

**Energy Savings Assistance and California Alternate Rates for Energy Programs and  
Budgets for 2027 Program Years**

**(Applications 25-06-023, A.25-06-024, A.25-06-025,  
and related matters)**

**Amended Joint Stipulation – 01: Affordable Internet Education and Outreach**

**California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF), Pacific Gas & Electric Company  
(PG&E), San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E), Southern California Edison  
Company (SCE), and Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas)**

**Amended Joint Stipulation  
Affordable Broadband Internet Education and Outreach  
CETF, PG&E, SCE, SDG&E and SoCalGas**

Intervenor CETF proposes to continue a current requirement for affordable broadband offer education and outreach in A.19-11-003 and the current proceedings referenced above. On August 25, 2025, CETF filed a Motion for Party Status in A.25-06-022, which was granted in Administrative Law Judge Ruling, dated September 24, 2025. Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas”), San Diego Gas and Electric Company (“SDG&E”), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (“PG&E”), Southern California Edison Company (“SCE”), and the California Emerging Technology Fund (“CETF”) (collectively, the “Parties”) respectfully submit this Joint Stipulation in the above-referenced proceeding and request approval by the Commission.

On September 30, 2020, the Parties met via teleconference. The Parties worked collaboratively to reach consensus on the affordable broadband offer education and outreach

issue scoped within the proceeding.<sup>1</sup> The Parties believe this compromise outcome is reasonable considering the entire record in this proceeding and reflects a fair and balanced compromise of the Parties' proposals. Accordingly, the Parties agreed on a Joint Stipulation in A.19-11-003, et. al. for the 2021- 2026 program year. The Commission adopted the Joint Stipulation in D.21-06-015.

On June 27, 2025, the IOUs each filed and served their respective bridge funding applications for 2027. On August 29, 2025, the Administrative Law Judge issued a Ruling Directing Additional Testimony to be Served by Applicants regarding the Joint Stipulation. On September 17, 2025, the Assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo and Ruling. On October 6, 2025, the IOUs each served Supplemental Testimony regarding the Joint Stipulation and that any agreement would be included in CETF's upcoming intervenor testimony due November 21, 2025. On October 21, 2025, Parties met to discuss CETF's proposed modifications to the Joint Stipulation. On January 13, 2026, the above-listed parties met and conferred and after discussion and negotiation, have agreed to support this Amended Joint Stipulation and thus seek Commission approval for it in Exhibit A.

Based on that discussion, Parties recommend the following, in lieu of litigating these issues:

1. Affordable Broadband Marketing, Education and Outreach:

The Joint Investor Owned Utilities<sup>2</sup> ("IOUs") will, for A.19-11-003, et al, program years 2021 through Bridge Year 2027:

- a. Add a specifically assigned telephone number for each IOU for call tracking

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<sup>1</sup> Assigned Commissioner's Scoping Memo and Ruling, Issue Y, p. 6.

<sup>2</sup> The "Joint Investor Owned Utilities" are PG&E, SDG&E, SCE, and SoCalGas.

purpose and a web link designated by CETF<sup>3</sup> to a relevant location on the IOU's respective company website.<sup>4</sup> A "relevant" location may include, in the sole discretion of each IOU, the Joint IOUs' respective CARE, FERA, ESA, or general income-qualified assistance webpage of each IOU. The Joint IOUs will retain control over their respective websites, designs, and messaging. CETF and the IOUs each agree to meet quarterly each year of the 2021-2027 program cycle.

