

SW9/cmf 3/4/2022



FILED

03/04/22

04:29 PM

R1807005

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Consider
New Approaches to Disconnections and
Reconnections to Improve Energy Access
and Contain Costs.

Rulemaking 18-07-005

**E-MAIL RULING DIRECTING THE SMALLER AND
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL UTILITIES TO FILE COMMENTS**

Dated March 4, 2022, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ STEPHANIE WANG
Stephanie Wang
Administrative Law Judge

From: Wang, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wang@cpuc.ca.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 4, 2022 12:58 PM

To: Mike@AlpineNaturalGas.com; TEdmister@ebce.org; OWein@nclc.org; Vincent.Vitaoe@SWgas.com; HAJones@SoCalGas.com; Merza, Ritta <Ritta.Merza@cpuc.ca.gov>; jbutler@housinglb.org; Mabel.Tsui@sce.com; RKMoore@GSwater.com; David Cheng <DCheng@TURN.org>; rulloa@cityheightscdc.org; Jane@ucan.org; RHansson@sdge.com; mgonzalez@centrolafamilia.org; Huerta@PoverelloHouse.org; Eric.PayneCMC@gmail.com; RKoss@AdamsBroadwell.com; RNakasone@SFwater.org; acureton@nrdc.org; Lettenson@nrdc.org; SWF5@pge.com; LDolqueist@Nossaman.com; ccc4christ@gmail.com; SCampbell@GridAlternatives.org; carmelitam@greenlining.org; Service@cforat.org; beth@cal-cca.org; Dennis@EnergyServices.org; abelion@ffsj.org; CMathewsLaw@mcn.org; westgas@aol.com; David.Scribner@CSD.ca.gov; Dan.Marsh@LibertyUtilities.com; CaliforniaDockets@PacifiCorp.com; aaron.lewis2@pge.com; oxv5@pge.com; Bemis, Alina <Alina.Bemis@cpuc.ca.gov>; jennifer.angell@pacificorp.com; Joy.Mastache@smud.org; Kavya@UtilityDive.com; Ouyang, Ke Hao <kehao.ouyang@cpuc.ca.gov>; Commissioner Guzman Aceves Enotice <CommGuzmanAcevesEnotice@cpuc.ca.gov>; Brown, Mary Claire <MaryClaire.Brown@cpuc.ca.gov>; regulatory@mceCleanEnergy.org; melissa.nottingham@pacificorp.com; shawndai@cal-cca.org; TTardif@CleanPowerAlliance.org; Regulatory@cal-cca.org; proceedings@cal-cca.org; ccalcca.proceedings@lmi.net; MRW@MRWassoc.com; Valerie.Ontiveroz@swgas.com; RegServe@swgas.com; Carla.Kolebuck@SWgas.com; PDeang@SoCalGas.com; JMock@SempraUtilities.com; KHuliganga@socalgas.com; NWhang@CleanPowerAlliance.org; PWu@SoCalGas.com; Anna.Valdberg@sce.com; Case Admin <case.admin@sce.com>; Jake.Huttner@sce.com; Lauren.P.Goschke@sce.com; Paul.Kubasek@sce.com; NQuan@GSwater.com; chasing@tosdalapc.com; Courtney@ucan.org; Edward@ucan.org; JazzeLL2@yahoo.com; AJMoreno@sdge.com; ANHammer@sdge.com; AFaustino@SempraUtilities.com; CGBender@SempraUtilities.com; CFaber@SempraUtilities.com; GBucsit@sdge.com; JPacheco@sdge.com; LFulton@sdge.com; MSomerville@SempraUtilities.com; SMurill1@SempraUtilities.com; CentralFiles@SempraUtilities.com; SLee4@SempraUtilities.com; roseana.portillo@bvesinc.com; BKimball@3CE.org; DKarpa@PeninsulaCleanEnergy.com; JWaen@PeninsulaCleanEnergy.com; imandelbaum@smcgov.org; MJSanders@SMCgov.org; AGraf@AdamsBroadwell.com; Hilary.staver@SVCleanEnergy.org; Durvasula, Anand <Anand.Durvasula@cpuc.ca.gov>; Dugowson, Andrew <Andrew.Dugowson@cpuc.ca.gov>; Jain, Ankit <Ankit.Jain@cpuc.ca.gov>; Menzies, Benjamin <Benjamin.Menzies@cpuc.ca.gov>; Kaneshiro, Bruce <bruce.kaneshiro@cpuc.ca.gov>; cch@cpuc.ca.gov; Hogan, Christopher <Christopher.Hogan@cpuc.ca.gov>; Hsu, Jenneille <Jenneille.Hsu@cpuc.ca.gov>; Fong, Justin H. <Justin.Fong@cpuc.ca.gov>; Yip, Kathleen <Kathleen.Yip@cpuc.ca.gov>; Sotero, Maria <Maria.Sotero@cpuc.ca.gov>; Peleo, Marion <marion.peleo@cpuc.ca.gov>; Halperin, Mea <Mea.Halperin@cpuc.ca.gov>; Christo, Nathan <nathan.christo@cpuc.ca.gov>; Cropper, Nicole <Nicole.Cropper@cpuc.ca.gov>; Mangat, Ravinder <ravinder.mangat@cpuc.ca.gov>; Saraie, Ryan <Ryan.Saraie@cpuc.ca.gov>; Thomas, Sarah R. <sarah.thomas@cpuc.ca.gov>; Babka, Sophie <Sophie.Babka@cpuc.ca.gov>; Wang, Stephanie <Stephanie.Wang@cpuc.ca.gov>; Li, Xian Ming "Cindy" <Xian.Li@cpuc.ca.gov>; William.Rostov@SFcityAtty.org; JCapitolo@CalWaterAssn.com; Hayley@turn.org; JDeLamare@nrdc.org; chris.kato09@gmail.com; darren.roach@pge.com; julie.tan@pge.com; MBBO@pge.com; M2H9@pge.com; stacy.walter@pge.com; mkdc@pge.com; david.siddiqui@oracle.com; Demetrio.Marquez@amWater.com; MMattes@Nossaman.com; WHon@Nossaman.com; Clifford.Gleicher@pge.com; Gerardo.Huerta@pge.com; SSMyers@att.net; MeganMMyers@yahoo.com; RegRelCUPCCases@pge.com; PGETariffs@pge.com; proceedings@mail.com; proceedings@mail.com; Chris.King@Siemens.com; Regulatory@ebce.org; FBoediarto@ebce.org; SWeaver@ebce.org; NMalcolm@MCEcleanEnergy.org; SChen@mceCleanEnergy.org; JCornelious707@gmail.com;

