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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking to
Establish Energization Timelines.

Rulemaking 24-01-018

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING DIRECTING UTILITY
RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS REGARDING ENERGIZATION TIMELINES**

This ruling directs Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE), and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) to provide answers to the questions defined below by April 15, 2024.

1. *To better address Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code) § 934 (a)(1), the utilities shall provide detailed information about the existing average and maximum target energization time periods the Commission should consider to establish baseline targets for the electrical corporations to energize new or upgraded service requests.*
 - a. The utilities shall jointly propose a standard energization data collection process that will record and report all data reflecting the total time to complete an energization request from the date an applicant submits a request for service to the date a project is completed. The joint utility proposal must at minimum include the following:
 - i. A standardized list of steps to complete the energization process, as defined by Section 931(b)¹ that includes:

¹ Section 931(b): "Energization" and "energize" mean connecting customers to the electrical distribution grid and establishing adequate electrical distribution capacity or upgrading electrical distribution or transmission capacity to provide electrical service for a new customer, or to provide upgraded electrical service to an existing customer. The determination of adequate electrical distribution capacity includes consideration of future load. "Energization" and "energize" do not include activities related to connecting electrical supply resources.

1. The full list of steps to complete Electric Rule 15, 16, 29/45, and a joint list of different types of upstream distribution capacity projects (e.g., bank replacement, feeder installation, circuit upgrade, etc.) and the steps to complete each type of project, and any additional energization steps not covered in these processes.
 2. A standardized explanation of the order in which the steps in (a)(1) above are completed, a brief explanation of each step, and the party responsible for completing the step (e.g., utility, customer, etc.).
 - ii. Categories to separately record and report the timelines for different types of end-use projects (i.e., Transportation Electrification, Residential Upgrades, Commercial Development, etc.).
 - b. Categories to separately track the amount of time a project is determined to be in a backlog for each step.²
 - c. An explanation from each utility describing the differences between their existing data collection efforts and the proposed joint utility data collection process.
 - d. A description from each utility explaining how the Commission can compare their existing energization timing data to the existing energization timing data of the other utilities.
2. *For each of the standard steps to complete an energization request provided in the joint utility standard energization data collection process, each utility should individually provide both the data requested in the table below and its source data in an Excel spreadsheet.*
- a. The data should be for the past five (5) years (January 2019-December 2023) and be provided in business days.
 - b. When calculating the average, median, and standard deviation for each of the steps, exclude time that the project is in a backlog.

² For the purposes of this Ruling, a project being in a backlog is defined as the project, or step in the project energization process, being on hold while utility resources are allocated to furthering other projects. The project can be considered to come out of the backlog when utility work starts to complete the energization process step and/or project.

- c. Where data is not currently being collected, based on experience, the utility shall propose a reasonable average and maximum amount of time that is needed to complete the step and provide an explanation of any assumptions and unit of measure used for determining their proposal(s).

Energization Timelines by Step in Energization Process						
Standard Steps in the Energization Process	Average (day)	Median (day)	Standard Deviation	*Estimated Reasonable Average (day)	*Estimated Maximum (day)	Notes

**Only provide these fields if there is no data available on the energization process step.*

- 3. *In an Excel spreadsheet, using data from the past five (5) years (January 2019 - December 2023), each utility shall provide an average, median, and standard deviation for the time to complete each type of upstream distribution capacity upgrade from the joint list. Include any time that projects are in a backlog. These metrics shall be reported in business days.*

Energization Timelines by Upstream Distribution Capacity Upgrade Type					
Upstream Distribution Capacity Upgrade Type	Average (day)	Median (day)	Standard Deviation (day)	Percentage of Instances Upgrade Type is Triggered by an Energization Request	Notes

- 4. *In an Excel spreadsheet, using data from the past five (5) years (January 2019 - December 2023), provide an average, median, and standard deviation for the time to complete energization projects that involve the following tariffs.*

- a. If projects fall into tariff combination categories not listed in the table below, please add them and report on the requested metrics.
- b. Include any time that the projects are in a backlog.
- c. Report all metrics in business days.

Energization Timelines by Tariff Type				
Tariff	Average (day)	Median (day)	Standard Deviation (day)	Notes
Rule 15				
Rule 16				
Rule 15 and 16				
Rule 29 / 45				
Rule 15 and 29/45				

5. Using existing available data, provide the average energization timeline customers typically request when applying for energization of a new or upgraded service line, by project and customer type.
6. Using existing available data, describe what impact, if any, the need for a Main Panel Upgrade (MPU) has on the utilities' timing to complete an energization project. Explain how passing local government inspections and obtaining final utility connections can differ based on an MPU and what steps the utility has control over as opposed to the customer or local entities.

IT IS RULED that:

1. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric Company shall respond to questions 1 - 6 above no later than April 15, 2024.
2. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric Company must utilize the templates included in this ruling to answer questions 2 - 4 above in Excel spreadsheet format.

Dated March 21, 2024, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ CAROLYN SISTO
Carolyn Sisto
Administrative Law Judge