- b. Integrate broadband affordable offer and LifeLine Home Broadband Pilot Program ("LifeLine Broadband Pilot") messaging twice annually in select existing CARE, Family Electric Rate Assistance ("FERA") and/or ESA direct marketing materials as determined in the sole discretion of each IOU. In addition, at the discretion of the IOUs, examples of direct marketing materials may include email, direct mail (e.g. postcard), bill inserts or onserts, and CETF-provided customized electronic templates of materials regarding affordable internet and LifeLine Broadband Pilot offers for distribution through existing media channels, such as websites, texting, social media posts, community and ethnic media channels, and community resource guides. Where feasible, the messaging shall consist of approximately 1-2 lines of text within a given piece of marketing material. The IOUs are not required to include separate or stand-alone broadband affordable or Lifeline Broadband Pilot offer messaging with their direct marketing materials. Each IOU will determine the most appropriate strategy to integrate

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<sup>3</sup> For example, for the 2025 – 2026 time era, CETF designates the "Get Connected" web link: <https://www.internetforallnow.org/>

<sup>4</sup> The IOU-specific telephone number assigned by CETF is to track the number of low-income consumers that call in to the CETF "Get Connected" Call Center to gain assistance in locating affordable broadband offers and LifeLine Broadband Pilot services in their geographic areas, obtain assistance to sign up, and obtain screening for free Digital Literacy training.

broadband and LifeLine Broadband Pilot message placement and prominence in a given piece of marketing material. At the discretion of each IOU, an IOU may choose to provide CETF with a calendar of planned promotional efforts to support CETF's resource planning. There is no expectation that each IOU have the same amount or scope of direct marketing. Integrating broadband messaging in IOU marketing material assumes this specific work will be done at minimal or no cost to the ratepayer. IOUs retain sole discretion in determining whether any incremental costs associated with printing or mailing can be absorbed by CARE/FERA/ESA Program marketing dollars to subsidize costs.

- c. Incorporate CETF affordable broadband and LifeLine Broadband Pilot materials in ESA Program education kits. The CETF materials shall be developed, funded, and provided by CETF. The IOUs' respective ESA Program contractors will have no expectation of answering questions or educating customers on issues related to affordable broadband or LifeLine Broadband Pilot offers or eligibility criteria. ESA Program contractors may refer a customer to the CETF materials and contact information should such questions arise.

- (a) Once a year, CETF may conduct an orientation, briefing and/or trainings at ESA contractor workshops to educate any employees, contractors, Community-Based Organizations ("CBO") working on the IOUs' income-qualified assistance programs on the broadband/LifeLine Broadband Pilot materials.

- (b) The IOUs will invite the Community Help and Awareness of Natural Gas and Electric Services program ("CHANGES") CBOs to receive training

from CETF on LifeLine and Affordable Broadband options as part of the Joint Stipulation activities. IOUs will use the CHANGES CBO list posted on the CPUC website.<sup>5</sup>

(c) CETF shall provide all the trainers and materials for these training courses at no cost to the IOUs.

- d. Help educate Community-Based Organizations by inviting CETF to speak and present at a minimum of one CBO training workshop or Marketing Education & Outreach (“ME&O”) meeting annually. Once connected to the network of CBOs, CETF may (1) coordinate with CBOs directly to provide CETF-created and CETF-funded marketing materials for CBO distribution to assistance recipients (e.g., handouts at food banks, etc.), and (2) collaborate with CETF-identified Digital Inclusion CBOs. Except for the IOU/CBO ME&O event collaboration, all other CBO coordination should be considered outside of the IOU’s purview to manage, mediate, and organize, and outside any IOU-CBO contract activity. Joint IOUs assume no responsibility or liability for any act or failure to act of any CBO in any relationship that may be formed between a CBO and CETF.
- e. Once a year within the low-income program annual report filing, each IOU will provide the number of CARE customers and how many of those CARE customers have emails on file. Also, once a year within the income-qualified program annual report filing, each IOU will provide a list of activities pursued by the IOU under this Joint Stipulation.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/about-cpuc/divisions/news-and-public-information-office/consumer-affairs-branch/team-and-changes-programs>

