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Date: January 31, 2025
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#### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

# APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL UNDER PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE SECTION 851 TO LEASE ENTITLEMENTS TO TRANSMISSION PROJECTS TO CITIZENS ENERGY CORPORATION

#### AMENDMENT TO PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY

(REDLINE VERSION)



# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL UNDER PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE SECTION 851 TO LEASE ENTITLEMENTS TO TRANSMISSION PROJECTS TO CITIZENS ENERGY CORPORATION AMENDMENT TO PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY

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# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 1 OVERVIEW AND POLICY

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY <u>AMENDED</u> CHAPTER 1 OVERVIEW AND POLICY

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#### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY **AMENDED CHAPTER 1** OVERVIEW AND POLICY

#### A. Introduction

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The application Amended Application requests California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approval under Section 851 of the California Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code) for Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to lease Entitlements<sup>1</sup> to certain PG&E transmission projects to a wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation subject to the terms and conditions of the Investment Program created by the Development, Coordination, and Option Agreement (DCOA) attached to the Amended Application as Attachment 1- and as described in the Amended Application. PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation (together with its wholly owned subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, "Citizens"2)3 executed the DCOA on February 20, 2024 and amended and restated it on January 29, 2025. We chose to partner with Citizens in the Investment Program because of Citizens' mission and track record as a well-established and unique charitable

organization in the energy industry. Citizens has a long history of using

Entitlements are defined in Appendix A to the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) Tariff as "The right of a Participating [Transmission Owner] obtained through contract or other means to use another entity's transmission facilities for the transmission of Energy." CAISO Fifth Replacement FERC Electronic Tariff, Appendix A, Entitlements.

<sup>2—</sup>The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E.

The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E. This testimony refers to Citizens Energy Corporation and its subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, or other wholly owned subsidiary that Citizens selects to enter into an Entitlements Lease, collectively as "Citizens."

investments in the energy sector to fund its charitable mission, which is to help low-income families and disadvantaged communities with basic needs, including assistance with utility bills.

Under the Investment Program, subject to Commission approval, PG&E may offer Citizens up to five separate options to lease Entitlements to PG&E high-voltage transmission projects that which will be identified insubmitted to the Commission and stakeholders for review prior to execution of the relevant lease and will meet specified eligibility requirements, for a total Citizens investment of up to \$1.0 billion.

The testimony submitted with this the Amended Application demonstrates that leasing Entitlements to Citizens pursuant to the Investment Program is in the public interest and benefits customers because it: (1) will allow PG&E to efficiently access up to \$1.0 billion in capital and accelerate for required electric infrastructure investments necessary to meet California's decarbonization goals, while increasing capacity, reliability, asset health, and the interconnection of generation (including renewable generation) and load on the PG&E system; (2) will bring substantial benefits through an more than \$450 million of estimated contributions from Citizens to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need, including those in disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territory; and (3) will benefit customers through rate stability and rate certainty.

The Investment Program is closely modeled on two transactions between San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) and Citizens that the Commission authorized in Decision (D.) 11-05-048 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision) and D.19-03-024 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision). Those decisions approved leases—substantially similar to the leases contemplated here—under which subsidiaries of Citizens leased Entitlements in two SDG&E transmission lines: the Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project (Sunrise Project) and the Sycamore—Penasquitos Transmission Project (Sycamore Project), respectively. The lease arrangements the Commission approved in the Sunrise Section 851 Decision and the Sycamore Section 851 Decision have yielded significant low—

D.11-05-048 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. Pub. Util. CodePUC Lexis 302 (Cal. Pub. Util. CodeP.U.C. 2011); D.19-03-024 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. CodePUC Lexis 154 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

income energy assistance investments by Citizens in disadvantaged communities and low-income families in Imperial County and San Diego County, respectively, in accordance with its agreements with SDG&E. The Investment Program between PG&E and Citizens will yield significantly greater support for disadvantaged communities and low-income families in need in PG&E's service area, including those in disadvantaged communities, and also incorporates enhanced ratepayer protections.

 The <u>Amended</u> Application is supported by the following prepared testimony from PG&E and Citizens witnesses:

- Amended Chapter 1: Overview and Policy. Amended Testimony of Barry J.
   Bentley, Senior Vice President Electric Engineering at PG&E; describes the purpose of the Investment Program and its benefits.
- Amended Chapter 2: The Investment Program. Amended Testimony of Michael Medeiros, Senior Director — Electric Technology and Information StrategyVice President — South Bay Delivery at PG&E:; describes the key details of the Investment Program.
- <u>Amended Chapter 3: Investment Program Rate Implications.</u> <u>Amended</u>

  Testimony of Divya Raman, Manager Economic Analysis at PG&E;

  describes the rate implications of the Investment Program.
- Amended Chapter 4: Tax. Amended Testimony of James Higham Jr.,
   Senior Manager Tax at PG&E; describes special tax implications due to the classification of Entitlements Leases as Internal Revenue Code (IRC) § 467 leases.
- Amended Chapter 5: Citizens Energy Introduction and Participation in Investment Program. Amended Testimony of Peter F. Smith, Chief Executive Officer of Citizens: describes Citizens and its charitable direct bill-paying assistance commitments under the Investment Program.
- Amended Chapter 6: Citizens Energy Economic Benefits. Citizens Rate Model. Amended Testimony of Ronald-E.-Kennedy, DirectorVice President of Transmission Strategy Practice at MCR Performance Solutions, on behalf of Citizens: describes the Citizens rate model and the economic impact of the Investment Program on ratepayers.

- Amended Chapter 7: Citizens Citizens' Charitable Giving. Amended
   Testimony of Joseph P. Kennedy III, President of Citizens; describes
   Citizens' charitable giving.
- Chapter 8: Citizens Public Interest Analysis. Testimony of Susan F.
  Tierney, Senior Advisor at the Analysis Group, on behalf of Citizens;
  describes why the Investment Program is not adverse—and is in fact
  beneficial—to the public interest.
- Chapter 9: Utility Financing Principles. Testimony of Jennifer E. Nelson,
   Assistant Vice President at Concentric Energy Advisors, on behalf of PG&E;
   describes the capital needs of electric utilities and the benefits of diverse
   funding sources such as the Investment Program.

#### B. Overview of the Investment Program

 PG&E and Citizens executed the DCOA on February 20, 2024 and amended and restated it on January 29, 2025. Under the DCOA, PG&E may offer Citizens up to five separate options to lease Entitlements to PG&E high—voltage transmission projects that will be identified in the relevant lease and will meet specified eligibility requirements. The projects that will be subject to Entitlements Leases must be fully permitted and operational at lease execution and are projects PG&E plans to put into service regardless of whether the Investment Program is implemented. If PG&E and Citizens (collectively, the Parties) close on a given option, the Parties will enter into a 30—year "Entitlements Lease" for the applicable group of projects. A Form of Entitlements Lease is Exhibit A to the DCOA (Entitlements Lease).

Citizens' leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to any given project will be capped at 49.9 percent. The Investment Program involves *only* the lease of Entitlements to Citizens. PG&E will retain full ownership of the projects subject to any Entitlements Lease and will remain responsible for the development, design, permitting, engineering, procurement, construction, operation, and maintenance of the projects. The relevant transmission projects will be under the operational control of the CAISO (or its successor) for the 30-

The original version of this testimony was provided in August 2024 as "supplemental" testimony with the permission of the assigned Administrative Law Judge

<sup>6</sup> Unless otherwise specified, all references to the DCOA and the Entitlements Lease refer to the amended and restated versions of those documents.

year term of the applicable Entitlements Lease. At the end of each lease, the Entitlements to the subject transmission projects will revert to PG&E free and clear of any liens or encumbrances.

Under the DCOA, the aggregate value of the Entitlements that may be leased to Citizens pursuant to the Investment Program is capped at \$1.0 billion. The Parties expect this amount to be allocated roughly into five separate Entitlements Leases averaging \$200 million each. The DCOA, however, provides flexibility to adjust the dollar value of each Entitlements Lease, subject to the total investment cap of \$1.0 billion and the 49.9 percent Citizens' leasehold interest limit noted above.

Each Citizens investment under an Entitlements Lease will take the form of a lump sum prepaid rent payment by Citizens to PG&E (Prepaid Rent) that will confer on Citizens a leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to a specified group of PG&E transmission projects for the duration of the 30--year Entitlements Lease. The applicable Entitlements Lease will govern the rights and obligations of Citizens and PG&E during the 30--year term and among other things will obligate Citizens to commit a substantial and escalating portion of its net after--tax profits attributable to the leased Entitlements to fund energy-related charitable direct bill-paying assistance programs for disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service areacustomers in need.

PG&E witness Michael Medeiros discusses the details of the Investment Program in <a href="Mended"><u>Amended</u></a> Chapter 2.

#### C. Purpose of the Investment Program

The purpose of the Investment Program is to provide PG&E with an additional source of capital while providing important customer rate protections and promoting significant charitable contributions direct bill-paying assistance to support disadvantaged communities and low-income families in need in PG&E's service territory—including those in disadvantaged communities. By providing PG&E with up to \$1.0 billion in capital, the Investment Program will enable PG&E to accelerate timely undertake needed infrastructure investments. PG&E has been actively pursuing multiple avenues to increase electric system safety, capacity, reliability, asset health, and interconnections that further support California's decarbonization goals. The Investment Program also will allow

disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territory to more fully participate in and benefit raise capital, including the issuance of new equity and loans from the clean energy transition in California, thanks to Citizens' contractual commitment to use a United States Department of Energy (DOE). Given the need for substantial and escalating portion of its net after tax profits to fund energy related charitable programs in infrastructure investment, which will benefit all customers, PG&E's service area is not limiting itself to one source of capital. Instead, PG&E has pursued multiple approaches for raising capital, including the Investment Program with Citizens proposed in the Amended Application.

While the Investment Program is an efficient means of raising capital, it also does much more. The Investment Program directly addresses energy affordability concerns for PG&E customers in need as a result of Citizens' contractual commitment to use a substantial and escalating portion of its net after-tax profits for direct bill-paying assistance.

The Investment Program expands upon Citizens' prior transmission—related transactions in California and wouldwill allow Citizens to acquire leasehold interests in Entitlements to multiple transmission projects under multiple leases. This multi—project, multi—lease approach will allow for a larger total investment by Citizens in a manner that promotes both cost and timing efficiencies within parameters that are acceptable to PG&E, Citizens, and Citizens' lenders, while preserving important and previously accepted customer protections.

#### D. Benefits of the Investment Program

The Investment Program is closely modeled on prior transactions between Citizens and SDG&E that the Commission approved, determining the transactions were not adverse to the public interest and in fact benefited the public interest. The Investment Program incorporates the key elements of earlier Citizens/SDG&E transactions and includes additional customer and community benefits. The Investment Program will provide significant benefits

<sup>7</sup> See D.19-03-024 at 2, 18, 20, 25 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*1, \*9, \*11, \*13;-2, \*25, \*29, \*35-36 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019); D.11-05-048 at 1-2, 22-26 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. Pub. Util. Code PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), at \*1-2, \*32-38- (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

by: (1) providing an more than \$450 million in expected direct bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers in need; (2) providing additional capital that will support needed infrastructure investment and promote PG&E's financial health; (3) providing rate certainty and rate stability; (4) ensuring customers benefit from the remaining useful life of projects after expiration of the applicable Entitlements Lease; and (5) advancing diverse interests in transmission development.

#### 1. Benefits for the Public

1. A key aspect of the The Investment Program is Citizens' contractual commitment Will Allow Citizens to contribute a significant portion of its net after-tax profits from its leased Entitlements to Provide More than \$450 Million in Expected Direct Bill-Paying Assistance for PG&E Customers in Need

Following conversations with stakeholders that stressed the importance of ensuring affordable access to electricity for residential customers in California, Citizens decided to commit 100 percent of the charitable contributions associated with the Investment Program to programs that provide direct bill-paying assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territoryPG&E customers in need. In Citizens' previous transmission investments in the CAISO area, Citizens committed to dedicate 50 percent of its net after—tax profits to support energy-related charitable programs or entities assisting disadvantaged communities and low—income families in the project area. Under the Investment Program in this case, Citizens has contractually committed to dedicate escalating percentages of its net after—tax profits to energy-related charitable direct bill-paying assistance programs and entities—that support disadvantaged communities and low income families in the PG&E service area customers in need based on the following schedule:

- 50 percent of the net after-<u>tax</u> profits from the first \$200 million invested;
- 60 percent of the net after-<u>-</u>tax profits from the next \$200 million invested;
- 70 percent of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested;

4) 80 percent of the net after-<u>-</u>tax profits from the next \$200 million invested; and

5) 90 percent of the net after-<u>tax</u> profits from the final \$200 million invested.

As Citizens witness Peter F. Smith explains in his <u>amended</u> testimony (<u>Amended</u> Chapter 5), Citizens currently estimates that if the full \$1.0 billion investment is realized under the Investment Program, over the terms of the contemplated Entitlements Leases (a total span of approximately 35 years), Citizens will contribute more than \$400 million to charitable programs that enable disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service area to more fully participate in California's clean energy initiatives. 450 million to direct bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers in need.

In its prior transactions with SDG&E, Citizens committed to contribute 50 percent of its net after—tax profits to disadvantaged communities and low—income families. As Mr. Smith explains and Citizens' President Joseph P. Kennedy III (Amended Chapter 7) explain in histheir amended testimony, the Citizens charitable contributions from those previous transactions are providing significant benefits to the public through funding for rooftop and community solar projects in Imperial County and funding for electric vehicles and other forms of emissions—free transportation service in San Diego County.

In approving Citizens' transactions with SDG&E, the Commission found that Citizens' charitable commitments provide "a significant public benefit" that "not only benefits disadvantaged and low-income communities ... but also supports the state's implementation of [Senate Bill ('SB')] 350." As the Commission explained in approving Citizens' investment in the Sycamore Project, Citizens' contributions will support key goals of SB 350, which "promotes clean energy programs ... to achieve goals for greenhouse-gas

D.11-05-048 at 12 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. <u>Pub. Util. Code PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code)</u>, at \*18–19. (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>9</sup> D.19-03-024 at 18 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*10.25-26 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

reduction and encourages more access of these programs for low-<u>-</u>income and disadvantaged communities."<sup>10</sup>

Here, the size and structure of the Investment Program will allow Citizens to commit to far greater levels of charitable assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income support families in need, both in terms of the percentage of net after—tax profits committed and the overall amount that will be contributed. Citizens is also providing greater specificity about its charitable giving plans by committing to dedicate all its charitable contributions associated with the Investment Program to direct bill-paying assistance. As such, the Investment Program will provide significant public benefits.

#### 2. Benefits for Customers

The Investment Program will provide significant benefits to customers by: (1) providing additional capital that will support PG&E's infrastructure needs and promote PG&E's financial health, (2) providing rate certainty and rate stability, (3) ensuring customers benefit from the remaining useful life of projects after expiration of the applicable Entitlements Lease, and (4) advancing diverse interests in transmission development.

# a.2. The Additional Capital Provided Through the Investment Program Will Support PG&E's Needed Infrastructure Needs Investment and Promote PG&E's Financial Health

As PG&E's expert witness Jennifer E. Nelson (Amended Chapter 9)
explains, all utilities require substantial amounts of capital to safely and
reliably meet their obligation to serve customers. California's
decarbonization and risk reduction goals in particular require significant
capital investment. For example, support for electric vehicles, Achieving
California's goal of carbon neutrality by 204511 will require significant
electrification of buildings, and interconnection and vehicles, along with
substantial additions of new renewable and utility-scale and distributed clean
energy storage facilities resources. These projects will require meaningful

**<sup>10</sup>** <u>Id.</u> D.19-03-024 at 18 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*26 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

<sup>11</sup> See Assembly Bill No. 1279, ch. 337 (Cal. 2022).

investments to increase the capacity of the transmission and distribution system, along with in certain areas of the grid, in addition to ongoing investments to ensure the continued safety, reliability, and health of the existing electricity delivery system. 12 In its 2023-2024 transmission plan, CAISO explained that the "need for additional generation of electricity over the next 10 years has escalated rapidly in California as it continues transitioning to the carbon-free electrical grid required by the state's clean-energy policies," which in turn is "driving a dramatically accelerated pace for new transmission development in current and future planning cycles." 13 Governor Gavin Newsom's October 2024 Executive Order on electricity affordability similarly highlighted investments in "the critical work of upgrading and expanding the aging electric transmission and distribution infrastructure that makes up our electric grid to meet future demand," as well as "historic investments that are critical to reduce wildfire risk and improve the safety and reliability of the electric grid." 14

PG&E also anticipates significant load growth in its service territory that will necessitate further infrastructure investments. In the greater Bay Area, for instance, PG&E expects load to grow 30 percent by 2034 and 50 percent by 2039.<sup>15</sup> In light of this historic need for infrastructure investment, PG&E Corporation recently announced that its five-year capital investment plan for 2024 through 2028 has increased to \$63 billion.<sup>16</sup> Under the Investment

See, e.g., Edison Int'l, Countdown to 2045: Realizing California's Pathway to Net Zero (Sept. 2023), https://newsroom.edison.com/ gallery/get file/?file id=6508e6633 d63325f2e763f1b&ir=1.

<sup>13</sup> CAISO, 2023-2024 Transmission Plan at 1 (May 23, 2024), https://www.caiso.com/doc uments/decisionon2023-2024transmissionplan-memo-may2024.pdf.

<sup>14</sup> Cal. Exec. Dep't, Executive Order N-5-24 (Oct. 30, 2024).

<sup>15</sup> PG&E, PG&E's 2024 Request Window Proposals: CAISO 2024-2025 Transmission Planning Process at 2 (Sept. 24, 2024).

Guidance; Initiates 2025 Guidance; Grows 5-Year Capital Plan (Nov. 7, 2024), https://investor.pgecorp.com/news-events/press-releases/press-release-details/2024/PGE-Corporation-Reports-Strong-Third-Quarter-Results-Strengthens-2024-Guidance-Initiates-2025-Guidance-Grows-5-Year-Capital-Plan/; see also Prepared Testimony of Jennifer E. Nelson (Chapter 9), Section III ("[Regulatory Research Associates] reports \$38.4 billion in planned capital expenditures for PG&E Corp. from 2025 – 2027, which is the third largest of the 45 utilities covered in the report and more than 6% of the \$620 billion total.").

Program, Citizens will provide PG&E with up to \$1.0 billion that will enable PG&E to accelerate undertake these important investments. These Capital investments to support the construction of needed and essential infrastructure will benefitensure that PG&E is able to continue providing safe and reliable electric service to its customers, and. Additionally, as the Commission found in the Sunrise Section 851 Decision, 17 energy infrastructure development will benefit the public by improving employment opportunities and the tax base in the PG&E electric service territory.

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PG&E will use the proceeds from the Entitlements Leases as a source of funding for PG&E's utility capital expenditure program, including investments in electric transmission and distribution system safety and reliability upgrades, risk mitigation, and investments in electrification and related efforts to combat climate change. The investments funded by the proceeds of the Investment Program will go through the required regulatory processes and approvals, including any such processes needed to determine need and prudency. Stakeholders will have the opportunity to participate in any such proceedings.

In addition, PG&E is pursuing a variety of avenues to fund the significant transmission and distribution system infrastructure investments that will be needed in the coming years, including transactions with partners like Citizens. As PG&E's expert witness Jennifer E. Nelson (Amended Chapter 9) explains in greater detail, the Investment Program is a reasonable and prudent option for raising capital that will benefit customers by improving PG&E's financial strength and flexibility, which ultimately is to the benefit of customers.

The Commission has also recognized that customers have a general interest in PG&E's return to financial health and an investment-grade issuer

<sup>17</sup> D.11-05-048 at 13 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. Pub. Util. Code PUC Lexis 302, at \*19 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), at \*19.P.U.C. 2011).

ultimately reduces customer costs by allowing PG&E to obtain lower cost credit and financing for projects needed to serve customers. 19 Ms. Nelson explains that PG&E generates less cash flow internally for its capital investment and requires more external financial capital to fund its capital investment plan than other electric utilities do, which magnifies the need for PG&E to maintain flexible access to multiple sources of capital. Although debt and equity are the primary sources of external capital for utilities, alternative capital sources like the Investment Program can allow PG&E to raise capital without adversely impacting PG&E's financial profile and credit metrics. In doing so, the Investment Program promotes PG&E's financial health to the benefit of customers. 20 The Investment Program also will

See, e.g., D.03-12-035, Appendix C, Statement of Intent (5) (In Re Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.), 230 P.U.R.4th 101, 2002 Cal. Pub. Util. Code Lexis 1051 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), at \*144 ("It is in the public interest to restore PG&E to financial health and to maintain and improve PG&E's financial health in the future to ensure that PG&E is able to provide safe and reliable electric and gas service to its customers at just and reasonable rates."); D.04-03-009 at 25 (In re Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.), 2004 Cal. Pub. Util. Code Lexis 72 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), at \*43 ("The record demonstrates that creditworthiness was important to obtaining low cost credit and financing of major projects that would benefit ratepayers."); D.19-10-056 at 39 (Order Instituting Rulemaking to Consider Authorization of a Non-Bypassable Charge to Support California's Wildfire Fund), 2019 Cal. Pub. Util. Code Lexis 673 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), at \*46 ("[A]II else being equal, the prevention of credit rating downgrades for electrical corporations reduces ratepayer costs.").

See, e.g., D.03-12-035, Appendix C, Statement of Intent (5) (*In re Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.*), 230 P.U.R.4th 101, 2002 Cal. PUC Lexis 1051, at \*144 (Cal. P.U.C. 2003) ("It is in the public interest to restore PG&E to financial health and to maintain and improve PG&E's financial health in the future to ensure that PG&E is able to provide safe and reliable electric and gas service to its customers at just and reasonable rates."); D.04-03-009 at 25 (*In re Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.*), 2004 Cal. PUC Lexis 72, at \*43 (Cal. P.U.C. 2004) ("The record demonstrates that creditworthiness was important to obtaining low cost credit and financing of major projects that would benefit ratepayers."); D.19-10-056 at 39 (*Order Instituting Rulemaking to Consider Authorization of a Non-Bypassable Charge to Support California's Wildfire Fund*), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 673, at \*46 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019) ("[A]|I else being equal, the prevention of credit rating downgrades for electrical corporations reduces ratepayer costs.").

The Investment Program would complement PG&E's other efforts to raise capital in a way that improves the company's financial health, including the proposal to transfer substantially all of PG&E's non-nuclear generation assets to a new subsidiary and to sell minority equity interests in such subsidiary to one or more third-party investors. See Application of Pac. Gas & Elec. Co. (U 39 E) & Pac. Generation LLC for Approval to Transfer Certain Generation Assets, A.22-09-018 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code filed Sept. 28, 2022).

diversify PG&E's capital sources, providing financial flexibility that is critical to PG&E's ability to meet its obligation to serve customers safely and reliably.<sup>21</sup> Having diverse funding sources mitigates risk and lowers the overall cost of funds, thereby benefitting PG&E customers and protecting them from higher capital costs.

#### b.3. Customers Will Benefit From Rate Certainty and Rate Stability

Citizens' capital cost recovery (i.e., the recovery of the Prepaid Rent paid to PG&E at the outset of an Entitlements Lease and financing costs, capped at one percent of Prepaid Rent) will be the largest component of the rate Citizens will charge CAISO customers. As PG&E witnesses Michael Medeiros (Amended Chapter 2) and Divya Raman (Amended Chapter 3) and), Citizens' expert witness Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6), and PG&E expert witness Jennifer E. Nelson (Chapter 9) discuss in their respective testimony, the capital component of Citizens' rate for each Entitlements Lease will be capped and locked-in for the full 30-year term of that Entitlements Lease, absent a change in law. Customers will benefit from Citizens securing 100 percent of its required financing at the outset and locking in capital cost recovery over the 30-year Entitlements Lease term. Additionally, Citizens' annual capital cost revenue requirements will be levelized (i.e., equal) over the 30-year lease periods, providing further rate certainty and stability.

