

FILED

01/04/24

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AM A2305010

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) For Authority to Increase Its Authorized Revenues for Electric Service In 2025, Among Other Things, and to Reflect That Increase in Rates.

Application 23-05-010

### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES' RULING NOTICING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS

This ruling establishes remote and in-person public participation hearings (PPH) in the application by Southern California Edison Company (SCE) for authorization to increase its revenue requirement and base rates effective January 1, 2025, and to further increase its revenue requirements in the 2026-2028 post-test years. SCE's request represents a \$1.90 billion, or 23 percent, increase in 2025 over 2024 requested base rates.<sup>1</sup> The PPHs are an opportunity for SCE customers to communicate directly with the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) regarding the proposed revenue and rate base changes. Details regarding how to participate in the remote and in-person PPHs are provided below. SCE is also directed to take certain actions to further notice and facilitate public participation at these hearings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SCE Application at 6.

# 1. Schedule for Public Participation Hearings

Based on our evaluation of in-person and virtual participation levels during prior PPHs held within SCE's territory, we find four virtual PPHs and two in-person PPHs will allow for robust customer feedback and participation while promoting an efficient use of party and Commission resources.

The in-person PPHs will be held as follows:

DATE AND TIME	CITY	MEETING LOCATION
April 10, 2024 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	Long Beach	Recreation Park Community Center 4900 E. 7th St. Long Beach, CA 90804

Details regarding how to participate in the remote PPHs are provided in the table below. The PPHs may be observed using the webcast link provided. To provide public comment, participants should use the toll-free telephone number and participant code noted below. Participants who wish to speak must then press "star one" and record their first and last name when prompted. This will alert the operator who will then queue the speakers one-at-a-time and announce each speaker's name at the allotted time. When it is time for public comment, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) will make an announcement through the telephone line for those who wish to speak.

DATE	TIME	MEETING ACCESS INFORMATION
March 5, 2024	2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	Phone Number: 1-800-857-1917 Passcode: 6032788#
March 20, 2024	2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.	Webcast: <u>https://adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/</u>

Written public comments may be provided at any time during the proceeding using the "Add Public Comment" button located on the "Public

Comment" tab of the Commission's Docket Card for Application 23-05-010. The direct link to the "Add Public Comment" button may be accessed here: apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2305010.

## 2. Billing Notice/Mailers

SCE shall prepare a bill insert notice informing its customers of the PPHs and provide a draft of the notice to the Commission's Public Advisor's Office.<sup>2</sup> The draft notice shall inform customers about the upcoming remote and in-person PPHs, including the purpose of the PPHs, a summary of the relief that the utility is requesting in its application, as well as the date, time, and how to participate. The Public Advisor's Office may alter or require changes to the bill insert notice.

After the Public Advisor's Office approves the language in the bill insert notice, SCE shall, to the extent feasible, include the notice in the monthly bills of all its customers not less than five days before the date of the first scheduled PPH. To the extent customers are billed electronically via the Internet, notice to those customers shall be provided electronically. Where customer email addresses are available, SCE shall also provide the notice through direct email communication.

### 3. Public Notice

Pursuant to Rule 13.1(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, SCE shall also cause the approved notice to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the utility's general service area not less than five days before the first PPH. Prior to publishing, SCE shall provide to the Public Advisor's Office a list of the locations where the approved notice will

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> To expedite the review process, SCE may submit the draft notice to the Public Advisor via email at <u>public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov</u>.

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be circulated. The Public Advisor's Office may alter or require changes to the locations where the approved notice will be circulated. SCE shall also prominently post a notice of the PPHs on its website and in all its offices where customers come into contact with a utility customer service representative.

SCE shall provide the Public Advisor's Office, not later than five days prior to the first PPH, a letter verifying that it has complied with the customer notice requirement. The compliance letter shall state the date(s) notices were sent to customers, the method used, and the approximate number of customers notified. One copy of the actual notice shall be attached. The compliance letter shall also provide the dates and locations of publication and posting.

#### 4. Party Participation During Public Participation Hearings

No party presentations will be permitted during the PPHs. For the remote PPHs, SCE shall identify and have available at least one senior customer service representative to observe the PPHs and to receive and respond to customer billing or service questions, as needed, following each PPH. SCE shall provide the name, position, phone number, and email address of the employee via email to the assigned ALJs, copying the service list, no later than seven days prior to each scheduled PPH. The senior customer service representative's name and contact information will be publicly posted via webcast during the remote PPHs. Similarly, for the in-person PPHs, SCE is instructed to have one or more representatives available following the conclusion of each PPH to answer any questions concerning SCE's application and to assist with customer billing or service questions.

#### IT IS RULED that:

1. The schedule for the public participation hearings is set forth above.

2. Southern California Edison Company (SCE) shall provide customer notice of the public participation hearings (PPH) via direct mailing or the Internet not less than five days before the date of the first scheduled PPH. Where customer email addresses are available, SCE shall also provide the notice through direct email communication.

3. Southern California Edison Company (SCE) shall cause notice of the public participation hearings (PPH) approved by the Public Advisor's Office to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in its general service area at least five days prior to the first PPH. Prior to publishing, SCE shall provide to the Public Advisor's Office a list of the locations where the approved notice will be circulated.

4. Southern California Edison Company (SCE) shall also prominently post a notice of the public participation hearings on their website and in all offices where customers come into contact with a SCE customer service representative.

5. Southern California Edison Company shall provide the Public Advisor's Office, not later than five days prior to the first public participation hearing, a letter verifying that it has complied with the customer notice requirement.

6. Southern California Edison Company shall have at least one senior customer service representative available at each of the public participation hearings to receive and follow up with any customer billing or service questions.

Dated January 4, 2024, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ EHREN D. SEYBERT Ehren D. Seybert Administrative Law Judge /s/ SOPHIA J. PARK Sophia J. Park Administrative Law Judge