

ALJ/RMD/vj4 12/12/2025



FILED

12/12/25

04:59 PM

A2404005

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Southern California
Edison Company (U 338-E) for
Authorization to Recover Incremental
Costs Related to Wildfire Mitigation,
Vegetation Management, Catastrophic
Events, and Wildfire Liability
Insurance.

Application 24-04-005

**EMAIL RULING REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM
SMALL BUSINESS UTILITY ADVOCATES ON INTERVENOR
COMPENSATION**

Dated December 12, 2025, at San Francisco, California.

/s/REGINA DEANGELIS

Regina DeAngelis
Administrative Law Judge

From: DeAngelis, Regina <regina.deangelis@cpuc.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2025 2:31 PM
To: Peter.VanMieghem@sce.com; Ariel@UtilityAdvocates.org; ryanagiba@turn.org; Huber, Patrick <Patrick.Huber@cpuc.ca.gov>; CentralFiles@semprautilities.com; kbarlow@sdge.com; mrw@mrwassoc.com; sjudkins@kaplankirsch.com; sberman@kaplankirsch.com; Schmitt, Edwin "Eddie" <Edwin.Schmitt@cpuc.ca.gov>; Symonds, Jason <Jason.Symonds@cpuc.ca.gov>; Ende, Julia <Julia.Ende@cpuc.ca.gov>; Mirfendereski, Nahal <Nahal.Mirfendereski@cpuc.ca.gov>; Carissa.LaTorre@sce.com; erin.pulgar@sce.com; Marisa.Choy@sce.com; Nayiri.Pilikyan@sce.com; peter.shakro@sce.com; Susan.DiBernardo@sce.com; case.admin@sce.com; Chitadje, Charlotte <charlotte.chitadje@cpuc.ca.gov>; Nawaz, Fauzia <Fauzia.Nawaz@cpuc.ca.gov>; DeAngelis, Regina <regina.deangelis@cpuc.ca.gov>; Thomas, Sarah R. <sarah.thomas@cpuc.ca.gov>; James@UtilityAdvocates.org; John.Perkins@pge.com; Kimberly.Chang@pge.com; viktoriya.malkina@pge.com; Walker.Matthews@pge.com; Gutierrez, Thomas <Thomas.Gutierrez@cpuc.ca.gov>
Cc: ALJ Support ID <alj_supportid@cpuc.ca.gov>; ALJ Docket Office <ALJ_Docket_Office@cpuc.ca.gov>; ALJ Process <alj_process@cpuc.ca.gov>
Subject: A24-04-005 (SCE 2023 WF & Other Costs) Email Ruling Requiring Additional Information from SBUA on Intervenor Compensation

This ruling pertains to the request by Small Business Utility Advocates (SBUA) for intervenor compensation under Section 1801 of the Public Utilities Code in Application 24-04-005. On August 15, 2025, SBUA requested intervenor compensation of \$53,260.00, reflecting 74.05 hours of work. For preparing the request for intervenor compensation, SBUA seeks an additional \$4,457.50 for 13.5 hours of work.

This ruling seeks additional information from SBUA, as detailed below. SBUA is directed to provide the above information within 5 days from the date of this ruling.

1. On the topic of substantial contribution in Application 22-05-002, SBUA stated in an October 15, 2024 filing that "Facing financial hardship, budgeting challenges, and delays in the Commission's processing of compensation claims,[fn. omitted] SBUA found it unable to sustain certain internal professional expenses to continue its advocacy efforts at the CPUC. In 2023, to mitigate certain

risks and attorney costs while maintaining its work, SBUA transitioned Mr. Birkelund to outside counsel by engaging him through the law firm of E&E Law Corp. (E&E Law) on a contingency and deferral basis. As necessitated by the nonprofit, Mr. Birkelund continued to provide the same General Counsel services to SBUA in this new capacity. SBUA passes on all recovered funds to outside counsel on contingency and agreed to pay for Mr. Birkelund's time at the market rate of \$770 per hour in 2023, as detailed in the summary of billing records in Attachment 2." Please explain how the engaging Birkelund on a contingency and deferral basis "mitigates certain risks and attorney costs..." and supports substantial contribution under the code?

2.SBUA seeks confidential treatment of its fee agreement with outside experts/attorneys. Identify what aspects of the fee agreement are confidential and provide the legal basis for this request.

3.Provide all invoices by E&E Law Firm (not billing records, which have been provided) to SBUA pertaining to this proceeding and this intervenor compensation claim.

4.Provide all payments made to SBUA pertaining to this proceeding and this intervenor compensation claim.

5.How many employees did SBUA engage during this proceeding?

6.How many board members oversaw SBUA during this proceeding?

7. How did SBUA engage the opinions of small business membership regarding this proceeding?

8. Provide the most recent three years of SBUA's federal non-profit tax form 999, which is publicly available.

IT IS SO RULED

The docket office shall file this ruling.

Regina M. DeAngelis

Administrative Law Judge

California Public Utilities Commission

regina.deangelis@cpuc.ca.gov

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.