These features of the Investment Program are modeled on the approach Citizens used in its prior transactions with SDG&E. In approving Citizens' investment in the Sycamore Project, the Commission found that "Citizens' fixed capital costs provide rate stability to ratepayers. They also protect ratepayers from changes in money costs caused by fluctuations in the market. Furthermore, the rate stability and protection from market

PG&E has recently issued equity and worked to secure funding from the DOE to finance infrastructure investment. However, these financing transactions alone are not sufficient to meet all of PG&E's infrastructure investment needs. The Investment Program provides another means to raise needed capital in a reasonable and prudent manner.

fluctuations provide tangible benefits to ratepayers."22 The same benefits are present here.

#### c.4. Customers Will Benefit From the Remaining Useful Life of Projects Subject to Entitlements Leases

By the expiration of an Entitlements Lease, the capital costs for the portions of the projects that were subject to Citizens' leasehold interest will have been fully depreciated. Since the leased Entitlements to the projects revert to PG&E at the expiration of an Entitlements Lease, customers will receive the benefit for the remaining useful life of those facilities without being charged for their capital costs for such period. As the Commission found in the Sycamore Section 851 Decision, 23 customers' ability to continue using the relevant transmission projects for their remaining useful lives after they are fully depreciated is a net benefit to customers.

#### d.<u>5.</u>The Investment Program Will Advance Diverse Interests in Transmission Development

Citizens is not a public utility that has an obligation to serve and thus is significantly different from a traditional utility. As the Commission recognized when approving Citizens' investment in the Sunrise Project, "having Citizens' as a new, non-utility participant" in transmission development in California "is a positive element" of the Investment Program.<sup>24</sup> As with the Sunrise Project, authorizing leases of Entitlements pursuant to the Investment Program would lead to "the presence of another firm with a significant interest in transmission investment" in PG&E's electric service territory, which "increases the potential for such development, and ... would make it more likely than not that Citizens will become and remain a viable competitor in transmission development" beyond its current interests in the state.<sup>25</sup>

D.19-03-024 at 16 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*8-22 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

<sup>23</sup> D.19-03-024 at 19-20 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*10-27-29 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

<sup>24</sup> D.11-05-048 at 14 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. <u>Pub. Util. Code PUC</u> Lexis 302, at \*21 (Cal. <u>Pub. Util. Code</u>), at \*21. <u>P.U.C. 2011).</u>

*Id*.

#### **E. Protections Against Adverse Impacts**

 The Investment Program includes important ratepayer protections that are modeled and expand on the ratepayer protections in the prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions. The Investment Program also includes provisions to ensure electric service to the public will not be negatively impacted.

#### Customers Will Continue Receiving Electric Service at Fair and Reasonable Rates

Like SDG&E in the prior Citizens transactions, PG&E was concerned about the rates Citizens could obtain at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in connection with its participation in the Investment Program. The DCOA and Entitlements Lease thus include the same important ratepayer protections the Commission approved in the Sunrise and Sycamore Section 851 Decisions and additional protections. These protections are summarized below and are discussed in greater detail in the <a href="mailto:amended">amended</a> testimony of PG&E witnesses Michael Medeiros (<a href="mailto:Amended">Amended</a> Chapter 3) and Citizens' expert witness Ronald E. Kennedy (<a href="mailto:Amended">Amended</a> Chapter 6).

Consistent with the Citizens/SDG&E transactions, PG&E and Citizens have agreed to cap the capital cost component of Citizens' FERC rate at an approximation of the rate PG&E could charge at the time of execution of an Entitlements Lease for the portion of the transmission projects subject to Citizens Citizens' leasehold interests (i.e., if PG&E held 100 percent of the Entitlements). The Parties will use the "Representative Rate Model" in the Entitlements Lease to generate the approximate PG&E rate at the time the applicable Entitlements Lease is executed. This structure is closely modeled on the Citizens/SDG&E transactions, which included similar models that the Commission reviewed and approved. 26

Additionally, the Investment Program is structured to prevent double recovery of any project—related costs. More specifically, the transaction documents include express provisions: (1) requiring that an amount equal

<sup>26</sup> See D.19-03-024 at 12-14 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*6-7;17-20 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019); D.11-05-048 at 19-22 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. Pub. Util. Code PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), \*28-32- (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

to or greater than the expected Citizens leasehold percentage interest of the capital costs of each project must not already be included in PG&E's existing FERC transmission rates for purposes of cost recovery;

(2) requiring that PG&E exclude from its transmission rates for cost recovery an amount of dollars equivalent to the total Prepaid Rent received from Citizens; and (3) providing for PG&E to allocate to Citizens a proportionate share of expense costs for the projects subject to an Entitlements Lease and requiring that PG&E exclude from its transmission rates for cost recovery any such amount allocated to Citizens. These principles are consistent with the Citizens/SDG&E transactions, which the Commission found to adequately protect against double recovery. Here, as an added protection, PG&E and Citizens expressly incorporated these protections into the DCOA. 28

The Investment Program also provides additional customer protection compared to the prior Commission-approved transactions between SDG&E and Citizens.<sup>29</sup> Namely, the DCOA and Entitlements Lease expressly require that Citizens be responsible for the Citizens-specific incremental costs associated with its involvement in the Investment Program and will-not recover these costs in customer rates. Citizens is able to offer this additional protection here because of the size and multi-year structure of the Investment Program.

As a final protection, the Entitlements Lease expressly confirms that so long as PG&E is part of CAISO or a successor system operator, PG&E shall not be responsible to guarantee or financially support Citizens' cost recovery.

#### 2. Electric Service to the Public Will Not Be Negatively Impacted

Under the Entitlements Leases, PG&E will retain responsibility for the operations and maintenance of the projects. Additionally, Citizens will be required to transfer operational control of the leased Entitlements to CAISO

<sup>27</sup> See D.11-05-048 at 19 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. <u>Pub. Util. Code PUC</u> Lexis 302 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), at \*28--29; (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>28</sup> DCOA §§ 3.4(a)(i), 4.6.

<sup>29</sup> See D.19-03-024 at 13-14 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*6-7.18-20 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

(or, if applicable at the time, a successor system operator). This transfer will ensure that the portion of the projects subject to the Entitlements Lease will be made available to customers on a comparable, non-discriminatory basis. In its decisions approving the Citizens/SDG&E transactions, the Commission found these requirements protect electric service to the public from being negatively affected.<sup>30</sup>

#### F. Brief Overview of the Tax Implications of the Investment Program

Consistent with the prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions, PG&E and Citizens agreed to structure the Entitlements Leases as IRC § 467 leases to obtain the increased certainty about tax treatment that both Parties desire and to spread the income and expense items for tax purposes over the life of the applicable Entitlements Leases in accordance with IRC § 467 467 and the Treasury regulations thereunder. In Amended Chapter 4, PG&E witness James Higham, Jr. discusses the tax treatment of the Prepaid Rent that PG&E will receive from Citizens pursuant to an Entitlements Lease as an IRC § 467 lease, the treatment of deferred taxes and property taxes, and why PG&E ratepayers will not be harmed from a tax perspective by the contemplated Entitlements Leases.

#### G. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, PG&E respectfully requests the Commission authorize PG&E under Section 851 to lease Entitlements to certain high\_-voltage PG&E transmission projects to Citizens subject to the terms and conditions of the Investment Program created by the DCOA and as described in the Amended Application and grant such other relief as is requested in the Amended Application. The Investment Program will provide needed capital for PG&Einfrastructure to meet its reliability and California's clean energy goals while ensuring and provide customers continue to receive with safe and reliable electric service at fair and reasonable rates, and the. The Investment Program will provide substantial benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income also directly address urgent energy affordability concerns for families in need in the PG&E service area.

<sup>30</sup> See D.19-03-024 at 10-11 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 <del>WL 1571659</del> (Cal. <del>Pub. Util. Code), PUC Lexis 154, at \*5-6;13-15 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019); D.11-05-048 at 22 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. <u>Pub. Util. Code PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. Pub. Util. Code)</u>, at \*33- (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).</del>

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 2 THE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY <u>AMENDED</u> CHAPTER 2 THE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

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# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 2 THE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

#### A. Introduction

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) respectfully requests that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission) authorize PG&E to lease Entitlements (as defined below) to certain PG&E transmission projects to a wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation subject to the terms and conditions of the investment program (Investment Program) created by the Development, Coordination, and Option Agreement (DCOA)—) and as described in the Amended Application. The DCOA is attached to the Amended Application as Attachment 1. PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation (together with its wholly owned subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, "Citizens") executed the DCOA on February 20, 2024. and amended it on January 29, 2025. 2

The DCOA provides for a multi-year, multi-project Investment Program that will assist PG&E in meeting its current and future capital needs to accelerate electric infrastructure investments necessary to meet California's decarbonization goals, while increasing capacity, reliability, asset health, and the interconnection of generation (including renewable generation) and load on the PG&E system.<sup>3</sup> In so doing, the Investment Program provides substantial

The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E.

The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E. This testimony refers to Citizens Energy Corporation and its subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, or other wholly owned subsidiary that Citizens selects to enter into an Entitlements Lease, collectively as "Citizens."

See <u>Amended Application</u>, Attachment 1, DCOA, Recitals ("(DCOA").). <u>Unless otherwise specified</u>, all references to the DCOA and the Entitlements Lease refer to the amended and restated versions of those documents.

customer and public benefits. Certain key features of the Investment Program provide additional customer and public benefits, including rate stability and certainty and significantmore than \$450 million in estimated charitable contributions by Citizens to energy-related direct bill-paying assistance programs that advance the Commission's goals and support disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territory. E customers in need consistent with Commission policy and the express directives of Governor Gavin Newsom. The Investment Program also includes important ratepayer protections that provide for continuing electric service at fair and reasonable rates.

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PG&E's Investment Program is closely modeled on prior transactions between Citizens and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) that the Commission approved, finding the transactions were not adverse to the public interest and, in fact, benefitted the public interest. PG&E's Investment Program builds on and expands upon Citizens' prior transactions. The customer protection mechanisms and overall regulatory treatments in PG&E's Investment Program are largely carried over from the Citizens/SDG&E transactions. PG&E's Investment Program, however, includes substantial added customer protections and benefits: (1) Citizens has agreed to forgo recovery from customers of its (and its affiliates') upfront and ongoing incremental costs over the entire life of the applicable lease(s)); 6 and (2) Citizens has agreed to significantly increase (as compared to earlier transactions) the share of its net after-tax profits committed to charitable assistance programs.<sup>7</sup> The Investment Program thus incorporates the essential and familiar elements of the two prior, Commission-approved Citizens/SDG&E transactions but with improved administrative efficiencies and greatly enhanced customer and public benefits.

<sup>4</sup> Cal. Exec. Dep't, Executive Order N-5-24 (Oct. 30, 2024).

<sup>5</sup> D.11-05-048 at 1, 21-23, 25-26 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302-(Cal. P.U.C.), at \*1, \*32-34, \*38; (Cal. P.U.C. 2011); D.19-03-024 at 2, 18, 20, 25 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. P.U.C.), PUC Lexis 154, at \*1, \*9, \*11, \*13, -2, \*25, \*29, \*35-36 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

See DCOA § 4.5; DCOA, Exh. A § 4.3.2 ("(Entitlements Lease").).

<sup>7</sup> See DCOA § 4.4; Entitlements Lease § 5.3.1.

My <u>amended</u> testimony describes the Investment Program, explains the regulatory filings needed to allow the Investment Program to proceed, and briefly discusses the public interest basis and precedent supporting Commission approval of the Investment Program under Section 851 of the California Public Utilities Code.

#### **B.** Description of Investment Program

This section of my <u>amended</u> testimony provides a general description of the Investment Program, explains how projects will be selected for inclusion, discusses the mechanics of entering into a lease, and highlights important features of the Investment Program.

#### 1. General Description

Under the DCOA, PG&E will have the opportunity to offer Citizens up to five separate options to lease Entitlements to PG&E transmission projects that will be identified in the relevant lease and will meet specified eligibility requirements. Entitlements are defined in Appendix A to the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) Tariff as "[t]he right of a Participating [Transmission Owner] obtained through contract or other means to use another entity's transmission facilities for the transmission of Energy."

To be clear, Citizens will not be leasing the physical projects, only Entitlements to—or more simply, rights to use—the projects. As discussed below, the projects that will be subject to the Entitlements Leases must be fully permitted and operational at lease execution and are projects PG&E plans to put into service regardless of whether the Investment Program is implemented.

If PG&E and Citizens (collectively, the "Parties") close on a given option, the Parties will enter into a 30-year "Entitlements Lease" with respect to the

CAISO Fifth Replacement FERC Electronic Tariff, Appendix A, Entitlements. Citizens' prior transactions with SDG&E were characterized as leases of "transfer capability," but like here, they were leases of Entitlements to the applicable projects. See, e.g., Citizens Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission LLC, Docket No. ER18-1442-000, Transmission Owner Tariff and Transmission Revenue Requirement Filing at 2 (FERC filed Apr. 25, 2018); Citizens Sunrise Transmission LLC, Docket No. ER12-686-000, Transmission Owner Tariff and Transmission Revenue Requirement Filing at 8-9 (FERC filed Dec. 23, 2011).

applicable group of projects. A Form of Entitlements Lease is Exhibit A to the DCOA ("(Entitlements Lease").).

Citizens' leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to any given project will be capped at 49.9 percent. The Investment Program involves only the lease of Entitlements to Citizens. PG&E will retain full ownership of the projects subject to any Entitlements Lease and will remain responsible for the development, design, permitting, engineering, procurement, construction, operation, and maintenance of the projects. The relevant transmission projects will be under the operational control of the CAISO (or its successor) for the 30-year term of the applicable Entitlements Lease. At the end of an Entitlements Lease, the relevant Entitlements will revert back to PG&E free and clear of any liens or encumbrances.

Under the DCOA, the aggregate value of the Entitlements that may be leased to Citizens pursuant to the Investment Program is capped at \$1.0 billion. 14 The Parties expect this amount to be allocated roughly into five separate Entitlements Leases averaging \$200 million each. 15 The DCOA, however, provides flexibility to adjust the dollar value of each Entitlements Lease (as discussed below), 16 subject to the total investment cap of \$1.0 billion and the 49.9 percent Citizens leasehold interest limit noted above.

Each Citizens investment under an Entitlements Lease will take the form of a lump sum prepaid rent payment by Citizens to PG&E ("(Prepaid Rent")) that will confer on Citizens a leasehold percentage interest in the

<sup>9</sup> See DCOA §§ 4.1, 4.2(a),

<sup>10</sup> Id., § 1.1 (definition of Citizens Percentage Interest); Id. §§ 3.4(d), 4.2(d); Entitlements Lease § 1.1 (definition of Citizens Percentage Interest).

DCOA § 4.1.

<sup>12</sup> Id. Recitals; Id. §§ 3.1, 6.4; Entitlements Lease, Recital D; Id. §§ 3.2.

<sup>13</sup> See Entitlements Lease § 1.1 (definition of Citizens Entitlements); *Id.* § 5.3.3.

DCOA, Recitals; *Id.* §§ 2.1(iii), 4.2(d).

**<sup>15</sup>** See *Id*<sub>-7</sub> § 3.4(b)-(c).

This flexibility is important so that PG&E is able to tailor the Investment Program to meet its operational and customer needs and account for financing and market considerations applicable to Citizens and PG&E, as they may evolve over the term of the DCOA.

Entitlements to a specified group of PG&E transmission projects for the duration of the 30-year Entitlements Lease. 17 The applicable Entitlements Lease will govern the rights and obligations of Citizens and PG&E during the 30-year term and among other things will obligate Citizens to commit a substantial and escalating portion of its net after-tax profits attributable to the leased Entitlements to fund energy-related charitable direct bill-paying assistance programs for that support PG&E customers in need, including those in disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service area. 18

#### 2. Multi-Project Approach and Project Selection

This section explains why the Parties adopted a multi-project approach for the Investment Program and how PG&E will identify the projects that may be subject to an option and Entitlements Lease, including the eligibility criteria that each project must meet to be included in the Investment Program. This section also provides a list of projects that are currently targeted for inclusion in the first option period.

#### a. Multi-Project Approach

Unlike the prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions that involved a smaller one-time Citizens investment in a single new transmission project, the PG&E Investment Program is structured to accommodate the reality that there is no single planned high-voltage PG&E transmission project expected to enter commercial operation in the near-term that would allow Citizens to invest anywhere near the desired amount of capital without acquiring a leasehold interest exceeding 49.9 percent.

Accordingly, the PG&E Investment Program expands upon the established Citizens/SDG&E model to reflect PG&E's currently expected transmission development pipelineprojects and allow for a larger total investment by Citizens. In expanding upon the model, the Partiesparties worked hard to promote both cost and timing efficiencies within parameters acceptable to PG&E, Citizens, and Citizens' lenders, while

<sup>17</sup> See DCOA § 4.2(c), (d); Entitlements Lease § 4.1.1.

<sup>18</sup> See DCOA § 4.4; Entitlements Lease § 5.3.1.

being careful to preserve important and previously approved customer protections.

Because of the efficiencies resulting from the size and structure of the Investment Program, PG&E and Citizens are able to provide customers with the following additional protections and benefits.

Citizens has agreed to (1) forgo recovery from customers of all its (and its affiliates') upfront and ongoing incremental costs, including financing costs in excess of one percent, for the duration of the applicable Entitlements Leases, 19 and (2) contribute escalating percentages (i.e., 50 percent up to 90 percent) of its net after-tax profits from its participation in the Investment Program to energy-related charitable causes direct bill-paying assistance programs in PG&E's service territory. 20

In sum, the Investment Program's multi-project, multi-lease approach builds upon an established model to allow PG&E to efficiently and predictably access up to \$1.0 billion in capital to expedite the development of needed electric infrastructure in PG&E's service territory while benefiting customers and the community. Assuming timely receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals, execution of the first Entitlements Lease is anticipated in early 2025,2026,21 in accordance with the first option period mechanics discussed below.

#### b. Project Identification

The Investment Program is structured so that over the term of the DCOA, PG&E may offer Citizens up to five options to enter into Entitlements Leases, each pertaining to an identified list of high-voltage transmission projects that PG&E provides to Citizens in advance.<sup>22</sup> For each option, the applicable projects will be set forth on a "Project List" (as defined in the DCOA) that will identify each project and include

<sup>19</sup> See DCOA § 4.5; Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

<sup>20</sup> See DCOA § 4.4; Entitlements Lease § 5.3.1.

<sup>21</sup> As explained more below (see Transaction Mechanics), execution of the first

Entitlements Lease is expected to occur approximately three months following receipt of all required regulatory approvals.

<sup>22</sup> DCOA § 3.4(a)-(c).

PG&E's estimated costs to develop, design, permit, engineer, procure, and/or construct each such project.<sup>23</sup> It also will include the estimated Citizens' leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to each such project and the project rent due based on a projected total Prepaid Rent amount of \$200 million for the applicable Entitlements Lease (or such other amount as the Parties may determine in accordance with the terms of the DCOA).<sup>24</sup>

The DCOA refers to the projects included in a given Project List collectively as that option period's "Investment Tranche." Projects included in an Investment Tranche must meet the criteria described below (and set out in the DCOA) to be eligible for inclusion by PG&E on a Project List. 26

Prior to Citizens' exercise of a given option and up to the execution of the applicable Entitlements Lease, PG&E will have the ability to make certain modifications to the Project List for that option period, subject to certain limitations and provided that any such modification does not result in Citizens acquiring a leasehold interest greater than 49.9 percent in any individual project.<sup>27</sup>

As explained in more detail in the Amended Application and in Section B.2.d below, Attachment 2 to the Amended Application sets forth a master list of projects that PG&E expects to draw from to develop each Project List and Exhibit B to the DCOA provides a list of projects that PG&E expects may be included on the final Project List for the first option period. For Option Periods 2 through 5, PG&E is proposing an expedited Tier 3 Advice Letter process through which the Commission and stakeholders will be able to review the projects to be included in each Entitlements Lease prior to lease execution.

<sup>23 /</sup>d-, § 3.4(a)-(c), Exh. B.

*Id* § 3.4(b)-(c), Exh. B.

 $Id_{\overline{y_2}}$  § 1.1 (definition of Investment Tranche).

See *Id* § 3.4(a).

**<sup>27</sup>**  $Id_{-,}$  § 3.4(d).

#### c. Project Eligibility Criteria

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The DCOA sets forth specific criteria that must be satisfied for each transmission project that PG&E includes on a Project List submitted to Citizens (and to which PG&E subsequently leases Entitlements to Citizens). Specifically, at the time PG&E submits a Project List to Citizens: (1) an amount equal to or greater than the expected Citizens leasehold percentage interest of the capital costs of the proposed project must not already be included in PG&E's existing Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) transmission rates for purposes of cost recovery; 28 (2) the proposed project must be expected to be eligible for cost recovery directly from CAISO through the CAISO High-Voltage Transmission Access Charge (TAC), which is a FERC-regulated transmission rate; (3) the proposed project must be expected to operate at 200 kilovolts (kV) or above; 29 and (4) the proposed project must have received all regulatory approvals and permits necessary at that time, including, to the extent applicable, having undergone review under the California Environmental Quality Act. 30 Additionally, all projects that will be subject to an Entitlements Lease must achieve commercial operation before the start of the relevant lease<sup>31</sup> and therefore all are projects that PG&E plans to put into service in the near-term regardless of whether the Investment Program is implemented.

Under the DCOA, transmission projects that may be subject to Entitlements Leases include electric transmission facilities, upgrades, rebuilds, and expansions that meet the specified criteria.<sup>32</sup> PG&E retains the responsibility for obtaining the regulatory approvals

For instance, if the expected Citizens leasehold percentage interest is 45% of a given project's capital costs, PG&E must have included no more than 55% of that project's capital costs in its existing FERC transmission rates for purposes of cost recovery.

The Parties interpret this criterion as also being satisfied where a proposed project is necessary for or otherwise supports the operation of equipment operating or expected to operate at 200kV200 kV or above.

**<sup>30</sup>** <u>Id., DCOA</u> § 3.4(a).

<sup>31</sup> *Id.* § 4.3(a)(iii), (b)(iv).

<sup>32</sup> Id., § 1.1 (definition of Project). For purposes of the DCOA, the portion of an individual PG&E planning order that will be recovered through the CAISO High-Voltage TAC constitutes a "Project."

necessary for PG&E to develop, design, engineer, procure, construct, commission, own, operate, maintain, and finance the projects that will be subject to the Entitlements Leases.<sup>33</sup>

 These criteria place important and clear guardrails on the types of projects that will be eligible to be included in the Investment Program. The criteria are intended to (1) provide stakeholders with comfort and insight regarding the projects that may be subject to an Entitlements Lease; (2) protect against double recovery of capital costs (especially when read in conjunction with other provisions in the DCOA); (32) ensure that Citizens will be able to recover its costs through the CAISO High-Voltage TAC; and (43) minimize the risk of delays or changes to the Project List that could be caused by including projects that may be unable to obtain all necessary regulatory approvals and permits on a timely basis.

## d. Details of Master Project List and Projects Targeted for Option Period 1 Investment Tranche and Initial Entitlements Lease

To provide detail regarding the specific projects that may be subject to an Entitlements Lease, Attachment 2 to the Amended Application sets forth a master list of projects that PG&E expects to draw from to develop each Project List (Master Project List). The Master Project List provides the universe of projects PG&E currently expects to draw from for each of Option Periods 1 through 5.

Exhibit B to the DCOA sets forth a list of projects that as of the execution date of the DCOA, PG&E expects to include may be included on the final Project List for the first option period (as of January 29, 2025, the execution date of the amended and restated DCOA (Exhibit B is referred to in the Amended Application as the "Proposed Project List for Option Period 1"; the final projects are referred to as the "Option Period 1 Investment Tranche" under the DCOA).

The projects included in Exhibit B to the DCOA are as follows:

 $Id_{-1}$  § 1.1 (definition of Required PG&E Regulatory Approvals);  $Id_{-1}$  § 5.1.1.