Garima.Vashishtha@sanjoseca.gov; Taylor.knecht@sanjoseca.gov; eduardo.gonzales@pge.com; rory.raffety@pge.com; todd.streyle@pge.com; policy@cedmc.org; steve@pacificea.com; Ende, Julia <Julia.Ende@cpuc.ca.gov>; Nava@BraunLegal.com; Regulatory@BraunLegal.com; Blaising@BraunLegal.com; abb@eslawfirm.com; JJG@ESlawFirm.com; Dennis.Peters@smud.org; Martha.Helak@smud.org; Derek.Olijar@libertyutilities.com; Carla.Scarsella@PacifiCorp.com; james.ingram@pacificorp.com

Cc: ALJ Docket Office <ALJ_Docket_Office@cpuc.ca.gov>; ALJ_Support ID <alj_supportid@cpuc.ca.gov>

Subject: R.18-07-005 (Disconnections): Phase 1-A ruling directing SMJUs to file comments

Service list of R.18-07-005:

This ruling directs Southwest Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Utilities LLC), Bear Valley Electric Service, PacifiCorp, Alpine Natural Gas Operating Company, and West Coast Gas Company to file comments in response to the Phase 1-A questions below.

All parties are invited to comment on the questions below. Comments are due on April 8, 2022 and replies are due on April 22, 2022.

Background

On July 12, 2018, the Commission approved the Order Instituting Rulemaking for this proceeding pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 598 to address disconnection rates across California's electric and gas investor-owned utilities. The primary goal of this proceeding is to adopt rules and policies that will ultimately reduce disconnections and improve reconnection processes and outcomes for disconnected customers. This proceeding is being conducted in multiple phases.

Phase 1 of this proceeding established near-term or immediate improvements. The smaller and multi-jurisdictional utilities (SMJUs) were exempted from the Phase 1 decisions (D.18-12-013 and D.20-06-003) and the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Phase decision (D.21-10-012).

This phase of the proceeding, Phase 1-A, is evaluating what rules to apply to the SMJUs. The prehearing conference for this phase was held on March 8, 2019, the Scoping Memo for Phase 1-A was issued on April 5, 2019, and an Amended Scoping Memo for Phase 1-A was issued on March 15, 2021.

This ruling directs each SMJU to file comments on each of the questions below. Comments should address each question presented in the order below and should be as specific and precise as possible.

Questions for Comment

1. Each SMJU shall provide the data, cost estimates, and rate impact estimates requested in Attachment A to this ruling.

2. Is it reasonable to apply each of the following requirements of D.20-06-003 to SMJUs based on (a) the estimated cost and rate impact data presented by SMJUs in response to Question 1 of this ruling, and (b) the expected impact of each of these requirements on reducing disconnections and barriers to reconnections?

- a. Arrearages Management Plan
- b. Disconnection rate cap (set at 2018 level)
- c. Prohibition on deposits and reconnection fees
- d. Benefit of service requirements (OP 18-23)
- e. CARE outreach requirements (OP 45-47)

3. If SMJUs are required to apply a disconnections cap, should the rolling cap methodology of Appendix 1 of D.20-06-003 apply to SMJUs? If not, how should SMJUs apply a disconnections cap?

4. Ordering Paragraphs 93 and 94 of D.20-06-003 established an enforcement program to ensure that the Large Utilities comply with that decision. Should this enforcement program apply to the SMJUs?

The Commission's Docket Office shall file this ruling.

Stephanie Wang (she)
Administrative Law Judge
California Public Utilities Commission
stephanie.wang@cpuc.ca.gov

(Pronunciation: Wang rhymes with song)

Notice: This communication may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information for the use of the intended recipient(s). Unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and destroy all copies of the communication.