

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In The Matter of the Application of Southern California Gas Company (U 904 G) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Ventura Compressor Modernization Project.

Application 23-08-019

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to June 30, 2027.

1. Background

Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code) Section 1701.5(a) provides that the Commission shall resolve the issues raised in the scoping memo of a ratesetting proceeding within 18 months of the date the proceeding is initiated, unless the Commission makes a written determination that the deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending that deadline. The current statutory deadline for this proceeding is June 30, 2026.

On August 29, 2023, Southern California Gas Company filed Application (A.) 23-08-019 for: (A) review of the Ventura Compressor Modernization Project (Proposed Project); (B) a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)

for the Proposed Project, as required by General Order 177; (C) authority to recover the revenue requirement associated with the Proposed Project in customer rates; and (D) approval of related cost allocation and rate design proposals. The current statutory deadline for this proceeding is February 28, 2025.

On February 20, 2025, Decision 25-02-022 extended the statutory deadline for this proceeding to June 30, 2026.

The Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) was deemed complete on October 30, 2024. The California Public Utilities Commission's (Commission) California Environmental Quality (CEQA) staff is currently reviewing the PEA and needs adequate time to complete their review, and prepare the draft CEQA documents. The CEQA team plans to publish the initial CEQA environmental document in the second half of 2026. The environmental review should therefore be completed in early 2027. Consequently, the statutory deadline for A.23-08-019 should be extended to June 30, 2027, in case the CPCN requires hearings and briefings.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may waive the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment on a decision extending the deadline for resolving the issues raised in the scoping memo in a ratesetting proceeding set forth in Pub. Util. Code Section 1701.5. Under the circumstances of this proceeding, it is appropriate to waive the 30-day period for public review and comment.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Darcie L. Houck is the assigned Commissioner and Robert W. Haga is the assigned Administrative Law Judge and the presiding officer in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. A.23-08-019 was filed on August 29, 2023.
2. The current statutory deadline for completion of A.23-08-019 is June 30, 2026.
3. A.23-08-019 cannot be completed by June 30, 2026.
4. An extension of the statutory deadline to June 30, 2027, is necessary to allow adequate time to complete this proceeding.

Conclusions of Law

1. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code Section 1701.50(a), the statutory deadline should be extended to June 30, 2027.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline for completion of this consolidated proceeding is extended to June 30, 2027.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____ at Sacramento, California.