### TABLE 2-1 PROPOSED 1 OF THE MASTER PROJECT LIST FOR OPTION PERIOD 1

Line No.	Project Name	Description	Permit Status	Estimated Project Cost
4	Rio Oso: Install 230kV Modular Protection, Automation, and Control ("MPAC") Building	As part of a total rebuild of the 230kV Rio Ose substation in Sutter County, PG&E is installing an MPAC building to resolve current configuration issues, address reliability and capacity concerns, and alleviate high-voltage issues at the substation.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$26,007,302.20
2	Rio Oso: Install 230kV Breaker-and-a-Half / Gas-Insulated Substation ("BAAH/GIS")	As part of a total rebuild of the 230kV Rio Oso substation in Sutter County, PG&E is installing a BAAH/GIS to resolve current configuration issues, address reliability and capacity concerns, and alleviate high voltage issues at the substation.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) enly; no CPUC permit required)	\$100,002,565.00
3	Gates: 500kV Transmission Line	This project supports transmission line work necessary to interconnect two, third-party owned/operated Static Synchronous Compensator (STATCOM) units in Fresno County resulting from a CAISO-approved FERC Order No. 1000 solicitation. The overall project provides voltage support to the CAISO system.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) enly; no CPUC permit required)	\$29,458,986.90

## TABLE 2-1 PROPOSED PROJECT LIST FOR OPTION PERIOD 1 (CONTINUED)

Line		_		Estimated Project
No.	Project Name	Description	Permit Status	Cost
4	Gates: 500kV Dynamic Voltage Support	This project supports Gates substation upgrades necessary to interconnect two, third-party owned/operated STATCOM units in Fresno County resulting from a CAISO-approved FERC Order No. 1000 solicitation. The overall project provides voltage support to the CAISO system.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$38,281,171.10
5	Monta Vista: Install 230kV MPAC Buildings and Other Upgrades	To improve reliability, PG&E will install several upgrades at the Monta Vista substation in Santa Clara County to (1) modify the existing 230kV bus to provide sectionalizing; (2) insert two new 230kV sectionalizing bus breakers to convert the two existing 230kV buses into four separate buses; (3) replace the existing 230kV control house with two new 230kV MPAC buildings; and (4) upgrade relays in the 230kV yard.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$24,742,308.90
6	Table Mountain: Modify 500kV Series Capacitors 1&2	PG&E will modify existing capacitors at the 500kV Table Mountain Substation in Butte County to support the installation of two, third-party owned/operated STATCOM units resulting from CAISO-approved FERC Order No. 1000 solicitation. The overall project provides voltage support to the CAISO system.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$56,930,705.20

1 Table 2-1
2 provides additional details about the projects included in the Proposed
3 Project List Forfor Option Period 1
4 (continued).

Line				Estimated Project
No.	Project Name	<del>Description</del>	Permit Status	Cost
7	Arco 230kV Control Building Network Upgrade	PG&E will install a new control building at the 230kV Arco substation in Kern County to support the interconnection of numerous generation projects with a total capacity of approximately 1,700 megawatts (MW).	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$14,438,115.20
\$	Tesla 500kV: Replace Circuit Breaker 542 and Circuit Breaker 642	PG&E will replace two circuit breakers at the 500kV Tesla substation in Alameda County to support the interconnection of at least two electric generation interconnection projects with a total capacity of approximately 800 MW.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$9,906,525.60
9	Q1277 Tesla Substation Reliability Network Upgrade	PG&E will install reliability network upgrades at the 500kV Tesla substation in Alameda County to support the interconnection of electric generation with a total capacity of approximately 20 MW.	Complete (Local or ministerial permit(s) only; no CPUC permit required)	\$6,198,760.60

As shown in Exhibit B to the DCOA, the estimated total project rent 5 due from Citizens in connection with a lease of approximately 6 45.3 percent of the Entitlements to such projects is approximately 7 \$138.6 million. This amount is less than the expected average 8 \$200 million Prepaid Rent amount (per Entitlements Lease) discussed 9 elsewhere. However, in accordance with the DCOA's provisions 10 regarding permitted changes to a Project List, 34 and depending on the 11 timing of regulatory approvals and closing on the first option and initial 12

<sup>34</sup> Id., § 3.4(d).

Entitlements Lease, PG&E may modify this Project List, for example, to increase the number of projects (and, indirectly, the estimated total project rent due) and/or account for changes based on the actual timing of regulatory approvals required for the Investment Program.<sup>35</sup>

If the Commission approves the Amended Application prior to December 31, 2025, the first Entitlements Lease will include only projects on the Proposed Project List for Option Period 1. If regulatory approval extends beyond 2025, it may be necessary for PG&E to revise the Project List for the first option period to reflect intervening changes in the progress of transmission projects under development and PG&E's needs. Therefore, if Commission approval is not obtained until after 2025, the first Entitlements Lease may include other projects identified in Table 2 of the Master Project List.

PG&E expects that most—if not all—of the projects that will be subject to the second through fifth Entitlements Leases will come from the Master Project List. However, given uncertainties about transmission development and regulatory approvals, PG&E may determine that it is prudent to include on a Project List for a future option period certain projects not included on the Master Project List. Such projects must meet the project eligibility criteria specified in the DCOA and will be identified in the Tier 3 Advice Letters for Option Periods 2 through 5 submitted to the Commission.36

#### 3. Transaction Mechanics

This section discusses the key features of the DCOA, the mechanics of the option windows, the flexibility provided under the DCOA, and the

The Project List on Exhibit B to the DCOA differs from the list provided to FERC with PG&E's twenty first Transmission Owner Tariff rate filing in that Exhibit B does not include any projects that will operate below 200kV. See Pac. Gas & Elec. Co., Docket No. ER24-96-000, Pacific Gas and Electric Company Transmission Owner Rate Filing, Exhibit No. PGE-0011 at 7-8 (filed Oct. 13, 2023). At the time the FERC filings were submitted, the Parties were still negotiating project eligibility criteria. The Parties subsequently determined that all projects to be included in the Investment Program must be eligible for cost recovery through the CAISO High-Voltage TAC and therefore, must operate at 200kV or above.

<sup>36</sup> See DCOA § 3.4.

Prepaid Rent that will be due from Citizens upon execution of an Entitlements Lease.

### a. The Development, Coordination, and Option Agreement

The DCOA governs the overarching relationship between Citizens and PG&E and provides the agreed-upon framework for the Investment Program. It sets forth the mechanisms and parameters pursuant to which PG&E will identify eligible projects, provide Citizens with the option to lease Entitlements to such projects, and determine the percentage interest that Citizens may lease in Entitlements to each such project and the dollar value of such interests for each option period.

The DCOA is a multi-year agreement that pursuant to its terms will expire no later than December 31, 2030 (unless extended by mutual agreement).<sup>37</sup> The aggregate investment contemplated by the DCOA's multi-year Investment Program is capped at \$1.0 billion.<sup>38</sup> This amount is expected to be allocated into five options that PG&E may provide and Citizens may exercise, resulting in the execution of up to five separate Entitlements Leases averaging approximately \$200 million each (in terms of total Prepaid Rent due under each Entitlements Lease).<sup>39</sup>

### b. Option Mechanics - Option Period 1

The first option period ("(Option Period 1")) will not close until the Parties have received all required regulatory approvals—including this Commission's approval—to lease Entitlements to Citizens pursuant to the Investment Program, including any approvals needed to enter into an Entitlements Lease for the projects comprising the first Investment Tranche, and each such project has achieved theits "Commercial Operation Date," as defined in the DCOA.40 PG&E will provide Citizens with approximately three months' notice of when it expects the Parties to

**<sup>37</sup>** DCOA<u>Id.</u> § 2.1.

*Id*<sub>7</sub> Recitals; *Id*. §§ 2.1(iii), 4.2(d).

See *Id*— § 3.4(b)-(c).

See *Id*—, §§ 4.2(b)(i), 4.3(a).

be ready to close on the Option Period 1 Investment Tranche.41 1 Citizens will use this estimated timeline to secure financing 2 commitments sufficient to fund the payment of the Prepaid Rent 3 required for the closing of Option Period 1 and due upon execution of 4 5 the related Entitlements Lease. Upon notification from PG&E that all conditions precedent have been achieved for the Option Period 1 6 Investment Tranche, 42 Citizens will have 30 days to exercise its option 7 for the Option Period 1 Investment Tranche (provided that such date is 8 no earlier than the expected closing date PG&E previously provided to 9 Citizens).43 This deadline is referred to in the DCOA as the "Target 10 Closing Date."44 If Citizens does not exercise its option by the Target 11 Closing Date, the option for the Option Period 1 Investment Tranche will 12 expire.45 If Citizens timely exercises its option, PG&E and Citizens will 13 have 30 days to execute, acknowledge, and deliver an Entitlements 14 Lease with respect to the Option Period 1 Investment Tranche. 46 Upon 15 execution of the Entitlements Lease-and consistent therewith, Citizens 16 will pay to PG&E the Prepaid Rent amount due for the Option Period 1 17 Investment Tranche.47 18

### c. Option Mechanics - Option Periods 2 Through 5

For subsequent option periods ("Option Periods 2 through 5"), the process will generally follow the sequencing and mechanics set out

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<sup>41</sup> See *Id*—§ 4.2(b)(i).

If any of the applications for the required regulatory approvals with respect to the Investment Program or an Investment Tranche (i.e., the entering into an Entitlements Lease with respect to the projects comprising a given Investment Tranche) are denied or are approved with conditions that are materially adverse and unacceptable to a Party or otherwise materially inconsistent with the terms of the Investment Program or Entitlements Lease in a manner that is adverse to a Party, that Party will have the right to withdraw from and terminate (or partially terminate, as applicable) the DCOA. See DCOA § 8.1.

<sup>43</sup> See Id., § 1.1 (definition of Target Closing Date); Id., § 4.2(b)(i).

The Target Closing Date also must be no later than 12 months after the effective date of the DCOA, unless the Parties agree that the unrealized conditions precedent are ultimately likely to be satisfied. See *Id.* § 1.1 (definition of Target Closing Date).

<sup>45</sup> Id-, § 4.2(b)(i).

<sup>46 /</sup>d-, § 4.2(c)(i).

**<sup>47</sup>** *Id.* 

above, but with some timing flexibility for PG&E to provide Citizens with subsequent Project Lists. This timing flexibility is necessary to account for the reality that PG&E will need time to identify the most appropriate eligible projects from the Master Project List for future options and align closing thereon with the applicable regulatory framework and required approvals. Option Periods 2 through 5 are expected to follow an annual cadence.

For Option Periods 2 through 5, PG&E will have the opportunity (but the content of the state of the st

For Option Periods 2 through 5, PG&E will have the opportunity (but not the obligation) to present to Citizens a Project List setting forth the projects comprising the upcoming Investment Tranche. Such a Project List may be presented by PG&E to Citizens no earlier than one day and no later than nine months following the end of the immediately preceding option period. For Option Periods 2 through 5, Citizens may exercise its option by delivering written notice to PG&E no later than 30 days following the date PG&E delivers the applicable Project List to Citizens. If Citizens fails to timely exercise its option, that option will expire. S2

If Citizens does timely exercise its option, the Parties will work to satisfy the conditions precedent to executing an Entitlements Lease for that Investment Tranche. Those conditions precedent are: (1) receiving required regulatory approvals, including Commission approval of that Entitlements Lease pursuant to the Tier 3 Advice Letter Process described below; (2) the projects comprising such Investment Tranche having achieved their "Commercial Operation Date," as defined in the DCOA; and (3) Citizens' securing of financing commitments sufficient to fund the payment of the Prepaid Rent required for the closing of the applicable option period. 53

<sup>48</sup> See Id. § 3.4(c).

<sup>49</sup> Id

*Id.* if PG&E does not deliver a Project List within this timeframe, then such option period will be extinguished and the subsequent option period will begin. *Id* 

*Id.* § 4.2(b)(ii).

*Id.* 

*Id.* §§ 4.2(c)(ii); 4.3(b).

Within 30 days of satisfaction of the applicable conditions precedent, PG&E and Citizens will execute, acknowledge, and deliver an Entitlements Lease with respect to the Investment Tranche for that option period. Upon execution of the Entitlements Lease, Citizens will pay to PG&E the Prepaid Rent amount due under that Entitlements Lease (which is expected to be approximately \$200 million on average per Entitlements Lease, although the exact amount may vary subject to the limitations set out in the DCOA and described below). 55

### d. Flexibility Provided Under the DCOA

If the Investment Program follows the expected annual cadence and if Citizens exercises each of its options as expected, PG&E expects that Citizens will invest on average approximately \$200 million per year over a five-year period pursuant to five Entitlements Leases, for a total Citizens investment of \$1.0 billion. 56 The DCOA, however, provides the Parties with flexibility in the timing and sizing of, as well as the ability to skip, options.<sup>57</sup> Accordingly, the dollar value of the Prepaid Rent due under a given Entitlements Lease may be greater or less than \$200 million. If the Parties execute an Entitlements Lease for an amount other than \$200 million or if Citizens is not provided with or does not exercise an option in a particular option period, the amount of Citizens' Prepaid Rent payment for Entitlements leased pursuant to subsequently exercised options may be adjusted (upward or downward) to reflect the previously exercised or unexercised amount.<sup>58</sup> However, under the express terms of the DCOA, Citizens' aggregate investment under the DCOA cannot (1) exceed \$1.0 billion<sup>59</sup> or (2) result in Citizens

*Id.* § 4.2(c)(ii).

<sup>55</sup> Id. § 4.2(d).

See *Id*— § 3.4(b)-(c).

See *Id.* 

*Id.* § 4.2(d).

*Id.* Recitals; *Id.* §§ 2.1(iii), 4.2(d).

holding a leasehold interest in the Entitlements to any individual project in excess of 49.9 percent.<sup>60</sup>

As discussed above, PG&E also will have the ability to make certain modifications to a Project List submitted to Citizens prior to execution of the applicable Entitlements Lease.<sup>61</sup> Additionally, for Option Periods 2 through 5, PG&E will have flexibility in the timing of providing Citizens with the Project List for the upcoming option.<sup>62</sup>

This flexibility is important so that PG&E can account for the complexity and multi-year nature of transmission development and tailor the multi-year Investment Program to focus on projects that meet its operational and customer needs at the relevant time. It will also allow the Parties to adapt to financing and market considerations that Citizens and PG&E will encounter over the term of the Investment Program and make adjustments to reflect the timing of required regulatory approvals.

PG&E recognizes that the need for flexibility must be balanced with the need to inform the Commission and stakeholders about the specific projects that will be subject to Entitlements Leases. Thus, PG&E will identify for the Commission and stakeholders the specific projects that will be subject to an Entitlements Lease prior to execution of the relevant lease and to seek Commission approval before entering into each of the Entitlements Leases.

If the Commission approves the Amended Application prior to

December 31, 2025, the first Entitlements Lease will include only
projects on the Proposed Project List for Option Period 1. If
Commission approval is not obtained until after 2025, the first
Entitlements Lease will include only projects on the Master Project List.
Additionally, the Commission will have the opportunity to review each of
the Project Lists for Option Periods 2 through 5 as part of the proposed
expedited Tier 3 Advice Letter Process described in the Amended
Application and in Section C.2 below.

<sup>60</sup> Id. § 1.1 (definition of Citizens Percentage Interest); Id. §§ 3.4(d), 4.2(d); Entitlements Lease § 1.1 (definition of Citizens Percentage Interest).

See DCOA § 3.4(d).

<sup>62</sup> Id. § 3.4(c).

### e. Prepaid Rent

Upon execution of an Entitlements Lease, Citizens will prepay the rent due to PG&E for Citizens' 30-year leasehold interest in the Entitlements. This lump sum payment will equal the sum of the "Project Costs" (as defined in the applicable Entitlements Lease) of each of the projects comprising the Investment Tranche (i.e., subject to that Entitlements Lease) multiplied by Citizens' leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to such projects (which cannot exceed 49.9 percent for any individual project). For example, if the total Project Costs for all of the projects in a given Investment Tranche is \$500 million and Citizens will be leasing 40 percent of the Entitlements to those projects under the applicable Entitlements Lease, then the total Prepaid Rent due to PG&E at execution will be \$200 million.

The Parties will attach a schedule to each Entitlements Lease allocating the Prepaid Rent payment over the 30-year lease term and will report this payment as accruing for tax purposes semi-annually in arrears according to the schedule. To the extent the payment exceeds the rent that has accrued, the Parties will treat it as a loan by Citizens to PG&E that bears interest at a rate equal to 110 percent of the "applicable Federal rate" as required by Internal Revenue Code (IRC) § 467. The amended testimony of PG&E witness James Higham Jr. (Amended Chapter 4) provides additional details on tax matters.

### 4. Important Features of the Investment Program

This section discusses several important features of the Investment Program, including: (1) Citizens' binding commitment to charitable contributions that will support disadvantaged communities and low-income families direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in PG&E's service area, need; (2) customer benefits and protections; (3) express confirmation

*Id.* § 4.2(c); Entitlements Lease § 4.1.1.

<sup>64</sup> See DCOA § 1.1 (definition of Project Rent); Id. § 4.2(d).

<sup>65</sup> Entitlements Lease § 8.2; id. Exh. C.

*Id.* § 8.2.

that PG&E does not guarantee Citizens' cost recovery; (4) the responsibility for operations and maintenance (O&M) and recovery of expense-related costs; (5) provisions on capital improvements; (6) transfer of operational control of leased Entitlements; (7) structuring the Entitlements Leases pursuant to IRC § 467; (8) PG&E's right of first refusal; and (9) the status of the projects at the end of the applicable Entitlements Lease.

### a. Citizens' Contributions to Low-Income Direct Bill-Paying Assistance Programs

A key aspectFollowing conversations with stakeholders that stressed the importance of ensuring affordable access to electricity for residential customers in California, Citizens decided to commit 100 percent of the charitable contributions associated with the Investment Program is Citizens' contractual commitment to contribute a significant portion of its net after-tax profits from its leased Entitlements to charitable to programs that provide direct bill-paying assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territory. E customers in need.

In Citizens' previous transmission investments in the Sunrise Powerlink Project ("(Sunrise Project")) and the Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission Project ("(Sycamore Project"),). Citizens agreed to dedicate 50 percent of its associated net after-tax profits to support energy-related charitable programs or entities assisting disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the project area. 67 Under the Investment Program here, Citizens has contractually committed to dedicate escalating percentages of its associated net after-tax profits for these charitable purposes direct bill-paying assistance programs that support customers in need in the PG&E service area based on the following schedule:

 50 percent of the net after-tax profits from the first \$200 million invested;

<sup>67</sup> See Decision (D.) 19-03-024 at 18 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*25-26 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*9-10; 2019); D.11-05-048 at 1 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*1 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*1. 2011).

- 2. 60 percent of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested;
- 70 percent of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested;
- 4. 80 percent of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested; and
- 5. 90 percent of the net after-tax profits from the final \$200 million invested. 68

Thus, as the Investment Program continues and Citizens enters into subsequent Entitlements Leases, Citizens' after-tax contributions will grow. As the <a href="mailto:amended">amended</a> testimony of Citizens Chief Executive Officer Peter F. Smith (<a href="mailto:Amended">Amended</a> Chapter 5) explains, Citizens estimates that if the full \$1.0 billion investment is made under the Investment Program, over the terms of the contemplated Entitlements Leases (a total span of approximately 35 years), Citizens will contribute more than \$400 million in charitable assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service area to enable such communities and families to participate in California's clean energy initiatives. <a href="mailto:450 million">450 million</a> to direct bill-paying assistance programs.

Under the terms of the Entitlements Lease, Citizens will retain all decision-making authority regarding the allocation of charitable contributions. However, PG&E and Citizens will collaborate so that Citizens' charitable funding will be complementary and not duplicative of PG&E's activities. Citizens' contributions and the programs Citizens' contributions and the direct bill-paying assistance they support will be incremental to any benefits or programs currently supported through PG&E's rates, PG&E's own charitable contributions, and theother federal or state programs for direct bill relief. The annual

<sup>68</sup> DCOA § 4.4; Entitlements Lease § 5.3.1 & n.12.

<sup>69</sup> Entitlements Lease § 5.3.1.

<sup>70</sup>\_Id.

information-only submittals discussed below will provide sufficient detail to confirm the incremental benefit.<sup>71</sup>

#### b. Benefits and Protections

The DCOA and Entitlements Lease include the same important ratepayer benefits and protections the Commission approved in the Sunrise and Sycamore Section 851 Decisions plus certain additional protections.

First, one of PG&E's main goals in negotiating the Investment Program has been to protect customers from incurring costs above those that PG&E would have charged without Citizens' involvement. Accordingly, under the terms of the DCOA and the Entitlements Lease, Citizens has committed that it will not recover in its rates upfront and ongoing incremental costs that would not be incurred without Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program. These costs include Citizens' own project costs, development costs, transaction costs, regulatory costs, O&M costs, administrative and general (A&G) costs, sales tax costs, use tax costs, payroll tax costs, excise tax costs, and costs to effect billing and settlements with CAISO.72 This ratepayer protection was not included in the prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions. Citizens is able to offer this additional protection here because of the size and multi-year structure of the Investment Program.

The costs Citizens will recover in rates are limited to its capital costs (i.e., the Prepaid Rent plus actual financing costs, capped at one percent of the Prepaid Rent amount) plus a proportionate share of the O&M and other expense costs allocated to Citizens by PG&E as "Additional Rent." Although Citizens will recover its actual financing costs (capped at one percent of Prepaid Rent) in its rates, it is important to recognize that in the absence of Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program, PG&E would have to finance and contribute

<sup>71</sup> See infra § C.2.

<sup>72</sup> DCOA § 4.5; Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

<sup>73</sup> See *generally* Entitlements Lease § 4.3.

DCOA § 4.5; Entitlements Lease §§ 4.3.2, 4.3.2(a), 4.3.3.

the portion Citizens pays. Such amounts, including PG&E's associated financing costs, would be recovered through PG&E's rates.

Accordingly, Citizens' financing costs should not be considered "incremental" costs, and in any event, they are capped at one percent of Prepaid Rent.

Second, like SDG&E in the prior Citizens transactions, PG&E was concerned about the rates Citizens could obtain at FERC in connection with its participation in the Investment Program. Citizens' capital cost recovery (i.e., the recovery of the Prepaid Rent paid to PG&E at the outset of an Entitlements Lease and financing costs, capped at one percent of the Prepaid Rent) will be the largest component of the rate Citizens will charge CAISO customers. Thus, as PG&E witness Divya Raman discusses in her amended testimony (Amended Chapter PG&E and Citizens have agreed to cap the capital cost component of Citizens' FERC rate at an approximation of the rate PG&E could charge at the time of execution of an Entitlements Lease for the portion of the transmission projects subject to Citizens' leasehold interests (i.e., if PG&E held 100 percent of the Entitlements). The Parties will use the "Representative Rate Model" in the Entitlements Lease to generate the approximate PG&E rate at the time the applicable Entitlements Lease is executed ("(PG&E Representative Rate").).75 This structure is closely modeled on the Citizens/SDG&E transactions, which included similar models that the Commission reviewed and approved. 76

The PG&E Representative Rate Model uses inputs determined at the time the applicable Entitlements Lease is executed.<sup>77</sup> This cost-based revenue recovery is amortized over a 30-year period on a level basis each year based on fixed and variable model parameters.<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2; id., Exh. B.

<sup>76</sup> See D.19-03-024 at 12-14 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal.-PUC Lexis 154, at \*17-20 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*6-7; 2019); D.11-05-048 at 19-22 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*29-32-(Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>77</sup> See !d-Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2(b).