- f. CETF and each IOU agree to hold a quarterly meeting with appropriate program staff to review performance data and confer and collaborate on additional strategies to get income-qualified assistance program customers online for the goal of closing the Digital Divide. CETF agrees to designate a lead point of contact for the IOUs to ensure effective coordination.
  - g. The Commission should request that CETF compile the data it tracks, namely, (1) the percentage of CARE customers that have emails on file (if the data in 1.e. is received from each IOU); and (2) the number of calls generated by each IOU to the Call Center, to evaluate the performance of the Joint Stipulation into a table that would then be included in a CETF Annual Compliance filing in the relevant docket within two weeks of the IOUs' annual report filings.
2. Costs:
- a. As a condition precedent to the IOUs' obligation to comply with Sections 1a through 1f above, the IOUs will require Commission approval of this Joint Stipulation. The IOUs' respectively have pending requests for marketing, education, and outreach ("ME&O") budgets for CARE, ESA and FERA activities for the PY 2021-2027 cycle. The IOUs' request Commission authorization to access and use these ME&O approved budgets in the 2021-2027 cycle to subsidize the minimal costs for certain tasks detailed in this Joint Stipulation. These certain tasks include, but are not limited to, sorting materials, distribution, postage, internal labor to coordinate marketing and website design, and costs associated with assembling ESA Program educational kits.
  - b. As noted in Section 1.b. above, the IOUs anticipate that integrating broadband

and LifeLine Broadband Pilot affordable offer messaging into their direct marketing materials can be accomplished at minimal or at no cost to the ratepayer. However, to the extent that minimal costs for these activities exist, the Parties agree to incorporate broadband offer marketing messages into existing marketing materials in compliance with this Joint Stipulation and at the sole discretion of each IOU.


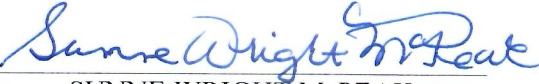
3. Procedural Matters

- a. This amended Joint Stipulation is subject to and requires Commission approval, including to authorize the IOUs to use CARE/FERA/ESA dollars for affordable broadband offer marketing pursuant to Section 2 above. This Joint Stipulation will remove further affordable broadband matters from this proceeding (A.19-11-003, et al.) and IOUs' respective bridge funding proceeding (A.25-06-023, A.25-06-024, A.25-06-025, et al). Any ongoing discussions regarding further affordable broadband matters should take place in other Commission broadband dockets.
- b. Each IOU will exercise independent judgment and discretion in determining the most appropriate means for implementing the agreements in this Stipulation.
- c. The Parties agree to exchange point of contact information with each other regarding implementation of this Joint Stipulation.
- d. This Joint Stipulation does not constitute and should not be used as a precedent regarding any principle or issue in this proceeding or in any future proceeding.
- e. The Parties agree that this Joint Stipulation is reasonable considering the testimony submitted in A.19-11-003 and the current dockets, consistent with law, and in the public interest.

- f. This Joint Stipulation may be amended or changed only by a written agreement signed by the Parties.
- g. Nothing in this Joint Stipulation shall have the effect of diluting the Joint IOUs' messaging for their respective income-qualified programs.

4. Conclusion

The Joint Parties confirm that representatives of the Joint Parties have authorization to submit this Joint Stipulation on behalf of their respective organization. This concludes the Joint Stipulation.

<p><b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY</b></p> <p>By:           ANDREW STEINBERG          Director, Customer Programs &amp; Assistance</p>	<p><b>SAN DIEGO GAS &amp; ELECTRIC COMPANY</b></p> <p>By: _____          KAZEEM OMIDIJI          Director of Customer Programs</p>
<p><b>PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY</b></p> <p>By: _____          ERIK OLSEN          Senior Manager, Marketing Strategy</p>	<p><b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY</b></p> <p>By: _____          BRIAN STONEROCK          Director, Advanced Energy Solutions</p>
<p><b>CALIFORNIA EMERGING TECHNOLOGY FUND</b></p> <p>By:           SUNNE WRIGHT McPEAK          President and CEO</p>	<p>Dated: March 23, 2026</p>

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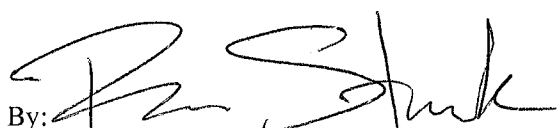
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