



California Public Utilities Commission  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

Docket #: A.15-09-010

**CPUC DENIES SDG&E'S REQUEST TO RECOVER WILDFIRE EXPENSES**

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 30, 2017 - The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today denied the request of San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) to recover costs related to the 2007 Southern California Wildfires, finding that SDG&E did not reasonably operate its facilities linked to the wildfires, which thereby prohibits the utility from recovering those costs in rates.

On September 25, 2015, SDG&E filed an application seeking CPUC approval to recover \$379 million, which represents a portion of the \$2.4 billion in costs and legal fees incurred by SDG&E to resolve third-party damage claims arising from the Witch, Guejito, and Rice Wildfires.

The CPUC evaluated whether SDG&E's operation, engineering, and management of its facilities involved in the ignition of the wildfires was reasonable. Each of the fires is addressed separately under the CPUC's prudent management standard that requires that the CPUC not allow recovery of unreasonable costs that were the result of imprudent utility management. For all three fires the CPUC determined that SDG&E's operation and management of its facilities prior to the ignition of the wildfires was not prudent.

Commissioner Liane M. Randolph, who is assigned to the proceeding, stated, "There is no dispute that SDG&E facilities caused these fires. The question we had to analyze was whether the costs related to the fires should be paid by customers or shareholders. The CPUC undertook a careful review of the facts of each fire and determined in each case that customers should not have to bear these costs."

The proposal voted on is available at



<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M197/K851/197851767.PDF>.

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, protects consumers, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians' access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. For more information on the CPUC, please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

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