**<sup>78</sup>** See *Id*. § 4.3.2(a), 4.3.2(d).

The Representative Rate Model produces a theoretical levelized annual amount referenced in the Entitlements Lease as the PG&E Representative Rate.<sup>79</sup>

The PG&E Representative Rate is then compared to the rate Citizens calculates for its capital cost recovery using its own ratemaking methodology described by Citizens' expert witness Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6). Under the terms of the Entitlements Lease, Citizens' capital cost recovery cannot exceed the PG&E Representative Rate. This rate comparison is made at or within five business days prior to the execution date of the relevant Entitlements Lease. The capital cost component of Citizens' rate, which is capped by the PG&E Representative Rate, will be fixed and will not be subject to modification at any time during the term of the Entitlements Lease, absent a change in law. 82

Third, Citizens' annual capital cost revenue requirement will be fixed and levelized (i.e., equal) over the 30-year term of the applicable Entitlements Lease. This fixed and levelized rate provides ratepayers with certainty about what they will pay and protects today's ratepayers against front-ended costs.

Finally, the Investment Program is structured to prevent double recovery of any project-related costs.<sup>84</sup> More specifically, the transaction documents include express provisions: (1) requiring compliance with the project eligibility requirements discussed above, including the requirement that an amount equal to or greater than the expected Citizens leasehold percentage interest of the capital costs of each project must not already be included in PG&E's existing FERC transmission rates for purposes of cost recovery;<sup>85</sup> (2) requiring that

*Id.* § 4.3.2(a).

*Id.* § 4.3.2(c), (e).

*Id.* § 4.3.2(d).

*Id.* §§ 4.3.2, 4.3.3.

<sup>83</sup> See Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

See DCOA §§ 3.4(a)(i), 4.6; Entitlements Lease § 4.1.2.

<sup>85</sup> DCOA § 3.4(a)(i).

PG&E exclude from its transmission rates for cost recovery an amount of dollars equivalent to the total Prepaid Rent received from Citizens;<sup>86</sup> and (3) requiring that PG&E exclude from its transmission rates for cost recovery an amount of dollars equivalent to the Additional Rent allocated to Citizens.<sup>87</sup> These principles are consistent with the Citizens/SDG&E transactions, which the Commission found to adequately protect against double recovery.<sup>88</sup> Here, as an added protection, PG&E and Citizens expressly incorporated these protections into the DCOA.<sup>89</sup>

This combination of customer protections provides that the costs customers will pay approximate what they would pay without Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program while also providing significant benefits to ratepayers in terms of rate stability and predictability over the course of the 30-year Entitlements Leases. In determining whether the Investment Program is in the public interest, PG&E requests that the Commission consider these ratepayer protections and benefits together with the other benefits described herein, including the significant contributions direct bill-paying assistance that Citizens will make provide to support the needs of disadvantaged communities and low-income families PG&E customers in PG&E's service territoryneed.

### c. PG&E Does Not Guarantee Citizens' Cost Recovery

So long as PG&E is part of CAISO or a successor system operator, PG&E shall not be responsible to guarantee or financially support Citizens' cost recovery. 90

<sup>86</sup> Id. § 4.6.

*Id.* § 4.6; Entitlements Lease § 4.1.2.

See D.11-05-048 at 19 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC LEXIS 302, at \*28-29 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*28-29. 2011).

<sup>89</sup> DCOA §§ 3.4(a)(i), 4.6.

<sup>90</sup> Entitlements Lease § 5.2.1.

### d. Operations and Maintenance Responsibility and Allocation of Expense Costs

PG&E will retain responsibility for the O&M of the projects.<sup>91</sup> PG&E also will act as the interconnection agent for the projects subject to the Entitlements Leases.<sup>92</sup>

As identified in the Entitlements Lease, Citizens will be responsible for its proportionate share of the O&M and certain other expense costs PG&E incurs for each of the projects subject to that Entitlements Lease. 93 More specifically, PG&E will charge Citizens Additional Rent for expense costs that PG&E incurs that are reasonably attributable to the Citizens Entitlements, including, but not limited to, a reasonable allocation of O&M costs; A&G activities; common, general, and intangible plant; the amortized cost of removing the projects; sales, use, payroll, and excise taxes; property taxes; and other costs FERC authorizes. 94 Through a FERC-approved rate, PG&E will recover these costs from Citizens as Additional Rent. To protect against double recovery, PG&E is obligated to exclude from its own transmission rates for cost recovery any such Additional Rent allocated to Citizens. 95

Citizens will recover its allocated Additional Rent through Citizens' rates, which will be filed with FERC and subject to FERC approval. 96 In the absence of Citizens' investment, PG&E would recover Citizens' share of these costs in its own customer rates.

Citizens will incur certain incremental costs in connection with its participation in the Investment Program. Citizens has agreed it will not recover in its rates upfront and ongoing incremental costs associated with its involvement in the Investment Program. More specifically, Citizens has agreed to forgo recovery in rates of its own project costs,

*Id.*, Recital D; *Id.* §§ 3.2, 5.1.

*Id.* § 3.6.

<sup>93</sup> Id. § 4.1.2.

*Id.*; see Chapter 3 § E.1.

<sup>95</sup> See Entitlements Lease § 4.1.2; DCOA § 4.6.

<sup>96</sup> See Entitlements Lease § 4.3.1.

development costs, transaction costs, regulatory costs, O&M costs,
A&G costs, sales tax costs, use tax costs, payroll tax costs, excise tax
costs, and costs to effect billing and settlements with CAISO.97

### e. Capital Improvements

PG&E will have sole discretion to decide upon, develop, design, engineer, procure, construct, commission, own, operate, maintain, and finance any upgrades or renewals to a project following the effective date of the applicable Entitlements Lease. PG&E will be solely responsible for the costs of such upgrades or renewals and Citizens' leasehold percentage interest will be adjusted accordingly. 99

### f. Transfer of Operational Control of Leased Entitlements

Citizens' leasehold interest in the Entitlements to the applicable projects will be recorded with CAISO. Citizens will sign a Transmission Control Agreement with CAISO as a Participating Transmission Owner (PTO)<sup>100</sup> and will obtain FERC approval of its PTO Tariff, any necessary revisions thereto, and its transmission revenue requirements applicable to the leased Entitlements.<sup>101</sup>

Prior to entering into an Entitlements Lease, PG&E will transfer operational control over each applicable project to CAISO (or, if applicable at the time, a successor system operator). 102 Upon executing an Entitlements Lease, Citizens will transfer operational control of the leased Entitlements to CAISO (or, if applicable at the time, a successor system operator). 103 This transfer will ensure that the portion of the projects subject to the Entitlements Lease will continue to

<sup>97</sup> See DCOA § 4.5; Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

<sup>98</sup> Entitlements Lease §§ 3.3, 3.4.

<sup>99</sup> See Id.; Id. § 3.5.

<sup>100</sup> See DCOA § 4.3(a)(ii).

See DCOA § 4.3(a)(ii)(1), (b)(iii)(1); Entitlements Lease § 4.2.

<sup>102</sup> See DCOA § 1.1 (defining Commercial Operation Date); Entitlements Lease, Recital F;
Id. § 1.1 (defining Commercial Operation Date).

See Entitlements Lease §§ 2.1, 5.3.3.

be made available to customers on a comparable, non-discriminatory basis.

Citizens will be entitled to the revenue associated with the use of its Entitlements, which will be paid directly to it by CAISO through the High-Voltage TAC. 104 This approach is consistent with the approach Citizens used in its prior transactions with SDG&E.

The projects subject to the Entitlements Leases will remain under the operational control of CAISO or a successor system operator. 105 For as long as PG&E is a member of CAISO, Citizens will be required to assign to CAISO operational control over its leased Entitlements. If PG&E were to cease its participation in CAISO, Citizens would be required to assign operational control of its leased Entitlements to PG&E or whatever entity has operational control over PG&E's transmission system. Citizens will maintain its status as a PTO for so long as it leases Entitlements to the projects identified under any Entitlements Lease and PG&E remains part of CAISO.

### g. The Entitlements Leases Are Structured Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code § 467

Under general tax principles, amounts received by a taxpayer that constitute gross income must be included as taxable income in the year the payment is received and subject to tax. IRC § 467, however, uses rental accrual rules to match when a lessee deducts rent payments with when a lessor recognizes rental income for certain rental agreements. In an IRC § 467 lease arrangement, the lessor and lessee are required to treat rents in the same complimentary manner and consider time-value-of-money principles. Also, taxpayers with IRC § 467 rental agreements that have Prepaid Rent are required to treat a portion of the initial prepayment of rent as a "loan" from the lessee to the lessor and reclassify a portion of the accrued rental payment as interest expense on such "loan."

See DCOA § 3.4(a)(ii).

See Entitlements Lease §§ 2.1, 5.3.3.

Consistent with the prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions, 106 PG&E and Citizens agreed to structure the Entitlements Leases as IRC § 467 leases to obtain the increased certainty about tax treatment that both Parties desire and to spread the income and expense items for tax purposes over the life of the applicable Entitlements Leases in accordance with IRC § 467 and the Treasury regulations thereunder. The <a href="mailto:amended">amended</a> testimony of PG&E witness James Higham Jr. (<a href="mailto:Amended">Amended</a> Chapter 4) more fully explains this treatment.

### h. PG&E's Right of First Refusal

PG&E has the right of first refusal in any proposed sale of Citizens' interests in an Entitlements Lease. 107

### i. Status of Projects at the End of the Applicable Entitlements Lease

At the end the applicable Entitlements Lease, Citizens' leasehold interest in the Entitlements will revert back to PG&E, free and clear of any liens or encumbrances. 108

By the expiration of an Entitlements Lease, the capital costs for the portions of the projects that were subject to Citizens' leasehold interest will have been fully depreciated. Since the leased Entitlements to the projects revert to PG&E at the expiration of an Entitlements Lease, customers will receive the benefit for the remaining useful life of those facilities without being charged for theirany capital costs for such period.

### C. Necessary Regulatory Filings

### 1. FERC Filings

Execution and implementation of the Investment Program is contingent on the Commission's approval of this the Amended Application as well as FERC's approval of several forthcoming filings. This combination of required Commission and FERC approvals is closely modeled on Citizens'

See, e.g., D.19-03-024 at 7 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*8-9 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*3. 2019).

Entitlements Lease § 11.4.

See *Id.* § 2.2; DCOA § 4.2(a).

prior transactions with SDG&E. A description of PG&E's and Citizens' respective obligations to obtain necessary FERC approvals follows.

Prior to the execution of an Entitlements Lease with Citizens, PG&E must obtain approvals from FERC under Federal Power Act (FPA) §§§ 203 and, as applicable, § 205.109 The FPA § 203 filing (which will be made jointly by PG&E and Citizens) will request FERC authorization for PG&E to enter into the applicable Entitlements Lease. The list of transmission projects that will be subject to a given Entitlements Lease will be described in the applicable and publicly filed FPA § 203 application.110 PG&E's FPA § 205 filing will seek approval of a formula rate designed to recover from Citizens (in the form of Additional Rent) its portion of the O&M and other expense costs associated with the applicable projects.

PG&E's filings with FERC will make clear that, consistent with the prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions, PG&E will not be permitted to "double recover" from Citizens or from CAISO customers the capital costs or O&M and other expense costs associated with the portion of the projects subject to an Entitlements Lease. CAISO customers thus will be protected from any such potential adverse rate impacts. Further, at the expiration of an Entitlements Lease, PG&E will not have on its books any capital costs associated with the Citizens transaction because Citizens will have fully depreciated the portion of any projects subject to an Entitlements Lease.

Citizens has the responsibility for obtaining from FERC the regulatory approvals necessary for Citizens to effectuate and finance the Entitlements Leases, and PG&E agrees to cooperate with and assist Citizens in obtaining such approvals from FERC and from CAISO. 111 As the amended testimony of Citizens witness Peter F. Smith (Amended Chapter 5) explains, Citizens will seek has requested a declaratory order from FERC regarding its rate methodologies and will seek FERC authorizations under FPA §§ 204 and 205.

<sup>109</sup> See DCOA § 4.3(a)(i), (b)(ii).

<sup>110</sup> As discussed in the subsequent section, the Commission and stakeholders also will have the opportunity to review the projects that will be subject to each Entitlements Lease prior to lease execution.

<sup>111</sup> See Id. DCOA § 4.3(a)(ii), (b)(iii).

### 2. Proposal to Keep the Proposed Commission Informed Through Information-Only Submittals Review and Oversight Process

To provide the Commission with visibility into the Investment Program and the projects included in future Entitlements Leases, PG&E proposes to submit to the Commission on a periodic basis detailed information-only submittals that summarize key aspects of the Investment Program. Specifically, PG&E proposes that within 30 days of the execution of an Entitlements Lease, PG&E will provide to the Commission an information-only submittal that describes and appends a copy of the newly executed Entitlements Lease. This submittal will include a summary of transmission projects subject to the newly executed Entitlements Lease and will specify Citizens' leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to such projects. PG&E further proposes that for each year in which any Entitlements Lease is in effect, PG&E will provide an annual information-only submittal that summarizes Citizens' charitable giving activities in connection with the Investment Program, including the entities and the actions or activities that were funded by Citizens' net after-tax profits from the Investment Program.

To provide a transparent process for Commission review, PG&E proposes to seek Commission authorization for each specific Entitlements

Lease that it will enter into with Citizens pursuant to the Investment Program created by the DCOA. As discussed in greater detail in the Amended

Application, PG&E seeks authorization to enter into the first Entitlements

Lease with Citizens pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Investment

Program created by the DCOA and as described in the Amended

Application. PG&E further seeks authorization to seek approval for each of the second through fifth Entitlements Leases through the stakeholder consultation and expedited Tier 3 Advice Letter process described in the Amended Application. This process will ensure each future Entitlements

Lease is consistent with the terms of the DCOA, including the project eligibility criteria and the Commission's order on the Amended Application.

PG&E also proposes to submit reports regarding executed Entitlements

Leases and Citizens' direct bill-paying assistance.

A key to delivering the significant benefits of the Investment Program to customers and communities in the PG&E service territory lies in the efficiency with which PG&E and Citizens will be able to execute and effectuate Entitlements Leases that comply with the terms of the DCOA while minimizing delays and implementation costs. Multiple investments by Citizens over the term of the DCOA will permit PG&E to accelerate required electric infrastructure investments necessary to meet California's decarbonization goals, while increasing capacity, reliability, asset health, and the interconnection of generation (including renewable generation) and load on the PG&E system. 112 necessary electric infrastructure. The ability to move forward efficiently with each Entitlements Lease will enable PG&E to plan effectively and execute its capital plan with certainty.

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PG&E's proposal in this Application for a programmatic Section 851 authorization with periodic information-only submittals about of the Investment Program, including the underlyingfirst Entitlements Leases, Lease and the expedited Tier 3 Advice Letter process through which PG&E may seek approval to <u>lease additional Entitlements to Citizens</u> strikes a careful balance from a regulatory perspective. It will allow for necessary efficiency in the execution of the Investment Program while preserving the Commission's oversight authority and providing the Commission and stakeholders with the information it needs needed to track its the Investment Program's progress and benefits. The proposed programmatic This tiered approach helps conserve Commission resources when compared to a process requiring future resource-intensive formal application proceedings for each tranche of the Investment Program. This tiered approach also minimizes reduces the Investment Program's regulatory and administrative costs, which results in a larger pool of net after-tax profits for Citizens that can be used to maximize support for disadvantaged communities and low-income families the direct bill-paying assistance benefits of the Investment Program for customers in need.

transmission and distribution system safety and reliability upgrades, risk mitigation, and investments in electrification and related efforts to combat climate change.

<sup>112</sup> PG&E will use the proceeds from the Entitlements Leases as a source of funding for PG&E's utility capital expenditure program, including investments in electric

### D. Public Interest Basis for Commission Approval

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As PG&E witness Barry J. Bentley discusses in his amended testimony (Amended Chapter 1), PG&E believes approving the Investment Program is in the public interest for several reasons. The Investment Program will provide significant benefits to the public and customers through (1) Citizens' energy-related charitable contributions to direct bill-paying assistance programs that support PG&E customers in need, including those in disadvantaged communities and low-income families,; (2) providing additional capital to support PG&E's electric infrastructure needs; (3) providing rate certainty and rate stability to customers; (4) allowing customers to benefit from the remaining useful life of the relevant projects after expiration of the Entitlements Lease(s); and (5) the involvement of diverse interests in transmission development. 113 In addition, the transaction documents provide that the public will continue receiving electric service at fair and reasonable rates by capping the capital cost component of Citizens' FERC rate at an approximation of the rate PG&E could charge at the time of execution of an Entitlements Lease for the portion of the transmission projects subject to Citizens' leasehold interests, protecting against double recovery, precluding recovery of Citizens' upfront and ongoing incremental costs, and confirming that PG&E does not guarantee Citizens' cost recovery as long as PG&E is part of CAISO or a successor. 114 The Investment Program also ensures that operational control of the leased Entitlements will be transferred to CAISO.<sup>115</sup> Notably, the Investment Program is consistent with prior Citizens/SDG&E transactions approved by the Commission under Section 851 and indeed provides additional significant benefits to customers and the community.

### E. Commission Precedent Supports the Investment Program

The Investment Program between PG&E and Citizens, including the underlying Entitlements Leases, is closely modeled on Citizens' two prior

<sup>113</sup> See Chapter 1 § D.

<sup>114</sup> See *supra* §§ B.4.b to B.4.d.

**<sup>115</sup>** See *supra* § B.4.f.

- transactions with SDG&E discussed above. 116 The Commission approved both
- transactions, finding them in the public interest. 117 Here, PG&E is proud to
- present for Commission approval the Investment Program, which builds upon
- 4 the success of the prior transactions but with added customer protections and
- 5 benefits. 118

<sup>116</sup> See <u>D.19-03-024</u> (Sycamore Section 851 Decision; ), 2019 Cal. <u>PUC Lexis 154</u> (Cal. <u>P.U.C. 2019</u>); <u>D.11-05-048</u> (Sunrise Section 851 Decision; ), 2011 Cal. <u>PUC Lexis 302</u> (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>117</sup> D.11-05-048 at 1, 21-23, 25-26 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. P.U.C.), at \*1, \*32-34, \*38; (Cal. P.U.C. 2011); D.19-03-024 at 2, 18, 20, 25 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*1-2, \*25, \*29, \*35-36(Cal. P.U.C.); 2019), at \*1, \*9, \*11, \*13.

**<sup>118</sup>** DCOA § 4.5; Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 3 INVESTMENT PROGRAM RATE IMPLICATIONS

### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY <u>AMENDED</u> CHAPTER 3 INVESTMENT PROGRAM RATE IMPLICATIONS

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## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY <u>AMENDED</u> CHAPTER 3 INVESTMENT PROGRAM RATE IMPLICATIONS

#### A. Introduction

The Amended Application requests California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approval under Section 851 of the California Public Utilities Code for Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to lease Entitlements 1 to certain PG&E transmission projects to a wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation subject to the terms and conditions of the Investment Program created by the Development, Coordination, and Option Agreement (DCOA) attached to the Amended Application as Attachment 1 and as described in the Amended Application. PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation (together with its wholly owned subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, "Citizens" 2) executed the DCOA on February 20, 2024, and amended and restated it on January 29, 2025.

Subject to Commission approval, Under the Investment Program, PG&E may offer Citizens up to five separate options to lease Entitlements to PG&E high-voltage transmission projects that which will be identified insubmitted to the Commission and stakeholders for review prior to execution of the relevant lease and will meet specified eligibility requirements—for a total Citizens investment of up to \$1.0 billion dollars. If PG&E and Citizens close on a given

<sup>1</sup> Entitlements are defined in Appendix A to the California Independent System Operator CAISO Tariff as "[t]he right of a Participating [Transmission Owner] obtained through contract or other means to use another entity's transmission facilities for the transmission of Energy." See CAISO Fifth Replacement Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Electronic Tariff, Appendix A, Entitlements.

The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E. This testimony refers to Citizens Energy Corporation and its subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, or other wholly owned subsidiary that Citizens selects to enter into an Entitlements Lease, collectively as "Citizens."

option, they will enter into a 30-year "Entitlements Lease" for the applicable group of projects.<sup>3</sup>

### B. Purpose of **Amended** Testimony

The purpose of this <u>amended</u> testimony is to explain the rate implications of the Investment Program and the treatment of capital- and expense-related costs pertaining to the proposed Entitlements Leases between PG&E and Citizens. Below is a brief summary of the remaining sections of this <u>amended</u> testimony.

Section C discusses recovery of PG&E'sE and Citizens' capital costs under the Entitlements Leases. This section explains how the "Representative Rate Model" will be used to calculate a "PG&E Representative Rate" for each Entitlements Lease that. The PG&E Representative Rate approximates PG&E's capital cost recovery at the time of lease execution as if PG&E had not leased the Entitlements to Citizens and which. It also explains how the PG&E Representative Rate will act as a cap on Citizens' capital cost recovery from, ensuring that Citizens cannot charge customers more than PG&E would be expected to charge if PG&E had not entered into the Entitlements Lease. It also explains how the DCOA protects against double recovery of capital costs.

Section D discusses the methodology and key inputs used in the Representative Rate Model to calculate the PG&E Representative Rate. To demonstrate how the Representative Rate Model works and how Citizens' capital cost recovery will be capped based on the PG&E Representative Rate, this section uses the Representative Rate Model to calculate an illustrative annual levelized capital-related revenue requirement (i.e., an illustrative PG&E Representative Rate) for a scenario that assumes no transaction (i.e., Citizens does not participate in the Investment Program and PG&E retains all the Entitlements to the relevant transmission projects) (PG&E Base Case). It then compares the illustrative PG&E Representative Rate calculated for the PG&E Base Case to an illustrative annual levelized capital-related revenue requirement for a second scenario. The second scenario assumes Citizens participates in the Investment Program by exercising its first option and entering into an Entitlements Lease with a total prepaid rent amount of \$200 million (Citizens

A Form of Entitlements Lease is Exhibit A to the DCOA (Entitlements Lease). Unless otherwise specified, all references to the DCOA and the Entitlements Lease refer to the amended and restated versions of those documents.

Base Case). Section D compares the illustrative annual levelized capital-related revenue requirements in the PG&E Base Case and the Citizens Base Case and explains how the PG&E Representative Rate would act to cap Citizens' capital cost recovery and protect customers.

Finally, Section E discusses the treatment of expense-related costs. It explains how PG&E will allocate to Citizens a share of expense costs (referred to as Additional Rent), including operations and maintenance (O&M) costs, that are reasonably attributable to Citizens. It also explains Citizens' agreement contractual commitment not to recover from ratepayers customers its own (and its affiliates') upfront and ongoing incremental costs that would not be incurred without—protecting customers from incremental costs of Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program.

### C. Recovery of Capital Costs

Each Citizens investment under an Entitlements Lease will take the form of a lump sum prepaid rent payment by Citizens to PG&E (Prepaid Rent) that will confer on Citizens a leasehold percentage interest in the Entitlements to a specified group of PG&E transmission projects for the duration of the 30-year Entitlements Lease. The capital costs Citizens will recover in rates (referred to as the "Costs of Entitlements" in the Entitlements Lease) are limited to the Prepaid Rent due under the Entitlements Lease and the Financing Costs that Citizens incurs. 5

As Citizens' expert witness Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6)
explains, Citizens will raise the funds for the Prepaid Rent for each Entitlements
Lease by taking on long-term debt at a fixed rate close in time to the execution
of each Entitlements Lease. This debt will have a 30-year term, and the
interest rate will be fixed for the duration of the loan and reflect then-prevailing
market conditions. Mr. Kennedy anticipates Citizens' cost of debt for the first
Entitlements Lease to be 5.73 percent. 8

<sup>4</sup> See DCOA § 4.2(c), (d); Entitlements Lease § 4.1.1.

<sup>5</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2(a).

<sup>6</sup> See Amended Testimony of Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) at A4 and A5.

<sup>7</sup> See Amended Testimony of Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) at A12.

<sup>8</sup> See Amended Testimony of Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) at A5.

