



**FILED**

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R1901011

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

Order Instituting Rulemaking  
Regarding Building Decarbonization.

Rulemaking 19-01-011

**ASSIGNED ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES'  
RULING REVISING REMAINING PROCEEDING  
SCHEDULE AND ADDRESSING OTHER  
PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

This Ruling (a) informs parties of a March 14, 2022 Energy Division data request (ED-DR) sent to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Gas Company, San Diego Gas and Electric Company, and Southwest Gas Company (collectively the gas utilities); (b) directs the gas utilities to verify and serve their responses to the ED-DR on all parties by April 4, 2022; (c) provides an opportunity for parties to comment on the gas utilities' responses to the ED-DR request by April 11, 2022; and (d) updates the schedule for the remainder of this proceeding.

**1. Background**

On November 16, 2021, the assigned Commissioner issued an Amended Scoping Memo setting forth the issues to be considered in Phase III of this proceeding (Phase III Scoping Memo). Appended to the Phase III Scoping Memo were an Energy Division Staff Proposal (Staff Proposal) and a list of questions to be addressed by respondents and parties.

Specifically, Phase III considers eliminating gas line extension allowances, refunds, and discounts provided under the current gas line extension rules.<sup>1</sup> The Phase III Scoping Memo stated that the issues to be resolved include:

- a. Whether the Commission should modify or eliminate gas line extension allowances for some or all customer classes (residential and non-residential);
- b. Whether the Commission should modify or eliminate gas line extension refunds for some or all customer classes (residential and non-residential); and
- c. Whether the Commission should modify or eliminate gas line extension discounts for some or all customer classes (residential and non-residential).

Parties filed comments and reply comments to both the Staff Proposal and list of questions in the Phase III Scoping Memo on December 20, 2021, and January 10, 2022, respectively. However, clarifications and more information were needed to assist the Commission in resolving the Phase III issues. Therefore, on January 28, 2022, the Assigned Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) issued a ruling (ALJ Ruling) seeking clarification of parties' positions along with further information and evidence regarding issues in Phase III.<sup>2</sup> Appended to

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<sup>1</sup> Gas Rules 15 and 16 for PG&E ([https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/tariffbook/GAS\\_RULES\\_15.pdf](https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/tariffbook/GAS_RULES_15.pdf), [https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/tariffbook/GAS\\_RULES\\_16.pdf](https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/tariffbook/GAS_RULES_16.pdf)), SDG&E ([https://tariff.sdge.com/tm2/pdf/GAS\\_GAS-RULES\\_GRULE15.pdf](https://tariff.sdge.com/tm2/pdf/GAS_GAS-RULES_GRULE15.pdf), [https://tariff.sdge.com/tm2/pdf/GAS\\_GAS-RULES\\_GRULE16.pdf](https://tariff.sdge.com/tm2/pdf/GAS_GAS-RULES_GRULE16.pdf)), and Southwest Gas Corporation (<https://www.swgas.com/1409184638489/rule15.pdf>, [https://www.swgas.com/1409184638517/RULE\\_16---GRC\\_Eff-April-1-2021.pdf](https://www.swgas.com/1409184638517/RULE_16---GRC_Eff-April-1-2021.pdf)), and Gas Rules 20 and 21 for Southern California Gas Company (<https://tariff.socalgas.com/regulatory/tariffs/tm2/pdf/20.pdf>, <https://tariff.socalgas.com/regulatory/tariffs/tm2/pdf/21.pdf>). Rule 15/20 pertains to gas distribution main extensions and Rule 16 21 pertains to gas service line extensions.

<sup>2</sup> Assigned Administrative Law Judges' Ruling Seeking Clarification and Additional Information, January 28, 2022, <https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=ALL&DocID=445638734>

the ALJ Ruling was a list of supplemental questions to be addressed by respondents and parties. Parties filed comments to the list of supplemental questions in the ALJ Ruling on February 22, 2022. However, not all the data requested from the gas utilities from the Phase III Scoping Memo and ALJ Ruling was provided.

On March 14, 2022, Energy Division issued a data request to the gas utilities to fill in the remaining data gaps regarding expenditure data on the gas line extension allowances, refunds, and discounts. The ED-DR is attached as Attachment 1 to this Ruling. The ED-DR included an excel spreadsheet that includes data previously submitted by the gas utilities to the Commission, as well as additional data requested by Energy Division. For the purposes of this Ruling, this spreadsheet is attached as a PDF document.

## **2. Discussion**

The ED-DR requested the gas utilities' responses by March 28, 2022. This Ruling directs gas utilities to verify and serve their responses on all parties to this proceeding by April 4, 2022.

This Ruling provides parties an opportunity to comment on the gas utilities' responses to the ED-DR, as the Commission may consider admitting the data into the record of this proceeding. If parties choose to comment, comments must be filed and served by no later than April 11, 2022.

Lastly, this Ruling revises the remaining proceeding schedule to accommodate the receipt of the additional information and provides for the filing of briefs and submission of the matter for Commission decision. Parties should use a common outline for briefs and shall make all reasonable efforts to agree on that common outline. Respondents should take the lead to make the first proposal for that outline, and one Respondent should serve the agreed upon

common outline on the service list by April 13, 2022. The outline may be modified by the ALJs. If parties are unable to agree, disputes must be brought to the ALJs for resolution.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Gas Utilities' Verified Responses to the Energy Division Data Request due to be served on the Service List	April 4, 2022
Comments to the Gas Utilities' Responses to the Energy Division Data Request	April 11, 2022
One Respondent to Serve the Agreed Upon Common Outline for Briefs	April 13, 2022
Opening Briefs	May 4, 2022
Reply Briefs, Submission Date	May 18, 2022
Proposed Decision	August 2022
Final Decision (expected)	September 2022

**IT IS RULED:**

1. That the named gas utilities shall serve their verified responses to Energy Division's March 14, 2022 data request on all parties by April 4, 2022.
2. Parties may file and serve comments on the gas utilities' responses to Energy Division's March 14, 2022 data request and shall do so no later than April 11, 2022.

3. Parties shall use a common outline for briefs to be proposed by Respondents (which may be modified by the Administrative Law Judges (ALJs)). If parties are unable to agree on the common outline, they shall bring disputes to the ALJs. One Respondent shall serve the agreed upon common outline for briefs on the service list by April 13, 2022.

4. The proceeding schedule is updated as indicated above.

Dated March 22, 2022, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ SCARLETT LIANG-UEJIO  
Scarlett Liang-Uejio  
Administrative Law Judge

/s/ AVA TRAN  
Ava Tran  
Administrative Law Judge