof of publication and sample copies of the notices shall be filed within 10 days after publication. (c) In addition to the notice required by this rule, parties shall provide such notice of hearing as the presiding officer may designate.

state hearing will not be held in-person or at a physical location.

Not later than seven days prior to the first public participation hearing, PG&E shall file and provide the Commission's Public Advisor's Office a letter verifying PG&E has complied with the above directives. This letter shall state the dates PG&E sent the referenced types of notices to customers, the methods used, and the approximate number of customers notified by each method. PG&E's filing shall also provide the dates and locations of publication and posting. A copy of PG&E's public participation hearing notice shall be attached to this filing.

#### IT IS RULED that:

Notice is hereby provided that public participation hearings will be held in this proceeding at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on March 1, 2022, March 10, 2022, and March 22, 2022 and may be accessed via the links provided above.

Dated February 2, 2022, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ REGINA DEANGELIS Regina DeAngelis Administrative Law Judge