The way Citizens will secure long-term debt financing for each Prepaid Rent 1 payment aligns with how PG&E secures long-term debt to finance its 2 investments in large, long-lived assets. PG&E also issues long-term debt (e.g., 3 30-year bonds) for long-term capital assets (e.g., 55-year useful life) like the 4 5 transmission projects included in the Investment Program. Typically, these PG&E bonds would have a fixed coupon interest rate and so, like Citizens, that 6 interest rate would be locked in for the term of the bond and reflect then 7 8 prevailing interest rates. Like Citizens, PG&E also typically holds this debt to maturity (e.g., 30 years after issuance) rather than attempting to restructure it in 9 response to decreases in market rates. This is because PG&E cannot 10 11 meaningfully reduce its costs through restructuring. Instead, PG&E would need to make a lump-sum payment equal to the present value of all future coupon 12 payments to retire the existing debt, and then issue new debt at the lower 13 market rate, in effect replacing one debt with another without generating 14 meaningful savings, if any. PG&E's estimated cost of debt associated with the 15 first Entitlements Lease is 5.91 percent. I understand that because Citizens' 16 17 credit profile is better than PG&E's, Citizens' estimated cost of debt in connection with the first Entitlements Lease is slightly lower than PG&E's cost of 18 debt. PG&E would recover the cost of this debt from customers in FERC-19 approved rates, like Citizens expects to do. Thus, as Citizen's expert Susan 20 Tierney confirms, (Amended Chapter 8), customers are not disadvantaged by 21 Citizens' use of long-term fixed debt financing because this same practice, and 22 the associated costs, are consistent with PG&E's own debt-financing practices 23 for such assets. 10 24 Under the terms of the Entitlements Lease, the Financing Costs included in 25 the Costs of Entitlements may not exceed one percent of the Prepaid Rent. 11 26 27 The term "Financing Costs" means all reasonable and customary financing costs associated with the term financing that Citizens will consummate for the 28

acquisition of its leasehold interest in the relevant Entitlements, including

lenders' fees, consultants' and lawyers' fees (for Citizens and its lenders), and

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<sup>9</sup> See Amended Testimony of Ronald E. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) at A8 and A9.

See Prepared Testimony of Susan F. Tierney (Chapter 8), Section C.3.

**<sup>11</sup>** *Id.* 

capitalized interest charged prior to commencement of rate recovery. This provision protects customers by capping Citizens' financing costs to that of traditional utilities whose financing costs are typically approximately one percent of the amount borrowed. Under the terms of the Entitlements Lease, the Financing Costs included in the Costs of Entitlements may not exceed one percent of the Prepaid Rent. 13

As the testimony of Citizens' expert witness Ronald E. Kennedy (Chapter 6) discusses, Citizens will develop its own ratemaking methodology for recovery of its capital costs at a fixed and levelized rate, as discussed in Mr. Kennedy's testimony (Amended Chapter 6). Citizens' ratemaking methodology will be filed with and approved by the FERC. 14 This ratemaking methodology will be used to calculate an annual levelized capital-related revenue requirement referred to in this amended testimony as the "Citizens Uncapped Rate."

Under the Entitlements Lease, Citizens' recovery of capital costs will be capped at a rate that approximates the capital cost recovery rate PG&E estimates it would be authorized to charge at the time the relevant Entitlements Lease is executed if PG&E had not leased such interests to Citizens – i.e., the PG&E Representative Rate. The PG&E Representative Rate will be calculated using the Representative Rate Model attached as Exhibit B to the Entitlements Lease and described in Section D below. This approach This approach protects customers from Citizens charging a potentially higher rate than PG&E is expected to charge for the same projects and is consistent with the approach used for Citizens' investments with San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) to lease Entitlements to the Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission Line and the Sunrise Power-Link Transmission Line. 16

Typically, PG&E's electric transmission system investments are recovered through FERC approved rates in PG&E's Transmission Owner (TO) Tariff. The

<sup>12</sup> Id.

<sup>13</sup> Id.

DCOA § 4.3(a)(ii), (b)(iii); Entitlements Lease §§ 4.2, 4.3.

<sup>15</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

D.11-05-048 at 19-22 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*29-32 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011) (describing SDG&E Representative Rate Model); D.19-03-024 at 12-14 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*17-20 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019) (same).

TO Tariff revenue requirement includes both a capital-related revenue requirement and an expense related revenue requirement. PG&E's capital related revenue requirement includes depreciation, taxes, and return on rate base. These components are calculated using FERC-approved parameters such as depreciable life, return on equity (ROE), and capital structure. As I discuss in greater detail below, the Representative Rate Model generally reflects the FERC approved ratemaking methodology and parameters for PG&E's capital related revenue requirement.

Notably, the Investment Program includes protections against double recovery of capital costs. Under the DCOA, transmission projects may be eligible to be included in an Entitlements Lease only if an amount equal to or greater than the expected Citizens leasehold percentage interest of the capital costs of such projects has not already been included in PG&E's existing FERC transmission rates for purposes of cost recovery. Additionally, PG&E is required to exclude from its transmission rates for cost recovery an amount of dollars equivalent to the total Prepaid Rent that PG&E receives from Citizens. 18

DCOA § 3.4(a).

*Id.* § 4.6.

### D. The Representative Rate Model and Illustrative Base Case Comparison

The Representative Rate Model calculates an annual capital-related revenue requirement referred to as the PG&E Representative Rate. The PG&E Representative Rate approximates the capital costs PG&E could recover at the time of execution of an Entitlements Lease for the projects subject to the Entitlements Lease over the life of those assets if PG&E had not leased the Entitlements to Citizens. It uses a "cost of service" ratemaking methodology and inputs consistent with parameters in the PG&E FERC-approved TO Tariff Formula Rate that was most recently authorized by FERC in a final and non-appealable order not subject to refund as of the date of execution of the relevant Entitlements Lease. The Representative Rate Model will be used to calculate the PG&E Representative Rate for each Entitlements Lease at or within five business days prior to lease execution. 19 The PG&E Representative Rate, in turn, will be used to cap Citizens' recovery of capital costs for each Entitlements Lease. 20

If the ratemaking methodology Citizens uses for recovery of its capital costs at a fixed and levelized rate produces a Citizens Uncapped Rate that is lower than the PG&E Representative Rate for a given Entitlements Lease, the Citizens Uncapped Rate will be used by Citizens for purposes of capital cost recovery. However, if the Citizens Uncapped Rate is higher than the PG&E Representative Rate for a given Entitlements Lease, Citizens will cap its capital cost recovery so that it does not exceed the PG&E Representative Rate. In other words, customers are guaranteed the lower rate, whether it is the Citizens Uncapped Rate or the PG&E Representative Rate.

To illustrate how the Representative Rate Model works, I compare annual levelized capital revenue requirements under two scenarios. The first scenario – the PG&E Base Case – assumes Citizens does not participate in the Investment Program and PG&E retains all the Entitlements to the relevant transmission facilities. The PG&E Base Case uses the Representative Rate Model to produce an illustrative PG&E Representative Rate. The second scenario – the Citizens Base Case – assumes Citizens does participate in the Investment

Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2(d).

*Id.* § 4.3.2; DCOA § 4.5.

Program by exercising its first option and enters into an Entitlements Lease with a total Prepaid Rent amount of \$200 million. As the testimony of Citizens' expert witness Ronald E.Mr. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) explains in greater detail, the Citizens Base Case uses Citizens' own ratemaking methodology to produce an illustrative Citizens Uncapped Rate.

### 1. Components of the Capital-Related Revenue Requirement

The capital-related revenue requirement calculated by the Representative Rate Model consists of a return on rate base, depreciation on plant, and income taxes. Certain inputs used to calculate these components will be determined at or within five business days prior to the execution date of the relevant Entitlements Lease.<sup>21</sup> For purposes of the illustrative base case comparison, PG&E used values as of February 1December 5, 2024, for these variable inputs to calculate the illustrative PG&E Representative Rate.<sup>22</sup>

As explained above, the Costs of Entitlements that Citizens may recover in rates are limited to the Prepaid Rent due under the Entitlements Lease and Citizens' Financing Costs, which are capped at one percent of the Prepaid Rent.<sup>23</sup> The Costs of Entitlements will be determined at or within five business days prior to execution of the relevant Entitlements Lease.<sup>24</sup> For purposes of the illustrative base case comparison, PG&E assumed \$200 million in Project Costs associated with Citizens' Entitlements and assumed that Financing Costs will equal one percent of the Prepaid Rent-capital-related costs for the PG&E Base Case scenario. as indicated in Table 3-1.

Section 4.3.2 of the Entitlements Lease details the variable inputs that will be determined at the time of execution of the relevant Entitlements Lease include: (1) the Costs of Entitlements, (2) the five-day average Moody's Baa 30-year Utility Bond Index, (3) the 12-month average spread on PG&E's most recently issued 30-year bond, (4) PG&E's FERC-approved ROE, (5) PG&E's FERC-approved capital structure, (6) PG&E's actual AFUDC related to the Entitlements Lease, and (7) the composite

<sup>(6)</sup> PG&E's actual AFUDC related to the Entitlements Lease, and (7) the composite FERC-approved average service life for PG&E electric transmission assets.

As Mr. Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) explains, Citizens calculated the illustrative Citizens Uncapped Rate based on variable inputs as of December 5, 2024.

<sup>23</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2(a).

*Id.* § 4.3.2(a), (d).

### TABLE 3-1 PG&E CAPITAL COSTS

Line No.	Capital -Related Costs	PG&E Base Case	
1	Project Costs Associated with Citizens' Entitlements	\$200,000,000	
2	Financing Costs	2,000,000	
3	Total Costs of Entitlements	\$202,000,000	

In the Representative Rate Model, rate base is calculated as Plant in Service less Accumulated Depreciation less Accumulated Deferred Taxes. The Representative Rate Model calculates return on rate base using PG&E's weighted average cost of capital (WACC). Several of the inputs used to calculate PG&E's WACC will be determined at or within five business days prior to execution of the relevant Entitlements Lease. PG&E's cost of debt will be determined based on the five-day average Moody's Baa 30-year Utility Bond Index and the 12-month average spread on PG&E's most recently issued 30-year bond at the time of Entitlements Lease execution. For purposes of calculating PG&E's WACC for use in the Representative Rate Model, PG&E will use the ROE and capital structure that at the time of Entitlements Lease execution were most recently authorized by FERC in a final and non-appealable order not subject to refund. 26

For purposes of calculating the illustrative PG&E Representative Rate used in this <u>amended</u> testimony, PG&E's WACC is based on the cost of debt calculated using the Moody's Baa 30-year Utility Bond Index as of <u>February 1December 5</u>, 2024 (which was 5.50-54 percent)), plus the 12-month average spread on PG&E's most recently issued 30 year-bond as of <u>February 1December 5</u>, 2024. For purposes of this calculation, PG&E used the ROE and capital structure from its TO20 Formula Rate case, which is the PG&E TO Tariff most recently authorized by FERC in a final and non-appealable order not subject to refund as of <u>February 1December 5</u>,

*Id.* § 4.3.2(a), (b) & nn.5, 10.

*Id.* § 4.3.2(b) & nn.6-8.

2024.<sup>2</sup>
 based
 PG&E

2024.<sup>27</sup> Table <u>3-</u>2 below shows the WACC calculation of 8.45% <u>17 percent</u> based on values as of <u>February 1 December 5</u>, 2024, which is used for the PG&E Base Case.

TABLE 3-2
PG&E'S WACC
BASED ON VALUES AS OF FEBRUARY 1DECEMBER 5, 2024

Line No.	Component	Capital Structure	Cost of Capital	WACC
1	Debt	49.75%	<del>6.47</del> 5.91%	3.22 2.94%
2 3	Preferred Equity Common Equity	0.50% 49.75%	5.52% 10.45%	0.03% 5.20%
4	WACC			8.45 8.17%

The Representative Rate Model also incorporates a calculation of the depreciation on assets placed into service. The Representative Rate Model will use the composite average service life for PG&E electric transmission assets that at the time of execution of the relevant Entitlements Lease was most recently authorized by FERC in a final and non-appealable order not subject to refund.<sup>28</sup> For purposes of the PG&E Base Case, PG&E has used the Network Electric Transmission composite average service life of 55 years, which was derived from the average service lives at the asset class level in PG&E's TO20 Formula Rate<sup>29</sup> (i.e., the PG&E TO Tariff most recently authorized by FERC in a final and non-appealable order not subject to refund as of February 1 December 5, 2024).

Finally, PG&E has calculated income taxes in alignment with the current Internal Revenue Service rules. Federal and State income tax rates used in the Representative Rate Model (for purposes of the PG&E Base Case) and Citizens Base Case are 21 percent and 8.84 percent, respectively.

See *Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.,* 173 FERC ¶ 61,281 (2020) (FERC letter order accepting settlement in PG&E's TO20 Formula Rate Case establishing ROE and capital structure).

<sup>28</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2(a) & n.4.

See *Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.*, 173 FERC ¶ 61,281 (2020) (FERC letter order accepting settlement in PG&E's TO20 Formula Rate Case approving Network Electric Transmission depreciation rates).

Section D of the <u>amended</u> testimony of PG&E witness James Higham Jr. (<u>Amended</u> Chapter 4) explains the tax inputs and considerations in detail.

### 2. Representative Rate Model Calculations

Using the inputs described above, the Representative Rate Model calculates an annual levelized capital-related revenue requirement over the 30-year lease term, producing the PG&E Representative Rate. Using cost of service ratemaking principles, the Representative Rate Model produces annual capital-related revenue requirements that are added together over the composite average service life for PG&E electric transmission assets that at the time of execution of the relevant Entitlements Lease was most recently authorized by FERC in a final and non-appealable order not subject to refund (55 years for purposes of the illustrative base case comparison) and discounted at PG&E's WACC presented in the Representative Rate Model. The discounted sum of the capital-related revenue requirements is then levelized over the 30-year lease period to produce a single levelized annual capital-related revenue requirement, known as the PG&E Representative rate.

### 3. Results of the Illustrative Base Case Comparison

This section compares the illustrative PG&E Representative Rate produced by the Representative Rate Model to the illustrative Citizens Uncapped Rate produced by Citizens' ratemaking methodology. Ultimately customers will be charged only the lower of the two rates resulting from these models.

Using the assumptions and inputs described above, the Representative Rate Model calculates the annual levelized capital-related revenue requirement for the PG&E Base Case – i.e., the illustrative PG&E Representative Rate – which is \$20.9-4 million, as shown in Table 3-3.

Citizens' ratemaking methodology described in the Mr. Kennedy's amended testimony of Citizens' expert witness Ronald E. Kennedy ((Amended Chapter 6) calculates the annual levelized capital revenue requirement for the Citizens Base Case – i.e., the illustrative Citizens Uncapped Rate – which is \$22 .7 million, as shown in Table 3-3.

TABLE 3-3
COMPARISON OF ILLUSTRATIVE ANNUAL LEVELIZED CAPITAL-RELATED REVENUE
REQUIREMENTS

Line No.	Illustrative Rate	(Illustrative PG&E Representative Rate)	(Illustrative Uncapped Citizens Rate)	Variance
1	Annual Levelized Capital-Related			
	Revenue Requirement	<del>\$20,929,939</del>	<del>\$22,735,447</del>	<del>\$1,805,508</del>
		<u>\$20,436,208</u>	<u>\$22,027,018</u>	\$1,590,810

 A comparison of the PG&E Base Case to the Citizens Base Case in this illustrative example shows that the annual levelized capital-related revenue requirement in the Citizens Base Case (i.e., the illustrative Citizens Uncapped Rate) is higher than the PG&E Base Case (i.e., the illustrative PG&E Representative Rate) by \$1.8-6 million annually or 8.67.78 percent. As discussed above, for any given Entitlements Lease, if the Citizens Uncapped Rate is higher than the PG&E Representative Rate, the rate charged to customers will be capped at the PG&E Representative Rate. If the Citizens Uncapped Rate is lower than the PG&E Representative Rate, the Citizens Uncapped Rate will be charged to customers. Capping Citizens' capital-related revenue requirement at the PG&E Representative Rate means customers will pay no more than an approximation of the rate PG&E could charge at the time of execution of the Entitlements Lease for the portion of the projects subject to Citizens' leasehold interests (i.e., if PG&E held 100 percent of the Entitlements).

In addition to the use of the PG&E Representative Rate as a cap on Citizens' capital-related cost recovery, there are several additional financial benefits for customers associated with the Investment Program. First, the capital cost recovery in the rates Citizens will charge will be fixed at current levels over the 30-year terms of the Entitlements Leases. The rates PG&E would charge customers, in contrast, would be subject to change as costs change PG&E's WACC changes. Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program thus will provide valuable certainty and predictability to

ratepayers\_customers. 30 Second, as explained in detail in the amended testimony of Citizens witness Peter F. Smith (Amended Chapter 5), Citizens estimates its contributions of net after-tax profits from the Investment Program to energy-related charitable direct bill-paying assistance programs that benefit disadvantaged communities and low-income families\_customers in need are expected to total more than \$400450 million over the life of the Investment Program (assuming a total investment of \$1.0 billion). This is a significant benefit that would not be achieved without Citizens' participation in the Investment Program.

#### E. Recovery of Expense-Related Costs

In addition to the capital-related costs described above, there are also expense costs related to the Entitlements Leases. PG&E will allocate to Citizens as "Additional Rent" a share of expense costs, including O&M costs, that are reasonably attributable to Citizens. 31 Citizens will recover its Additional Rent expenses from customers; PG&E will not recover from customers the Additional Rent allocated to Citizens. 32 Additionally, Citizens has agreed not to recover from customers its (and its affiliates') own upfront and ongoing incremental costs. 33 Because Additional Rent is the only expense-related cost Citizens will recover from customers and Additional Rent costs will be passed through to customers (either by PG&E or by Citizens) regardless of whether Citizens participates in the Investment Program, expense-related costs are not included in the illustrative base case comparison discussed above in Section D.

#### 1. PG&E's Allocation of Additional Rent to Citizens

Section 4.1.2 of the Entitlements Lease describes how PG&E will allocate certain expense costs to Citizens in the form of Additional Rent. This Additional Rent will include a monthly charge equal to the sum of:

(1) the expense costs PG&E incurs that are reasonably attributable to the

<sup>30</sup> D.11-05-048 at 15-17 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*22-26 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011) (explaining value of rate stability); D.19-03-024 at 15-16 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*20-22 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019) (same).

<sup>31</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.1.2.

DCOA § 4.6.

*Id.* § 4.5; Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

Citizens Entitlements, including a reasonable allocation of O&M costs; administrative and general (A&G) activities; Common, General, and Intangible (CGI) plant costs; the amortized cost of removal; sales, use, payroll, and excise taxes; and other costs authorized by FERC, plusand (2) Citizens' share of property tax paid by PG&E.34 The allocation portion of the CGI plant costs attributable to the Citizens Citizens' Entitlements includes, but is not limited to, capital costs for office building, furniture, computer equipment, communication equipment, and tools.

The allocation methodology for O&M and A&G will be based on PG&E's gross plant ratio. A gross plant ratio or leased plant factor will be calculated by using the ratio of the leased gross plant amount to Citizens over PG&E's Total End of Year Network Transmission Functional Gross Plant. The leased gross plant will be adjusted to reflect the 12-month average to take into consideration that an Entitlements Lease may be effective for only part of the year during the years in which the lease commences and expires. This gross plant factor will be applied to PG&E's electric network transmission allocated O&M and A&G balances to arrive at the total amount to charge Citizens. The electric network transmission allocated O&M and A&G balances will be determined in PG&E's TO Formula Rate. The same allocation methodology will be applied for allocating payroll and other taxes such as excise taxes.

The CGI plant-related rate base—which includes gross plant, accumulated depreciation, and accumulated deferred income tax—and the CGI-related depreciation also will be allocated based on a gross plant factor described above. Return on rate base and associated income taxes will be calculated based on the CGI rate base allocated to Citizens. Similar treatment will be applied to other rate base items such as Prepayment and Materials and Supplies. Cash Working Capital will be calculated as one-eighth of Citizen's allocated O&M and A&G. The one-eighth approach is consistent with the proposal in PG&E's TO21 formula rate and is subject to

Entitlements Lease § 4.1.2; see id. § 1.1 (defining "Additional Rent," "Citizens Additional Rent Rate," and "Reimbursable Property Taxes"); id. §§ 8.1, 8.3.

change based on the final approved TO21 formula rate or subsequent formula rate that replaces TO21.

Citizens' expense-related revenue requirement also will include the amortized cost of removal for the plant included in each of the Entitlements Leases. The cost of removal expense will be calculated annually based on a composite net salvage factor associated with all the assets in each Entitlements Lease.<sup>35</sup>

Property tax allocation will be based on a ratio of the leased plant net functional and CGI plant (gross plant less accumulated depreciation) over PG&E's electric net functional and CGI plant.

PG&E will calculate Additional Rent to be allocated to Citizens and will invoice Citizens for that amount.<sup>36</sup> The Additional Rent will be first calculated based on prior year financial data and will be trued up on <u>a</u> two-year lag similar to the TO Formula Rate. Citizens will in turn recover the Additional Rent through rates filed with and accepted by FERC.<sup>37</sup> PG&E will exclude from its transmission rates for purposes of cost recovery the costs allocated to Citizens as Additional Rent.<sup>38</sup>

Regardless of whether Citizens were to exercise an option under the DCOA and execute an Entitlements Lease, these Additional Rent costs would be passed through to customers (either by Citizens or, in the absence of Citizens' participation in the Investment Program, by PG&E). Thus, the Investment Program has no incremental financial impact on customers with respect to these Additional Rent costs.

### 2. Citizens' Agreement Not to Recover Its Upfront and Ongoing Incremental Costs From Customers

Citizens will incur certain incremental costs as a result of its participation in the Investment Program. For instance, if Citizens exercises an option under the DCOA and executes an Entitlements Lease, it will incur certain

The composite net salvage factor is derived using the FERC-authorized net salvage percentages for each asset.

Entitlements Lease § 4.1.2.

*Id.* §§ 4.2, 4.3.1.

DCOA § 4.6.

incremental A&G costs required for Citizens to carry out its responsibilities under the Entitlements Lease to perform the role of a Participating TO in CAISO. Given the size and scope of the Investment Program, Citizens has agreed it will not recover in its rates its (or its affiliates') upfront and ongoing incremental costs associated with its involvement. These costs include Citizens' own project costs, development costs, transaction costs, regulatory costs, O&M costs, A&G costs, sales tax costs, use tax costs, payroll tax costs, excise tax costs, and costs to effect billing and settlements with CAISO.<sup>39</sup> Accordingly, Citizens' upfront and ongoing incremental costs will have no impact on customer rates.

#### F. Conclusion

The rate and financial framework of the Investment Program is consistent with prior transactions approved by the Commission and FERC, and crucially, has been deliberately designed to protect customers from paying more for the applicable projects. In approving the Investment Program, the Commission would facilitate necessary funding for PG&E infrastructure improvements at fair and reasonable rates, while unlocking significant tangible benefits for customers.

*Id.* § 4.5; Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2.

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 4 TAX

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 4 TAX

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# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 4 TAX

#### A. Introduction

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The purpose of my amended testimony is to discuss the tax implications arising from any Entitlements Lease 1 that Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and a subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation—together with its wholly-owned subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC (Citizens)—execute pursuant to the investment program (Investment Program) created by the Development, Coordination, and Option Agreement (DCOA), dated February 20, 2024 (as amended and restated on January 29, 2025) between PG&E and Citizens. 2 Specifically, my amended testimony discusses the following topics:

- Income tax treatment of prepaid rent(s) received from Citizens pursuant to any Entitlements Lease<sup>3</sup> exercised as an Internal Revenue Code (IRC) § 467 Lease (Sections B and C);
- Tax components of PG&E's "Representative Rate Model," including a discussion of the income tax calculation approach and Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes (ADIT) (Section D);

A form of which is attached as Exhibit A to the <u>amended and restated</u> DCOA (Entitlements Lease). The <u>amended and restated</u> DCOA is attached to the <u>Amended</u> Application as Attachment 1. <u>Unless otherwise specified, all references to the DCOA and the Entitlements Lease refer to the amended and restated versions of those documents.</u>

The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E. This testimony refers to Citizens Energy Corporation and its subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, or other wholly owned subsidiary that Citizens selects to enter into an Entitlements Lease, collectively as "Citizens."

<sup>3</sup> See Recitals of the Entitlements Lease, which describe the Investment Program and the options described thereunder.

For general discussion of the Representative Rate Model, see the <u>amended</u> testimony of PG&E witness Divya Raman (Amended Chapter 3).

- How provisions in the DCOA and Form of Entitlements Lease attached as
   Exhibit A to the DCOA (Entitlements Lease) that protect against double
   recovery will apply with respect to certain tax-related items (Section E); and
- The inclusion of certain tax items in PG&E's "Additional Rent" allocable to Citizens (Section F).

#### B. Internal Revenue Code § 467 Leases

Under general income tax principles, amounts received by a taxpayer that constitute gross income must be included as taxable income in the year the payment is received and subject to tax. In a rental arrangement, general tax principles would have a lessor recognize rental income when the lessor receives rental payments, including prepaid rent amounts in Year 1. Lessees, on the other hand, under general tax principles, would deduct current rental payments as an ordinary and necessary business expense as the property is being used, but may not deduct any prepaid rents. Instead, lessees must capitalize any prepaid rent paid to a lessor over the life of the lease and then deduct rent as the property is used over time (i.e., lessees cannot deduct the entire prepaid rent amount paid to a lessor in the year of the prepayment). Thus, general tax principles create a reporting mismatch between lessors and lessees when prepaid rent is part of a leasing arrangement (i.e., lessors recognize all prepaid rent as taxable income in Year 1, but lessees must deduct rental expense over the life of the lease).

To address this mismatch, Congress enacted IRC § 467, which uses rental accrual rules to match when a lessee deducts rent payments with when a lessor recognizes rental income for certain rental agreements. In an IRC § 467 lease arrangement, the lessor and lessee are required to treat rents in the same complementary manner and consider time-value-of-money principles. Also, taxpayers with IRC § 467 rental agreements that have prepaid rent are required to treat a portion of the initial prepayment of rent as a "loan" from the lessee to the lessor and reclassify a portion of the accrued rental payments as interest expense on such "loan."

PG&E and Citizens (Parties) agreed to structure the Entitlements Lease(s) as IRC § 467 lease(s), consistent with similar prior Citizens' lease transactions

approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC or Commission),<sup>5</sup> to obtain the increased certainty about tax treatment that both Parties desire and to spread the income and expense items for tax purposes over the life of the applicable Entitlements Lease(s) in accordance with IRC § 467 and the Treasury regulations thereunder.

#### C. Prepaid Rent

 Under the Investment Program, subject to Commission approval, PG&E may offer Citizens up to five separate options to lease a minority percentage of the Entitlements to PG&E high-voltage transmission projects that will be identified in the relevant Entitlements Lease and will meet specified eligibility requirements, for a total Citizens investment of up to \$1.0 billion. Entitlements are defined in Appendix A to the California Independent System Operator Corporation Tariff as:

The right of a Participating [Transmission Owner] obtained through contract or other means to use another entity's transmission facilities for the transmission of Energy.

Under the DCOA, the maximum aggregate value of the five leases (i.e., the total prepaid rent that PG&E may receive) if all the options are exercised is capped at \$1.0 billion. If all five options are exercised, then each Entitlements Lease is expected to provide an average of \$200 million in prepaid rent to PG&E. For each Entitlements Lease, PG&E will amortize the prepaid rent into taxable income over the 30-year lease term based on a rent schedule calculated under the rules of IRC § 467. As discussed above, a portion of the prepaid rent for each Entitlements Lease will be treated as a loan from Citizens to PG&E. To the extent the unamortized prepaid rent exceeds the cumulative rental payments due at the end of each rental accrual period (as calculated under IRC § 467), the excess is deemed to be the outstanding loan balance, subject to interest payable to Citizens. IRC § 467 requires PG&E and Citizens to establish a schedule showing the taxable interest income to be recognized by Citizens and

See Application 09-10-010, Direct Testimony of Randall Rose (CPUCCal. P.U.C. filed Oct. 9, 2009); D.11-05-048 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302 (CPUCCal. P.U.C. 2011); D.19-03-024 at 7 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 WL 1571659 (CPUC), Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*3. \*8-9 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

Under the terms of the DCOA, Citizens will not be able to acquire a leasehold interest in more than 49.9 percent of the Entitlements for any individual transmission project.

the deductible interest expense to be recognized by PG&E for each accrual period. This loan bears interest at 110 percent of the Applicable Federal Rate (AFR), pursuant to IRC § 467(e)(4) and Treas. Reg. § 1.467-2(b)(1). For these purposes, the AFR is the federal long-term interest rate as published by the United States Treasury Department. For example, the long-term semi-annual rate at 110 percent AFR for February 2024 is 4.55 percent.<sup>7</sup>

The provisions of IRC § 467 do not change the total taxable income or total expense to be recognized by PG&E or Citizens, respectively, as compared to the recognition of prepaid rent upfront by PG&E and the deductible rent expense by Citizens. However, the IRC § 467 lease does change how the items of income and expense are labeled for tax purposes and the timing of their recognition by the Parties. In looking at each Entitlements Lease in isolation, PG&E will recognize net taxable income equal to the sum of its rental income and interest expense on the deemed loan from Citizens. Conversely, Citizens will recognize the net rental expense (tax deduction) and interest income attributable to the deemed loan for each Entitlements Lease. As a result, the net rental income less interest expense recognized by PG&E over the 30-year life of each Entitlements Lease will exactly equal Citizens' prepaid rent. Likewise, over the 30-year life of each Entitlements Lease, Citizens will have a complementary tax treatment for fully deducting its prepaid rent amount.

A calculation of the IRC § 467 rents and interest on an assumed \$200 million of projected prepaid rent is shown as Exhibit C of the Entitlements Lease. Under Section 8.2 of the Entitlements Lease, PG&E and Citizens intend to structure each Entitlements Lease as an IRC § 467 rental agreement (lease) and as such will use the same IRC § 467 schedule(s) for each Entitlements Lease to achieve complementary tax treatment.

See Revenue Ruling 2024-03 Table 1. https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rr-24-03.pdf (reproduced in part in Exhibit C of the Entitlements Lease).

#### D. PG&E Representative Rate Model – Income Tax Components<sup>8</sup>

The DCOA and Entitlements Lease include important ratepayer protections. PG&E and Citizens have agreed to cap the capital cost component of Citizens' rate based on a PG&E Representative Rate produced by the Representative Rate Model. The Representative Rate Model calculates a PG&E Representative Rate that provides an approximation of the rate that PG&E could charge at the time of execution of an Entitlements Lease for the portion of the transmission projects subject to Citizens' leasehold interests (i.e., if PG&E held 100 percent of the Entitlements). Below is a discussion of the income tax specific aspects of the Representative Rate Model.

#### 1. Income Tax Calculation

The income tax calculation in the Representative Rate Model is comprised of the federal and state tax expense associated with PG&E's return on equity (including preferred stock), plus a permanent tax adjustment for Allowance for Funds Used During Construction (AFUDC) Equity, 10 multiplied by the composite tax rate, and then grossed-up to a revenue requirement.

The calculation of income taxes can be summarized as follows:

<u>Total Income Taxes = ((Rate Base x Equity Rate of Return) + AFUDC Equity</u>

<u>tax adjustment) x Composite Tax Rate x Tax Gross-Up</u>

Composite Tax Rate of 27.984 percent: This is a combination of the federal 11 (21 percent) and California state 12 (8.84 percent) corporate income tax rates, reflecting the benefit of the California state tax deduction (27.984% = 19.14% (21% - (8.84% x 21%)) + 8.84%).

Property taxes were excluded from the PG&E Representative Rate Model because any applicable portion of property taxes related to the Citizens Entitlements Lease(s) will be allocated separately to Citizens as part of Additional Rent. See Section F for further discussion.

<sup>9</sup> Entitlements Lease § 4.3.2; id., Exh. B.

<sup>10</sup> AFUDC has a debt and equity component. However, only AFUDC Equity has tax implications because AFUDC Debt is fully deductible for tax purposes.

<sup>11</sup> Federal corporation income tax rate, as currently enacted.

<sup>12</sup> California corporation income tax rate, as currently enacted.

- Tax Gross-Up of 1.38857: This is one divided by the difference of one minus the Composite Tax Rate (1.38857 = 1/ (1 27.984%)).
   This percentage is necessary to calculate the appropriate revenue requirement for income taxes, due to the iterative effect of changing revenues for recovery of taxes.
- <u>Tax adjustment for AFUDC Equity</u>: This adjustment is necessary because AFUDC Equity is not a tax-deductible amount. The book-tax basis difference is a tax adjustment for ratemaking purposes and consistent with PG&E's formula rate models filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The Representative Rate Model's formulaic approach for income taxes 13 is consistent with PG&E's Twentieth Transmission Owner (TO20) and Twenty-First Transmission Owner (TO21) rate cases filed with FERC, as this income tax formula approximates the appropriate amount of income taxes associated with the capital (rate base) projects subject to the Entitlements Leases with Citizens.

#### 2. Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes

ADIT represents the tax effects on accumulated differences between the reported financial statement bases of assets and liabilities and their basis for income tax purposes, which will ultimately result in taxable or deductible amounts in future years when the reported amounts of the assets are recovered, and the reported amounts of liabilities are settled. Assets subject to FERC jurisdiction are fully normalized for income tax purposes.

Under the IRC normalization rules, the difference between federal tax depreciation computed under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System specified in IRC § 168 and state tax depreciation computed using the Asset Depreciation Range system specified in California Revenue

<sup>13</sup> See the <u>amended</u> testimony of PG&E witness Divya Raman (<u>Amended</u> Chapter 3) for discussion of the non-income tax components of the PG&E Representative Rate Model, such as the definition of rate base, the equity rate of return, depreciation on plant, etc.

Taxation Code § 24349 versus normalized depreciation <sup>14</sup> computed using the same life, method, and salvage assumptions used to compute book depreciation will be included as an adjustment to rate base by PG&E for purposes of establishing a baseline revenue requirement.

The Representative Rate Model includes an appropriate rate base adjustment for ADIT related to tax depreciation, in compliance with the normalization rules. This adjustment to rate base for depreciation-related ADIT is consistent with PG&E's FERC TO20 and TO21 formula rate cases.

#### E. Protections Against Double Recovery

The DCOA and Entitlements Lease include various ratepayer protections to protect against double recovery by PG&E of capital costs (i.e., prepaid rent and financing costs, capped at one percent of prepaid rent) and the portion of operations and maintenance and other expense costs allocated to Citizens by PG&E as Additional Rent. PG&E will exclude the leased plant from its rate base, and allocate Additional Rent to Citizens from PG&E's transmission revenue requirement. This section discusses the implications of these adjustments with respect to income taxes and ADIT.

#### 1. Reduction in Revenue Requirement for Income Taxes

For income taxes, because federal and state income taxes are primarily a function of equity return on rate base (as discussed above in Section D.1), the reduction of rate base for any Entitlements leased to Citizens will reduce income taxes payable by PG&E's customers (i.e., there is a smaller rate base and less profit to be taxed in PG&E's FERC formula rate). Instead, these income tax costs will be recovered from Citizens' customers pursuant to Citizens' FERC filings.

For ratemaking purposes, in essence the Normalization Rules under IRC § 168(i)(9) require that, for purposes of computing federal tax expense, the book amount of depreciation be used. Additionally, IRC § 168(i)(9) requires that the difference between federal income tax expense used for computing rates and actual federal income tax be treated as a reserve for deferred taxes, which is factored into rate base.

#### 2. Rate Base Adjustments for ADIT

Generally, rate base has an adjustment for certain ADIT for computing the revenue requirement for ratemaking purposes. ADIT for depreciation-related timing differences attaches to the plant. Since a portion of plant will be excluded from PG&E's FERC formula rate (smaller rate base), the associated plant related ADIT also will be excluded from PG&E's formula rate. Overall, PG&E customers will be paying less due to the reduced net rate base.

Additionally, for PG&E, there will be IRC § 467 lease revenue book-tax differences for tax reporting purposes if an Entitlements Lease is executed. 

To the extent it is later determined that Citizens included a ratemaking adjustment for its IRC § 467 lease expense book-tax difference (ADIT) in its FERC formula rate, PG&E will make a complementary 

rate base adjustment to its formula rate to offset ratepayer impacts. It should be noted that if Citizens does not include a rate base adjustment for the book-tax difference associated with lease rental expense, then PG&E also would not include a rate base adjustment for its lease revenue book-tax difference to maintain complementary rate base treatment.

#### F. Additional Rent Items

PG&E will allocate to Citizens a share of expense costs that are reasonably attributable to Citizens. The costs are referred to as "Additional Rent." As the <a href="mailto:amended">amended</a> testimony of PG&E witness Divya Raman (<a href="mailto:Amended">Amended</a> Chapter 3) discusses in greater detail, Additional Rent is comprised of various items. The following section discusses certain tax-related items that will be included in the

<sup>15</sup> The IRC Normalization rules under IRC § 168(i)(9) also require certain rate base adjustments to comply with a normalization method of accounting.

<sup>16</sup> Ultimately, both book and tax will recognize the same amount (rental income for PG&E or rent expense for Citizens) for the Entitlements Lease by the end of the lease term.

As discussed in Section C, because the transaction is intended to constitute an IRC § 467 rental agreement, PG&E and Citizens will use the same IRC § 467 schedule to determine the amount of deemed rental income and deemed rental expense recognized by PG&E and Citizens, respectively, for tax purposes. See Entitlements Lease § 8.2. The use of the same IRC § 467 tax schedule and book straight-line treatment to calculate the book-tax difference for rental income and book-tax difference for rental expense should produce complimentary amounts. This matching of taxable income recognition for lessors with the same tax deduction amount taken by lessees is the underlying purpose of IRC § 467.

Additional Rent allocated to Citizens. Any Additional Rent allocated to Citizens will not be recovered from PG&E's ratepayers. For a discussion of other Additional Rent items, please see Divya Raman's <a href="mailto:amended">amended</a> testimony (<a href="mailto:Amended">Amended</a> Chapter 3).

#### 1. Property Tax

The California State Board of Equalization (SBE) values utility property on a unitary basis as an entire operating system rather than valuing each component individually. The SBE then allocates the unitary value among the affected counties according to a statutory formula. -Pursuant to the DCOA, PG&E will retain 100% percent of the ownership interests in each project subject to an Entitlements Lease. As such, each project will be included in PG&E's unitary value and the assessed value will be allocated to the affected counties according to the statutory formula. The Investment Program (including the DCOA and Entitlements Lease(s)) between PG&E and Citizens should have no impact on the overall property tax revenues allocated to the counties within PG&E's service territory.

Under PG&E's formula rate model filed with FERC, property tax expense associated with FERC assets are recovered via an allocator factor based on the FERC Form 1, total electric property tax amounts. Because PG&E will still own the property for property tax assessment purposes, PG&E will determine the appropriate allocator factor to calculate the share of property taxes reasonably attributable to and allocable to Citizens.

#### 2. Common, General, and Intangible Plant – ADIT

As the <u>amended</u> testimony of PG&E witness Divya Raman (<u>Amended</u> Chapter 3) discusses, the Additional Rent calculation will also include a component for Common, General, and Intangible (CGI) Plant. Since ADIT attaches to the plant, an adjustment for ADIT also is required for this CGI plant (rate base) calculation. The methodology for adjusting ADIT is consistent with PG&E's FERC formula rate model.

For example, the 2022 amount is derived from 2022 FERC Form 1, ppp. 262-263, line 9 Ad Valorem Tax, column Electric for Account 408.1 and then multiplied by an allocator for inclusion in the formula rate.

#### 3. Payroll and Business Taxes

Payroll and businesses taxes are recovered in PG&E's FERC formula rate by using FERC Form 1 information multiplied by a labor allocator factor. Since PG&E will continue to maintain the projects subject to the Entitlements Lease(s), a portion of payroll and business taxes reasonably attributable to Citizens will be included as Additional Rent and allocated to Citizens based on network transmission plant allocator.

#### 4. Other Costs

The Additional Rent clause in Section 4.1.2. of the Entitlements Lease permits other costs to be included as Additional Rent, subject to FERC review and approval. A general provision for "other costs" is needed given the 30-year duration of the Entitlements Lease(s). PG&E cannot anticipate whether future changes to tax laws, fees, charges, or policy changes may result in additional costs that are reasonably attributable—and thus, should be allocated to—Citizens.

This concludes my direct testimony.

#### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

**AMENDED** CHAPTER **5**5

## CITIZENS ENERGY – INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION IN INVESTMENT PROGRAM

#### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

**CHAPTER 5** 

CITIZENS ENERGY - INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION IN

**INVESTMENT PROGRAM** 

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# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 5 CITIZENS ENERGY- INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION IN INVESTMENT PROGRAM

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7	<u>CITIZENS ENERGY – INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION IN</u>
8	INVESTMENT PROGRAM
9	A. A. Purpose and Summary of Testimony
10	The purpose of this testimony is to support Pacific Gas and Electric
11	Company's (PG&E) amended application for California Public Utilities
12	Commission (CPUC or Commission) authorization, under Section 851 of the
13	Public Utilities Code (Pub. Util. Code), to lease Entitlements <sup>1</sup> to certain PG&E
14	high-voltage high-voltage transmission projects to a wholly owned subsidiary of
15	Citizens Energy Corporation, subject to the terms and conditions of the
16	investment program ("Investment Program") created by the Amended and
17	Restated Development, Coordination, and Option Agreement (DCOA) attached
18	to the <u>amended_Application</u> as Attachment 1.— <del>PG&amp;E</del>
19	As explained below, Citizens Energy Corporation is a non-profit charitable
20	organization. Our charitable mission is to help with life's basic necessities for
21	those who live in disadvantaged communities or are otherwise marginalized.
22	We use the after-tax profits from our business investments to fund our charitable
23	work. It was for this purpose - that is, the charitable mission of our organization
24	<ul> <li>that we entered into this transaction with PG&amp;E.</li> </ul>

Entitlements are defined in Appendix A to the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO) Tariff as "[t]he right of a Participating [Transmission Owner] obtained through contract or other means to use another entity's transmission facilities for the transmission of Energy." CAISO Fifth Replacement FERC Electronic Tariff, Appendix A, Entitlements.

PG&E and Citizens Energy Company ("Citizens")<sup>2</sup>Corporation executed the DCOA on February 20, 2024 (as amended and restated it on January 29, 2025). Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC (Citizens Pacific) is the wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation that is expected to enter into the leases with PG&E under the Investment Program.<sup>2</sup>

My name is Peter Smith and I am the Chief Executive Officer of Citizens, a non-profit charitable organization with the mission of helping low-income and disadvantaged families with basic needs, including help with utility bills. My testimony will provide background on Citizens generally and its participation in the proposed Investment Program. As discussed in more detail below, Citizens is contractually committed to dedicate and significant and escalating amount of its after taxafter-tax profits associated with the Investment Program to provide charitable benefits to disadvantaged communities and low income families in need in the PG&E service area. These benefits, including those in disadvantaged communities. Specifically, Citizens is contractually committed to dedicate these funds to providing direct bill-paying assistance to PG&E residential customers in need. The total amount of the direct bill-paying relief Citizens will provide, which will be provided distributed in a sustained manner over an anticipated 35-year period, are expected to total more than exceed \$400450 million. Thus

, the As explained in the testimony of Citizens witness, Dr. Susan P. Tierney, a former state public utilities commissioner, we believe that the large-scale direct bill-paying assistance that Citizens will provide in PG&E's service territory, if this transaction is approved, will benefit PG&E customers, including (1) families residing in disadvantaged communities and (2) historically marginalized minority

The DCOA is an agreement between PG&E and Citizens Energy Corporation. Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC is an independent wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Energy Corporation and is the entity that Citizens Energy Corporation expects to enter into leases with PG&E pursuant to the DCOA. The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to enter into leases with PG&E.

The DCOA permits Citizens Energy Corporation to select a wholly owned subsidiary other than Citizens Pacific to enter into leases with PG&E. This testimony refers to Citizens Energy Corporation and its subsidiary Citizens Pacific, or other wholly owned subsidiary that Citizens selects to enter into an Entitlements Lease, collectively as "Citizens."

and low-income populations. The Citizens investment, if approved by this Commission and by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), will provide a dedicated and stable source of significant funding to advance the State of California's goal of ensuring that funding to assist families in need, including those in disadvantaged communities and low income families benefit from California's clean energy initiatives.

Thus, we believe that the proposed Investment Plan will advance several important policy goals of this Commission, including: (1) Senate Bill (SB) 350's goal of promoting benefits of California's clean energy transition for disadvantaged communities; (2) the Commission's Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) Action Plan, which calls for addressing the needs of historically marginalized minority and low-income populations; and (3) Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-5-24 (issued October 30, 2024), which aims to ameliorate the affordability challenge facing California utility ratepayers.

The Investment Program is closely modeled on several prior Citizens investments in transmission projects in California, two of which were submitted to and approved by this Commission.<sup>3</sup> I will discuss these prior projects transmission investments by Citizens, and the Commission's decisions approving them. Here at the outset, I will point out that, when the first Citizens transmission investment was presented to the Commission for approval in 2009, the Commission's Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), as it was then

The Commission approved two prior Citizens investments in the San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) transmission system under Section 851 of the California Pub. Util. Public Utilities Code in 2011 and 2019, respectively: Decision No. 11 05 048 (Sunrise Project) (available at: https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/WORD\_PDF/FINAL\_DECISION/13621

<sup>1.</sup>PDF), and Decision No. 19 03 024 (Sycamore Project), available at:
https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M280/K049/28004941
5.PDFD.11-05-048 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011); D.19-03-024 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019). A third, substantially similar Citizens transmission investment in California involved a non-jurisdictional, publicly-owned utility (Imperial Irrigation District), and thus did not require Commission approval.

known,<sup>4</sup> supported the proposal, stating that "DRA does not know of any other investor in the electric industry such as Citizens, whose corporate goal is to engage in business ventures that generate revenue for the funding of social and charitable assistance programs for the elderly and the poor."<sup>5</sup>

The Investment Program will build upon and significantly expand this record of success. We estimate that it will yield, bringing more than \$400450 million in benefits to disadvantaged communities and low income families in the PG&E service territory in Northern and Central California. If approved by the Commission, this will be major step in accomplishing the goal of Senate Bill 350 for promoting access to clean energy programs for disadvantaged communities and low income families.expected direct bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers in need.

#### B. Background onof Citizens

Citizens was formed during the <u>oil priceoil-price</u> shocks of the late 1970s to provide <u>low-costlow-cost</u> home heating oil to the poor and the elderly. Joseph P. Kennedy II, the eldest son of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy, founded the company with the belief that profits from successful oil industry ventures could be used to write down the cost of fuel to vulnerable families having to choose between heating and eating and other basic needs. Citizens is structured as a <u>non-profit non-profit</u> company that owns 100 percent of a <u>for-profit for-profit</u> holding company, which in turn wholly owns several <u>for-profit for-profit</u>

Pursuant to Section 309.5 of the Pub. Util. Public Utilities Code, enacted as part of Senate Bill (SB) 854 (2018) (SB 854), the Commission's independent ratepayer advocacy division, formerly named the DRADivision of Ratepayer Advocates and later the Office of Ratepayer Advocates, is now known as Public Advocate's Office of the Public Utilities Commission. Its statutory mandate is to "represent and advocate on behalf of the interests of public utility customers and subscribers within the jurisdiction of the commission" and "to obtain the lowest possible rate for service consistent with reliable and safe service levels." (Cal. Pub. Util. Code § 309.5(a), as enacted by SB 854, Sec. 39.).

CPUC Decision No. 11-05-048 (issued May 31, 2011) (Sunrise Project) (available on the CPUC website at: https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/WORD\_PDF/FINAL\_DECISION/13621 1.PDF) at 12-13 D.11-05-048 at 12-13 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*18-19 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

SB 350, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, (de León, Chapter 547, 2015).

subsidiaries. Citizens relies on profits from these businesses to generate revenues for charitable and social programs.

Following its success in the oil trading, exploration, and production fields, Citizens went on to become a leading innovator in the electricity, natural gas, and pharmaceutical drug industries, all the while using profits from its business activities to support a wide array of charitable programs in the United States. and abroad. Citizens' commercial activities in its first decade included crude oil trading, oil exploration and production, electric power and natural gas marketing, mail-order pharmaceuticals, and environmental business consulting. Citizens was granted the first authorization to market electricity ever issued to a non-utility non-utility company in the mid-1980s and brokered the first independently marketed kilowatt hour of electricity in the United States on June 27, 1986.

Since its founding in 1979, Citizens has launched dedicated over \$600 million in charitable donations towards its mission of making life's basic needs more affordable. Citizens' charitable giving is funded through a number of innovative businesses and programs, including:76

#### 1. 1979-1999:

#### <u>1.</u> <u>1979-1999</u>

- <u>Citizens Resources</u> One of the largest independent lifters of crude oil from Angola, Nigeria, and Venezuela, with over \$6 billion in sales and daily trading volumes of over 250,000 barrels a day.
- <u>Citizens Gas Supply</u>: A leading marketer of natural gas to Local Distribution Companies after successfully challenging monopoly control of the nation's natural gas pipelines, this Citizens company generated \$1.1 billion in sales of natural gas.
- <u>Citizens Conservation</u>: A leading innovator in the energy conservation field, achieving average energy savings of up to 40 percent through retrofits in thousands of housing units across the U.S.

The specific details on these activities may be found on Citizens' website at <a href="https://www.citizensenergy.com">www.citizensenergy.com</a>.

- <u>Citizens Medical</u>: The nation's largest marketer of mail order mailorder prescription drugs, facilitating annual sales of over \$3 billion and 40 percent savings over conventional delivery for consumers.
- <u>Citizens Power & Light Corporation</u>: After securing a landmark decision from FERC<sup>8</sup> authorizing non-traditional utilities to engage in power marketing, Citizens commenced its brokering of electric energy at wholesale. It formed Citizens Power & Light to continue that work and closed more than 30 major power sale contracts within a few years, achieving over \$10.5 million in sales and becoming a nationally recognized leader in the field of electric power marketing.

#### 2.2. 2000--Present+

- <u>Citizens Wind:</u> Citizens Wind was Citizens' wind development division. It developed 235 megawatts (MW) of operational wind projects in the United States and Canada. Additionally, Citizens negotiated a partnership with the first <u>utility-scale</u> offshore wind project to provide \$15 million of <u>energy</u> assistance to <u>low-income</u> households living in coastal communities impacted by the project.
- <u>Citizens Solar</u>: Citizens has developed, constructed, owns, and operates a \$405415 million portfolio of solar generating assets with a capacity of 190 MWs. The 4142 Citizens Solar projects are ground-mounted, <u>utility-scale</u>, distributed solar arrays in six states (Massachusetts, New York, California, North Carolina, Georgia, and New Jersey) and include both the largest <u>low-income</u> community solar project in the United States in the Imperial Valley of California, and <u>seveneight</u> other projects specifically developed as <u>low-income</u> community solar projects in the Northeast. Like its other ventures, Citizens Solar generates profits to help fund the parent company's charitable mission.
- <u>Citizens Storage and Microgrids</u>: Citizens has developed, owns, and operates a \$2030 million portfolio of battery energy storage systems ("BESS") and microgrids, and is actively developing additional projects to increase the energy resiliency of critical infrastructure. Currently, Citizens has twethree

<sup>87</sup> Citizens Energy Corp., 35 FERC ¶ 61,198 (1986).

BESS projects and one microgrid project in operation, totaling almost <u>3045</u> megawatt hours of energy capacity, and several additional projects in construction.

 • <u>Citizens Energy Oil Heat Program</u>: Created in response to the oil crisis of the late 1970s, the Oil Heat Program has delivered millions of gallons of discounted home heating oil to poor and elderly households in the Northeast. From 2006 to 2016, in partnership with CITGO Petroleum, the Oil Heat Program distributed over \$500 million of assistance to more than one million households.

It is important to emphasize that all of these Citizens business ventures have been undertaken with one overarching goal in mind, and that is to provide charitable assistance to <a href="mailto:low-income">low-income</a> families and disadvantaged communities. To date, Citizens has funneled over \$600 million dollars in benefits to support charitable programs as innovative as the businesses that financed them, including social programs in the geographic regions where Citizens runs business operations. to help make their basic energy needs more affordable.

#### C.C. Citizens' Operations in the Electricity Industry

Citizens began its operations in the electricity industry with a program launched in 1985 to buy power from utilities with surplus generating capacity, resell the excess power to other utilities, and then use the profits to help <a href="https://low-income.com/">low-income</a> families pay their electricity bills. Since then, Citizens has become involved in electric transmission and energy generation projects. To my knowledge, Citizens' business model is unique in the energy industry.

In California, the Citizens business model has enabled Citizens to invest in needed upgrades to the <a href="high-voltage">high-voltage</a> electric grid necessary to achieve California's green energy transition, while investing its <a href="after-tax\_afte

in bringing the benefits of the State's green energy economy to <a href="low-income">low-income</a> income families and disadvantaged communities.

Citizens continues to use its ingenuity to find and resolve, on a commercial basis, impediments and bottlenecks in the electric power industry and to use the profits it earns to further extend its assistance to disadvantaged energy consumers in the United States. In late 2004, Citizens began to turn its attention to the problem of transmission constraints in the newly disaggregated electric industry, which impede the free flow of renewable and lower cost electricity to consumers, much the way it did when it first investigated the once closed, vertically integrated electric utility power marketing structure. In so doing, Citizens found that there are significant opportunities for independent developers in transmission projects to resolve transmission bottlenecks, promote the development of renewable electric resources, and improve the performance of electricity markets.

Citizens seeks to tackle transmission congestion through innovative business and market relationships, while facilitating the delivery of renewable energy (including mitigation of the cost of relatively expensive renewable generation) to economically vulnerable customers, such as the poor and the elderly. Citizens is accomplishing that objective through its investments in transmission projects in California. These include the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project (Sunrise Project) and Sycamore to Penasquitos Transmission Project (Sycamore Project), and the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) S-LineS-Line Transmission Line Upgrade Project (S-LineS-Line Project). As of December 31, 20232024, Citizens has provided a total of \$19.220.4 million in direct assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families through its investments in both the Sunrise and the Sycamore Projects.

Citizens' efforts thus far have funded innovative <u>charitable</u> programs addressing the impact of climate change on disadvantaged communities, with the <u>after-taxafter-tax</u> profits from the Sunrise Project focusing on rooftop and community solar programs, and the <u>after-taxafter-tax</u> profits from the Sycamore Project focusing on the electrification of the transportation sector. Citizens'

The S Line Project is currently under construction and is expected to become operational in the second quarter of 2024.

involvement in the Sunrise, Sycamore, and S-LineS-Line Projects is expected to generate approximately \$77 million in <a href="low-income">low-income</a> support over the course of those leases. These are direct and quantifiable benefits that go above and beyond the benefits generated by the transmission system upgrades themselves.

#### D.D. Citizens Sunrise Transmission LLC

Citizens' involvement in the Sunrise Project began in 2005 and culminated in Citizens financing a \$86 million investment in the Sunrise Project. Through its wholly owned subsidiary, Citizens Sunrise Transmission LLC (Citizens Sunrise), Citizens financed 50 percent of the cost of the 500 kilovolts segment of the Sunrise Project in Imperial County (the "Border EastBorder-East Line") and became a Participating Transmission Owner (PTO) within the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). Citizens Sunrise turned its interest in the Sunrise Project over to the CAISO's operational control and recovers its costs through a FERC approved FERC-approved tariff. The Citizens Sunrise arrangements were approved by this Commission in Decision No. 11-05-048, and by FERC. 108

Thanks to Citizens' participation, the Sunrise Project has achieved significantly greater public benefits. Citizens contractually committed to spend 50% percent of its after taxafter-tax profits from the Sunrise Project on programs assisting low-income families in Imperial County, where the Border-East Line is located. Since the Sunrise Project became operational in June of 2012, Citizens Sunrise's leasehold interest in the Sunrise Project annually generates approximately \$1.5 million of assistance to low-income residents of Imperial County. For the first five years of the Sunrise Project, Citizens funded the installation of 581 rooftop solar systems on low-income homes, at no cost to the homeowners, resulting in more than \$7 million in ratepayer savings over the life of the systems, with an installed capacity of more than 2.1 MWs. The program was highly respected and appreciated by the community, local elected officials, and IID, which had previously been unable to experience any material level of residential rooftop

<sup>408</sup> Citizens Sunrise Transmission, LLC, 138 FERC ¶ 61,129 (2012).

solar in Imperial County. In 2019, in an effort to extend the benefits of low-cost solar energy to all 12,000 of IID's low-income low-income ratepayers, Citizens replaced the rooftop solar program with a 39 MWs low-income community solar project, developed in partnership with IID, which provides over \$4.5 million per year of electricity savings for the 23—year life of the project.

### E. E. Citizens Sycamore-Penasquitos Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission LLC

Citizens' involvement with the Sycamore Project began in 2013, when Citizens signed a Letter of Intent with SDG&E to prepare a joint application to the CAISO for consideration in the CAISO's competitive solicitation process for the Sycamore Project. Citizens and SDG&E worked together and produced an application that the CAISO found superior to the applications submitted by three other parties. The CAISO's comparative analysis of the proposals submitted by the four parties found SDG&E's and Citizens' bid to be superior and selected SDG&E in conjunction with Citizens to develop the Sycamore Project.

Through its wholly owned subsidiary, Citizens

Sycamore Penasquitos Sycamore-Penasquitos

Sycamore Penasquitos Transmission LLC ("Citizens

Sycamore"), Citizens financed \$27 million of the Sycamore Project in exchange
for a 30-\_year lease in a portion of the transfer capability associated with the
facilities it financed. SDG&E maintains ownership of the Sycamore Project and
Citizens' leased transfer capability will revert back to SDG&E upon the
termination of the 30-\_year lease term. The CPUC examined and approved
Citizens' involvement in the Sycamore Project in Decision (D.) 19-03-024\_19-03024. Citizens Sycamore is a CAISO PTO, has turned operational control over its
interest in the Sycamore Project over to the CAISO, and has a

FERC-approved\_FERC-approved transmission service tariff pursuant to which it
recovers its costs through CAISO's high-voltage high-voltage transmission
access charge.

As in the Sunrise Project, Citizens is contractually committed to spend 50 percent of its <u>after-taxafter-tax</u> profits from its participation in the Sycamore Project on programs assisting <u>low-income</u> ratepayers located in SDG&E's service territory. Citizens' involvement generates approximately

\$450,000 a year in ratepayer assistance supporting the electrification of the transportation sector. To date, Citizens has provided \$4.92.5 million of funding towards the purchase of electric vehicles (EV) and associated charging stations for multiple local non-profit organizations. Citizens has purchased two EV transit vans for a local non-profit non-profit, Outdoor Outreach, that works to reach the youth from San Diego's most vulnerable communities and eliminate the barriers to accessing outdoor spaces in Southern California.

In 2022, Citizens allocated its funding to the purchase of several EVs and charging stations for two non-profitnon-profit Native American Health Centers dedicated to providing care to the Native American tribes in San Diego County. Citizens' involvement allowed the purchase of several EVs to transport patients and supplies, including EVs capable of transporting patients in wheelchairs.

#### Most recently

In 2023, Citizens provided a fleet of six EV delivery vans to the San Diego Meals on Wheels to provide critical food deliveries to vulnerable seniors.

Access to these EVs will help offset transportation costs for these organizations, while giving disadvantaged communities access to a less polluting form of transportation. Also in 2024, Citizens funded eight new EVs to Neighborhood House Association, one of the largest multi-purpose human services organizations in San Diego County serving vulnerable populations through a range of programs such as equitable food security, mental health treatment, and Head Start for children in low-income families. Most recently, Citizens purchased four electric vans to support San Diego Canvonlands' equity-oriented environmental work supporting underserved communities in San Diego County.

#### F.F. Citizens S-LineS-Line Transmission LLC

For its third project (currently under construction), On July 1, 2024, Citizens, through its wholly owned subsidiary Citizens S-LineS-Line Transmission LLC (Citizens S-Line), is financing up to S-Line), financed \$40 million of the capital costs to upgrade IID's S-LineS-Line Transmission Line, in exchange for a lease in the incremental transfer capability on the line created by the S-LineS-Line

Project. Consistent with Citizens' mission and its transmission business model, Citizens has contractually agreed to dedicate 50% percent of its after taxafter tax profits derived from its involvement with the S-LineS-Line Project to assist IID's low-income ratepayers. Citizens anticipates this commitment will result in approximately \$600,000 of assistance per year to low-income low-income communities in Imperial County over the 40-year term of the lease.

The S-Line project is currently under construction and Citizens expects to close its financing for this project in the second guarter of 2024. 44

As with the Sunrise and Sycamore Projects, Citizens S-Line has become a CAISO PTO, is fully regulated by FERC, and has a FERC-approved transmission service tariff pursuant to which it recovers its costs through CAISO's high-voltage transmission access charge.

#### G.-G.Citizens' Involvement With and Financing of the <u>Proposed</u> Investment Program

On February 20, 2024, Citizens and PG&E entered into the DCOA, which establishes the terms for Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program. The DCOA was amended and restated on January 29, 2025, primarily to specify Citizens' commitment to direct bill-paying assistance. Under the DCOA, PG&E may present Citizens with up to five separate options to enter into Entitlements Leases to an identified group of PG&E high-voltage high-voltage transmission projects that meet specified eligibility requirements, for a total investment of up to \$1 billion. If the Parties close on a given option, the Parties will enter into a 30-year Entitlements Lease for the applicable group of projects. A Form of Entitlements Lease is included as Exhibit A to the DCOA (Entitlements Lease). The terms of the Investment Program are discussed in more detail in the

Since IID is a publicly owned utility not under the jurisdiction of this Commission, IID was not required to seek Commission approval of Citizens' involvement in the S-Line Project under Section 851 of the Pub. Util. Code. However, Citizens did receive FERC approval for its investment in the S-Line Project. Citizens S-Line Transmission, LLC, 178 FERC ¶ 61.067 (2022).

Since IID is a publicly owned utility not under the jurisdiction of this Commission, IID was not required to seek Commission approval of the Citizens involvement in the S. Line Project under Section 851 of the Pub. Util. Code. However, Citizens did receive FERC approval for its investment in the S. Line Project. Citizens S. Line Transmission, LLC, 178 FERC ¶ 61,067 (2022).

<u>amended</u> direct testimony of PG&E witness Michael Medeiros (<u>Amended</u> Chapter 2).

Citizens has created a separate for-profit subsidiary, Citizens Pacific—Transmission—LLC, for the purpose of holding the leasehold interests acquired by Citizens through its participation in the Investment Program. Citizens Pacific Transmission—LLC is a Delaware for-profit corporation formed for the sole purpose of financing and managing Entitlements to the applicable PG&E transmission projects pursuant to the Investment Program. Citizens Pacific Transmission—LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Citizens Enterprises Corporation, which itself is wholly owned by Citizens Energy Corporation.

Citizens will finance the total prepaid rent payment due for each tranche of projects in which it will acquire a leasehold interest to Entitlements by issuing debt with a term of 30 years. Each tranche of investment will be financed separately, will be subject to its own 30-year Entitlements Lease, and will be associated with a specific, identified set of PG&E high-voltagehigh-voltage transmission projects. Annual debt service payments on the debt issued for a particular investment tranche will be on a levelized basis over the lease period associated with that tranche. The capital component of Citizens' rates will be capped and lecked-inlocked-in for the full 30-year term of each Entitlements Lease, providing rate stability.

The fixed and levelized rate structure employed by Citizens to recover its capital costs, which was approved by this Commission and by FERC for Citizens' prior transmission investments in California, and which we propose again here for this proposed Investment Program, is both necessary and beneficial from a public interest perspective, for three reasons.

<u>First</u>, as discussed in more detail in the direct testimony of Citizens <u>witness</u>; <u>expert witnesses</u> Ronald Kennedy- <u>and Susan Tierney</u>, the fixed and levelized <u>cost recovery promotes rate stability for customers</u>, which both this Commission <u>and FERC</u>, in the prior Citizens transmission investments in California, have found to be a benefit to ratepayers.

Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program will be structured similarly to its involvement in the Sunrise, Sycamore, and S-Line Projects, with certain

additional benefits that will allow Citizens to expand its support for disadvantaged communities and low income families. First, the Investment Program is structured as a series of up to five options to enter into Entitlements Leases, through which Citizens will have the opportunity to invest up to \$1 billion in eligible PG&E transmission projects. This will result in Citizens investing in a portfolio of PG&E projects, rather than a discrete portion of a single transmission line as in the prior Citizens transmission investments in the SDG&E and IID systems described above. Consistent with Citizens' leases in the Sunrise, Sycamore, and S Line Projects, Citizens will not own, operate, or maintain any of the relevant transmission projects. Title to all projects in the Investment Program will remain with PG&E, as will the responsibility for maintaining the assets. Citizens will turn its leasehold interests in the Entitlements over to the CAISO's operational control, as it has done for all of its transmission investments in California.

 Second, the fixed and levelized rate structure is essential to Citizens' ability to finance its participation in the Investment Program. Our ability to recover our capital costs through the fixed and levelized rate structure will allow our FERC-regulated utility subsidiary. Citizens Pacific, to match its debt payment obligations with its incoming revenue stream from the CAISO. In this regard, the fixed and levelized rate structure proposed here is similar to the rate structures Citizens used in the Sunrise and Sycamore Projects (both of which were approved by this Commission and FERC), and in the IID S-Line Project.

Third, from the perspective of our core charitable mission of helping disadvantaged communities and low-income families, the fixed and levelized rate structure will provide a steady, reliable, and sustainable stream of revenue to fund large-scale bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. This benefit is further discussed in the amended testimony of former U.S. Representative Joseph P. Kennedy III, the President of Citizens Energy (Amended Chapter 7). We estimate that the total amount of this charitable bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers will exceed \$450 million over the full term of the proposed Investment Program (assuming a full \$1.0 billion total investment).

While Citizens' involvement in the Investment Program will be structured similarly to its involvement in the Sunrise, Sycamore, and S-Line Projects, in this case the parties have agreed to certain enhancements that will further benefit customers.

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Second, Citizens is committing to dedicate an escalating amount of its after taxafter-tax profits from the Investment Program to provide direct billpaving assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service territory. In PG&E customers in need. In our prior transmission projects (Sunrise, Sycamore and S-Line), Citizens has committed to dedicating 50 percent of its net after-tax after-tax profits to support disadvantaged communities and **low-income** families in the project area. Here, Citizens is committing to increasing that level of support with each \$200 million invested under the Investment Program. Citizens will dedicate 50 percent of its net after taxafter-tax profits associated with the first \$200 million invested to energy-related charitable direct bill-paying assistance programs supporting disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service areafor PG&E customers in need. This commitment will increase to 60 percent of net after taxafter tax profits associated with the second \$200 million invested. 70 percent of net after-tax after-tax profits associated with the third \$200 million invested, 80 percent of net after-taxafter-tax profits associated with the fourth \$200 million invested, and 90 percent of net after taxafter-tax profits associated with the fifth \$200 million invested. Citizens estimates this commitment will yield more than \$400450 million in direct bill-paying assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in need in the PG&E service territory over the course of the Investment Program, assuming a total investment of \$41.0 billion. The significantly increased charitable giving commitment here is made possible by the Investment Program's size and the efficiencies generated by its multi-project, multi-lease multi-project, multi-lease structure.

After receiving stakeholder feedback that stressed the importance of ensuring affordable access to electricity for PG&E's customers, and taking into consideration Governor Newsom's October 2024 Executive Order on customer affordability. Citizens decided to commit its charitable giving associated with the

Investment Program exclusively to direct bill relief programs. 10 To be clear.

Citizens has now contractually committed to direct all of its charitable

contributions under the Investment Program to providing direct bill-paying

assistance to PG&E customers in need. This commitment is reflected in Section

5.3.1 of the DCOA.

Citizens is aware of two existing customer bill-paying assistance programs currently available to PG&E customers: The Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help program (REACH) and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Citizens expects that it will work within one or more of these existing ratepayer assistance programs, or perhaps other bill-paying assistance programs that may exist or which may be developed in the future. Citizens' overarching goal will be to direct its charitable dollars to bill-paying assistance in the most effective, efficient, and user-friendly manner for customers in need.

ThirdFinally, the structure of the Investment Program as a series of leases by a single Citizens subsidiary, over a 5-yearan approximately five-year period, will minimize administrative costs. Moreover, Citizens has agreed to not seek recovery in rates for its upfront administrative costs to develop the Investment Program, or its ongoing administrative costs to manage its CAISO-PTO status and leasehold interest in the Entitlements (e.g., costs for making regular regulatory filings). These beneficial aspects of the PG&E transaction, which are unique compared with Citizens' prior transmission projects in California and which provide additional protections for ratepayers, are made possible by the size and structure of the Investment Program. In this instance, Citizens will forego recovery of any from customers of its incremental costs from ratepayers, while still carrying out its charitable mission.

#### H. FERC and CAISO Oversight Over Citizens Pacific

For instance, the Center for Affordable Technology (CforAT) emphasized the vital importance of affordable electricity for disabled Californians, many of whom are low or moderate income. Further, The Utility Reform Network (TURN) highlighted the fact that many customers who have their electricity service cut-off due to arrearage ultimately never have it turned back on. Based on discussions with CforAT, TURN, and the California Public Advocates Office, Citizens believes that direct bill-paying assistance is the most effective way to assist such customers.

I want to emphasize that Citizens Pacific, the wholly owned subsidiary we
have formed that will enter into the proposed series of entitlements leases with
PG&E, will be a regulated public utility. This is true for every one of our
transmission investments in California - the Citizens-Sunrise investment, the
Citizens-Sycamore investment, and the Citizens S-Line investment. In each
instance, the Citizens subsidiary holding the leasehold interest (1) must be
approved by CAISO as a PTO under the CAISO Tariff, and (2) must submit to
comprehensive cost-of-service regulation by FERC as a "public utility" under the
Federal Power Act (FPA).

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In this case. Citizens Pacific will make a series of FERC filings to obtain the approvals necessary to enter into and finance each Entitlements Lease. Within 30 days of the filing of this Application On April 11, 2024, Citizens will submitPacific submitted to FERC a petition for declaratory order seeking FERC approval of the incentive rate treatments and methodologies necessary for Citizens to recover the costs associated with the Entitlements Leases. 11 Additionally, prior to the effective date of each Entitlements Lease, Citizens Pacific will make two filings with FERC pursuant to Federal Power Act (FPA) §§ 204 and 205. These Citizens FERC filings will be in addition to the joint PG&E/Citizens FPA § 203 filing discussed in the direct testimony of PG&E witness Michael Medeiros (Amended Chapter 2). The FPA § 204 filing will request authorization for Citizens to issue the securities necessary to finance its payment of prepaid rent for the applicable Entitlements Lease. Citizens' FPA § 205 filing will seek approval of the justness and reasonableness of Citizens' transmission revenue requirement, CAISO PTO tariff (or revisions thereto), and of the Entitlements Lease itself.

In connection with these FERC filings, Citizens Pacific on July 15, 2024 submitted an application to CAISO to become a PTO. The CAISO Board of Governors voted unanimously to approve the application at its public meeting on November 12, 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>Citizens Pac. Transmission LLC</u>, Docket No. EL24-101-000, Petition for Declaratory Order of Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC to Authorize Rate Treatments for the Investment program with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (FERC filed Apr. 11, 2024).

1	At the Board of Governors meeting, both Board members and CAISO staff
2	spoke approvingly about the Citizens Pacific application, emphasizing three
3	important features. First, both Board Chair Jan Schori and CAISO staff
4	commented favorably about Citizens' successful "track record" with its prior
5	transmission investments in California. 12 Second, Chair Schori said she
6	approved of the "portfolio" approach, whereby Citizens Pacific will invest in a
7	series of PG&E reliability-driven projects, as distinct from an individual
8	standalone project, which she described as "a more efficient approach." 13 Third,
9	Chair Schori and other Board members expressed strong support for the public
10	benefits Citizens will provide by using its after-tax profits to fund charitable
11	programs in PG&E's service area, calling them a "win-win" 14 and remarking that
12	they are "not normally something you hear come up in a transmission project
13	approval" and are "very encouraging." 15 Speaking to me directly at the Board
14	meeting, Chair Schori said: "You're to be commended. That is terrific." 16
15	H.I. Addressing Affordability and Advancing the Important Policy
16	Goal of SB 350 to Help Improve Life for the Residents of Low Income Low-
17	Income and Disadvantaged Communities
18	Governor Newsom, in his Executive Order N-5-24 (issued October 30,
19	2024), has encouraged the Commission to strengthen its efforts to address the
20	affordability challenges faced by utility customers in California. As Governor

CAISO November 12, 2024 Board of Governors General Session, dialogue between Chair Schori and CAISO staff presenter, starting at 31:30, video available at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocxwxGyRbIQ. In their presentation to the CAISO Board, the CAISO staff stated (starting at 30:56) that the proposed Citizens investments in the PG&E transmission system in this case "will support development of many of PG&E's transmission projects, which support California's energy policy goals."

<sup>13</sup> Id., starting at 32:29 (statement of Chair Schori).

<sup>14</sup> Id. at 37:06.

<sup>15</sup> Id. at 38:56.

Id., starting at 35:20 (dialogue between Chair Schori and Citizens CEO Peter Smith). After the unanimous vote was taken to approve the Citizens Pacific PTO application. Chair Schori concluded the discussion by stating (starting at 38:55): "I would be very interested – probably the rest of the Board as well – as this project moves along the road, in getting an understanding as to what the community benefits distributions from Citizens would be. It's helpful for the Board to understand those kinds of values, which to be frank are not normally something you hear come up in a transmission project approval like this. So, that was very encouraging to hear."

1	Newsom's Executive Order recognized, "it is essential that electric service
2	remains affordable, reliable, and safe for all Californians during our clean energy
3	transition." 17 Under California law, the Commission is tasked with "ensur[ing]
4	that rates are sufficient to recover a just and reasonable amount of revenue
5	while observing the principle that electricity and gas services are necessities.
6	for which a low affordable rate is desirable." 18 California law also provides that,
7	"recognizing that electricity is a basic necessity, and that all residents of the
8	state should be able to afford essential electricity and gas supplies, the
9	[C]ommission shall ensure that low-income ratepayers are not jeopardized or
10	overburdened by monthly energy expenditures." 19 Accordingly, the
11	Commission has explained that its "mission is to ensure that California investor-
12	owned utility (IOU) customers receive safe, reliable, affordable and clean utility
13	service at just and reasonable rates." 20 Concerns about affordability have
14	become particularly pressing since 2021, when "rate increases for all of the
15	three major electric IOUs bundled customers began to outpace inflation for the
16	first time, particularly affecting bundled residential customers."21
17	When Governor Newsom issued his major Executive Order last October on
18	the topic of affordability of utility rates in California, we at Citizens sat up and
19	took notice. At that point in time, PG&E's request for approval of the proposed

<sup>17</sup> Cal. Exec. Dep't, Executive Order N-5-24 (Oct. 30, 2024).

<sup>18</sup> Cal. Pub. Util. Code § 739(d)(2).

<sup>19</sup> Id. § 382(b).

CPUC, 2021/2022 Annual Affordability Report at 3 (Oct. 2023), https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M521/K479/521479752.PDF; see R.18-07-006 at 2 (Order Instituting Rulemaking to Develop Methods to Assess the Affordability Impacts of Utility Rate Requests and Commission Proceedings), 2018 Cal. PUC Lexis 332, at \*1 (Cal. P.U.C. 2018) ("Water, energy, and telecommunications services should be affordable."); CPUC, Strategic Directives, Governance Process Policies, and Commission-Staff Linkage Policies at 4, 7 (Feb. 27, 2020), https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/transparency/commissioner-committees/finance-and-administration/2021/strategic-directives-and-governance-policies.pdf (explaining that the CPUC's strategic directives include "empowerfingl California through access to safe, clean, and affordable utility services and infrastructure" and "promotfingl policies and rules that provide customers access to and affordable essential services for energy, communications, water and transportation").

<sup>21 &</sup>lt;u>CPUC, 2024 Senate Bill 695 Report at 11 (July 2024), https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/office-of-governmental-affairs-division/reports/2024/2024-sb-695-report.pdf.</u>

Citizens-PG&E Investment Program was pending before the Commission, but had not vet been acted upon. In coordination with PG&E, we began to conceptualize a large-scale bill-paying assistance program for PG&E customers. as the best means for distributing the large amount of charitable dollars, which we estimate will be over \$450 million, that the proposed Investment Program, if approved, will generate over the 35-year term of the investment (assuming the full \$1 billion investment). It seemed to us that a large-scale bill-paying assistance initiative of this kind would be a significant and meaningful response to the concerns Governor Newsom expressed in his Executive Order.

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The In addition, the Commission has both a statutory mandate under SB 350 and its own policy commitment "to help improve air quality and economic conditions in communities identified as 'disadvantaged." Likewise, the Commission's ESJ Action Plan recognizes "that some populations in California face higher barriers to access to clean, safe, and affordable utility services" and calls for the Commission to "Iclonsistently integrate equity and access considerations throughout CPUC regulatory activities." 23

At Citizens, we are proud of our record in partnering with the Commission to accomplish these goals. The Investment Program for which PG&E seeks approval in this case will enable Citizens to bring a significantly greater level of assistance to disadvantaged communities. We believe in PG&E's service territory by providing direct bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers in need. The Investment Program thus will advance the Commission's goals under SB 350. the ESJ Action Plan, the Governor's Executive Order, and other state and Commission policies on affordability. As such, it should be approved by the Commission.

<sup>12</sup> The Commission's programs and policy commitment to help disadvantaged communities are described on the Commission's website at: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/ industries-and-topics/electrical-energy/infrastructure/disadvantaged-communities -https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/electrical-

energy/infrastructure/disadvantaged-communities

Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan, posted on the Commission's website at: https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/news-and-updates/newsroom/environmental-and-socialiustice-action-plan.

In its decision approving the Citizens investment in SDG&E's Sycamore Project (D.19-03-024), the Commission expressly recognized that Citizens' commitment to devote 50 percent of its net after-taxafter-tax profits to fund programs benefiting <a href="low-income">low-income</a> residents of San Diego County would help achieve SB 350's goal of helping disadvantaged communities. In finding that the Citizens investment would "serve[] the public interest," the Commission reasoned as follows:

Citizens pledges 50 percent of its after-taxafter-tax profits from the [Sycamore Project] to support transportation electrification for low-income families and disadvantaged communities in the San Diego County, the same area where Segment B is located. Citizens estimates that its annual contribution would be approximately \$400,000 per year, for a total of \$12 million over the 30—year term of the lease. Citizens' pledge not only benefits disadvantaged and low-income communities in the San Diego County but also supports the state's implementation of SB 350. SB 350 promotes clean energy programs such as transportation electrification to achieve goals for greenhouse gasgreenhouse-gas reduction and encourages more access of these programs for low-income and disadvantaged communities. By supporting the electrification of transportation for low-income low-income and disadvantaged communities, Citizens' pledge supports two of SB 350's key goals. (D.19-03-024, p. 20.)

In thethis case at hand, the Investment Program will achieve a substantially larger levels of higher level of community benefits for low income ratepayers and disadvantaged communities in PG&E's service territory in Northern and Central California.

I want to emphasize that our prior investments in transmission projects in California— the Sunrise, Sycamore, and S-LineS-Line Projects— are expected to yield very substantial benefits for <a href="https://www.income.com/emunities">www.income.com/emunities</a>, in the range of \$77 million over the 30- or 40-year terms of the subject leases. This will be a remarkable accomplishment.

Here, the Citizens' proposed series of Citizens investments in PG&E's transmission system will have the same public interest purpose, but will be at a substantially higher investment value of up to \$41.0 billion in total. In this case, moreover Moreover, Citizens has agreed to forego recovery in rates of certain of Citizens' own incremental costs in rates in this transaction. The larger scale of this proposed investment, and Citizens' contractual commitment to dedicate an ever-increasing portion of its after-tax after-tax profits to community benefits, iscan be expected to yield a total benefit of more than \$400450 million to low-income ratepayers and disadvantaged communities in charitable benefits in PG&E's service territory, over an extended period of approximately 35 years 43 and 24 (assuming a total investment by Citizens of \$4 billion. This will be 1.0 billion). All these benefits will be used to provide direct bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers in need. This is an extraordinary level of support for historically marginalized low-income and disadvantaged communities opportunity for the Commission to take meaningful action to address affordability

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Just as the Commission found in its decisions approving Citizens' investments in the Sunrise and Sycamore Projects (D.11-05-048 and D.19-03-02403-024, respectively), the Commission in this case should find that the proposed Investment Program is in the public interest. This series of investments, totaling up to \$41.0 billion, will bring very substantial benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territory in Northern and Central California over an expected 35-year period, including over \$450 million in direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need.

The estimated 35 year time frame for charitable assistance to disadvantaged communities and low income families is based on the expected structure of five separate Entitlements Leases by Citizens, expected to be entered into over a five year period. Each of the five Entitlements Leases will have its own 30 year term. The fifth and final Entitlements Lease is expected to extend to a date that is anticipated to be 35 years after the date on which the first Entitlements Lease begins.

The estimated 35-year time frame for the charitable assistance Citizens will provide is based on the expected structure of five separate Entitlements Leases by Citizens, expected to be entered into over a five-year period. Each of the five Entitlements Leases will have its own 30-year term. The fifth and final Entitlements Lease is expected to extend to a date that is anticipated to be 35 years after the date on which the first Entitlements Lease begins.

1	The Commission should find that the proposed Investment Program should be
2	approved under Section 851 of the Pub. Util. California Public Utilities Code.
3	This concludes my <u>amended</u> direct testimony.
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#### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

**AMENDED CHAPTER 6** 

CITIZENS ENERGY - ECONOMIC BENEFITS CITIZENS RATE

**MODEL** 

#### PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

#### **AMENDED CHAPTER 6**

#### CITIZENS ENERGY – CITIZENS RATE MODEL

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1		PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
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3		CITIZENS ENERGY - CITIZENS RATE MODEL PACIFIC GAS AND
4		ELECTRIC COMPANY
5		CHAPTER 6
6	CI	TIZENS ENERGY - ECONOMIC BENEFITS AMENDED CHAPTER 6
7		CITIZENS ENERGY - CITIZENS RATE MODEL
8	<u>A. I</u>	ntroduction and Purpose of Testimony
9	Q 1	Please state your name and business address.
10	A 1	My name is Ronald E. Kennedy. I am a Vice President in the Transmission
11		Strategy Practice at MCR Performance Solutions (MCR),
12		155 N. Pfingsten Road, Suite 155, Deerfield, IL 60015.
13	Q 2	On whose behalf are you testifying?
14	A 2	I am testifying on behalf of Citizens Energy Corporation (together with its
15		wholly owned subsidiary Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC, "Citizens").
16	Q 3	Are you providing any exhibits to accompany your testimony?
17	A 3	Yes. I am providing the following three exhibits:
18		Attachment 1: PG&E Representative Rate Model with the Base Case
19		Capital Cost Assumptions; and
20		<ul> <li>Attachment 2: Citizens Capped Rate; and.</li> </ul>
21		<ul> <li>Attachment 3: PG&amp;E Representative Rate Model, Assuming Return on</li> </ul>
22		Equity Increases 2 Percent in Year 5.
23	Q 4	Please summarize your testimony.
24	A 4	Citizens' participation in the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)
25		Investment Program across all investment tranches will produce three major
26		economic benefits. First, in each investment tranche, Citizens' financing will
27		provide capital that PG&E would otherwise need to raise itself, freeing up
28		PG&E's capital for other purposes. In addition, Citizens will fix these capital
29		costs for the 30-year lease term of Citizens' participation in each investment
30		tranche. By fixing its capital cost recovery, Citizens will provide rate certainty
31		for ratepayers and hedge against the risk of increasing capital costs that
32		would otherwise be reflected in rates under traditional ratemaking

methodology. In my testimony, I explain the Citizens Rate Model and compare it to PG&E's Representative Rate Model to illustrate the economic impacts and customer benefits of the Investment Program. 1

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I begin by describing the Citizens Rate Model, which calculates a fixed. levelized capital cost recovery over the 30-year term of each Entitlements Lease. I then evaluate the customer cost impacts and perform a rate comparison between Citizens and PG&E. My analysis calculates the comparable fixed, levelized capital-related Transmission Revenue Requirement (TRR) for both Citizens (Citizens Base Case) and PG&E (PG&E Base Case), factoring in their respective capital structures and costs of debt and equity. Citizens reduces the return on equity component of its rate methodology to ensure it does not charge more than the TRR produced by PG&E's Representative Rate Model – the PG&E Base Case. This means customers will not pay more than the PG&E Base Case as a result of the Investment Program. Customers are shielded from market-fluctuations in cost of equity, as Citizens' rate structure, unlike PG&E's, is fixed for the term of each Entitlements Lease, which provides long-term rate stability. Additionally, Citizens' involvement will not increase the cost of debt reflected in customers' rates. This is because Citizens will finance its investment in the projects using long-term, fixed-rate debt, similar to how PG&E would finance its investments in projects like these. This reality is unaffected by the interest rate environment.

Next, I discuss the regulatory validation of Citizens' rate methodology.

Both this Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

(FERC) have examined and approved Citizens' fixed, levelized capital cost recovery methodology in multiple projects, including the Sunrise Powerlink

Project ("Sunrise Project"), the Sycamore-Peñasquitos Project ("Sycamore Project), and the S-Line Project." Regulators consistently recognized

The Investment Program contains up to five separate Entitlements Leases roughly averaging \$200 million each.

The S-Line Project is between Citizens and the Imperial Irrigation District, which is not jurisdictional to this Commission. As a result, the S-Line Project was reviewed by FERC but was not before this Commission.

<u>Citizens' rate approach as providing rate stability, cost predictability, and protection against market volatility.</u>

I also highlight the long-term financial stability and protections for customers built into the Investment Program. Citizens' use of a fixed and levelized capital cost recovery mechanism ensures rate stability and predictability over each 30-year Entitlements Lease term. Unlike PG&E's traditional ratemaking model, where costs are front-loaded, Citizens evenly distributes capital costs over the life of each Lease. This ensures customers pay consistent rates regardless of whether the facilities are in their early operational years or nearing the end of their depreciable life.

Additionally, Citizens' participation delivers significant community and customer assistance benefits. Assuming full participation in the \$1 billion Investment Program, Citizens expects to generate over \$450 million in charitable contributions dedicated to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. Starting with 50 percent of net after-tax profits from the first \$200 million investment, Citizens escalates contributions with each additional tranche, ultimately committing up to 90 percent of net after-tax profits. Without the Investment Program, these contributions would not exist.

In conclusion, Citizens' participation in the Investment Program generates substantial economic, financial, and social benefits. These include over \$450 million in direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need, long-term rate stability, and protection against market-driven cost increases – and all without charging customers more for these projects than the PG&E Representative Rate. Both this Commission and federal regulators have repeatedly validated Citizens' approach, emphasizing its ability to promote equitable cost distribution, financial stability, and predictable outcomes for customers over the long term.

Second, by Citizens implementing a fixed, levelized capital cost recovery mechanism in its annual Transmission Revenue Requirement (TRR), Citizens' participation ensures that ratepayers will bear the same capital costs for the projects regardless of whether they use the facilities in the early years of the facilities' life or when the facilities are near the end of their depreciable life. This differs from traditional TRR calculations where

the capital costs are greater in the beginning of an asset's depreciable life and decline over time as the asset depreciates.

Third, Citizens will contribute an escalating portion of its net after-tax project profits to charitable programs for disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service territory, starting with a commitment to donate 50 percent of its net after-tax profits from the first \$200 million invested under the Program. For this first \$200 million of investment in the Program, this contribution is estimated to be about \$2.0 million annually. Citizens has contractually committed to increase this contribution share by 10 percent for each additional \$200 million investment it makes in the Program. This contribution would not occur without Citizens' participation in the Program. In addition, Citizens' participation will assist this Commission in meeting its obligations under the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 (Senate Bill (SB) 350). Under SB 350, the Commission must, among other things, implement programs that promote greater project penetration in disadvantaged communities. 4

- Q 5 Please describe the analysis that you have performed in reference to these benefits.
- I have calculated the comparable fixed, levelized capital-related TRR for the expected \$200 million first tranche of the Investment Program for both Citizens and PG&E using their respective capital structures and costs of debt and equity. In the lease agreement between PG&E and Citizens, Citizens will commit to include a fixed, levelized capital cost that is no greater than what is calculated in the PG&E Representative Rate Model. To accomplish this, Citizens reduces the equity component of return on rate base of its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)-approved rate methodology (Citizens Rate Model) until the output equals the revenue requirement produced by the PG&E Representative Rate Model. Lexplain

<sup>4</sup> Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 25943(d)(7).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>— I discuss below the assumptions that were used for the purpose of this calculation.

the Citizens Rate Model and its inputs in more detail below. The total capital-related TRRs for PG&E and Citizens are calculated in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2, respectively. In addition to the TRRs, I also include an estimate of Citizens' contribution of half of its net after-tax profits to energy programs for disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the net benefit that Citizens' \$200 million participation in the Program adds as compared to a scenario where PG&E does not lease Entitlements to the applicable projects to Citizens.

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Q 6 Please describe how Citizens' financing of its share of the projects is likely to reduce the overall project costs.

The Investment Program is structured as a series of up to five separate 30-year leases, covering an investment of no more than \$1 billion. For each lease, Citizens will lock in its capital costs, including its actual cost of debt in its annual TRR for the full 30-year term of Citizens' participation. While it is difficult to predict how capital markets and money costs will move over a horizon of 30years, Citizens will provide a hedge to ratepayers through a fixed, levelized capital cost amount recovered in the TRR that protects ratepayers from market volatility. This cost certainty in a TRR is increasingly common in competitive bids submitted to the California Independent System Operator Corporation (CAISO)<sup>4</sup> for projects awarded under FERC's Order 1000. This increasingly common aspect of competitive bids is indicative of its appeal to the CAISO acting as a steward of ratepayers' interests. Absent the fixed, levelized capital cost approach that Citizens will implement, ratepayers would be exposed to potential capital cost increases through a higher allowed Return on Equity (ROE) or higher debt financing costs included in TRR updates.

My testimony focuses on capital cost recovery. For this transaction, the only operation and maintenance (O&M) costs and other expenses that Citizens will recover will be the share of O&M costs and other expenses that PG&E allocates to Citizens as "Additional Rent," as explained in Chapter 3.

<sup>4</sup> As part of the 2021-2022 Transmission Planning Process, CAISO awarded the Manning 500 kilovolt (kV) Substation Project, and the Collinsville 500 kV Substation Project to bidders who submitted binding annual levelized ARR caps for a period of 40 years.

1	<del>Q</del> /	Other than Ottizens Tixed capital cost revenue requirements and
2		contributions in support of disadvantaged communities and low-income
3		families, are there additional consumer cost benefits attributable to Citizens'
4		participation in the projects and Citizens' ratemaking approach for its
5		investment in the projects?
6	A 7	Yes. Another important ratepayer benefit gained from Citizens' fixed,
7		levelized capital cost approach is that ratepayers will be charged the same
8		capital costs in the Citizens' TRR for the entire 30-year length of Citizens'
9		participation in each lease. This contrasts with traditional utility ratemaking,
10		where the capital costs of a new project are front-loaded. In traditional utility
11		ratemaking, the revenue requirements for new projects are greater in the
12		early years as the return component of the revenue requirement is
13		calculated on a less depreciated net plant balance. Over the years, the
14		return component of the revenue requirement decreases as the net plant
15		balance decreases. This means that users of the project in the early years
16		pay more for the same service as those users that use the project towards
17		the end of the project's depreciable life. Citizen's fixed, levelized cost of
18		capital approach results in more equitable distribution of ratepayer benefits
19		and costs over the life of the projects. After the termination of each lease,
20		Citizens' interest in the projects will be turned over to PG&E at no cost to
21		ratepayers as the net plant balance of Citizens' portion of any projects will
22		be zero. The FERC has recognized the ratepayer benefit of a 30-year fixed,
23		levelized recovery of capital requirements because it matches the benefits of
24		a project over time with the cost recovery.5
25	Q 8	Please describe the financial support, in addition to project financing, that
26		Citizens will contribute to disadvantaged communities and low-income
27		families as a result of its participation in the program.
28	A 8	One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable
29		activities from the profits its business ventures earn. For the first
30		\$200 million under the Investment Program, Citizens will contribute

<sup>5</sup> See Citizens Energy Corp., 162 FERC ¶ 61,161 at P 22 (2018); Citizens Energy Corp., 129 FERC ¶ 61,242 at P 23 (2009); Morongo Transmission, LLC, 148 FERC ¶ 61,139 at P 20 (2014).

50 percent of its net after-tax profits to support disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service territory.

The other half of Citizens' net after-tax profits will be used to support Citizens' continued charitable mission and pursuit of additional opportunities.

Furthermore, through its involvement in the Program, Citizens plans to invest up to \$1 billion in up to five separate leases. Citizens has contractually committed to increase its contribution of net after-tax profits to support disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the PG&E service territory by 10 percent for each additional \$200 million in investment. In other words, Citizens will contribute: 50 percent of its net after-tax profits for the first \$200 million invested, 60 percent of the net after-tax profits from the second \$200 million invested, 70 percent of the net after-tax profits from the third \$200 million invested, 80 percent of the net after-tax profits from the fourth \$200 million invested, and 90 percent of the net after-tax profits from the fifth \$200 million invested.

This commitment by Citizens directly addresses the intention of SB 350, which places specific emphasis on assisting those in disadvantaged communities. Under SB 350, the Commission must, among other things, implement programs that "[p]romote greater project penetration in disadvantaged communities."

Citizens' existing agreements with San Diego Gas & Electric Company in the Border East Line of the Sunrise Powerlink Project (Sunrise) and the Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission Project are producing \$1.5 million and \$650,000, respectively, in annual contributions to disadvantaged communities and low-income families where these projects are located. Here, Citizens estimates that its anticipated \$200 million investment in the first tranche of projects pursuant to the Investment Program will generate approximately \$2.0 million in donations annually for the 30-year lifetime of its Entitlements Lease to those projects, which Citizens will contribute to disadvantaged communities and low-income families within the PG&E service area. This is a ratepayer benefit that would not occur without

<sup>6</sup> Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 25943(d)(7).

Citizens' participation in the Investment Program. As a result, Citizens' 1 participation furthers the goals and requirement of SB 350. 2 Q 9 Will Citizens' involvement likely result in added ratepayer costs over the life 3 of the projects? 4 5 A 9 No. Table 6-1 below, shows the results of the PG&E Representative Rate Model included in Attachment 1 using the capital costs assumed for PG&E. 6 Table 6-1 also shows the comparable results for Citizens using Citizens' 7 8 capital costs included in Attachment 2. I discuss below the assumptions that were used for the purpose of these calculations. As discussed below, the 9 unadjusted, fixed, levelized Citizens' capital-related TRR based on these 10 11 assumptions is \$22,735,447. However, the lease terms between PG&E and Citizens stipulate that Citizens' capital cost TRR will be no greater than what 12 is calculated in the PG&E Representative Rate Model. Accordingly, the 13 14 Citizens cost of equity is adjusted downward from 10.45 percent to 9.02 percent to achieve a TRR equal to the TRR calculated in the PG&E 15 Representative Rate Model. Additionally, Citizens is only recovering the 16 17 transmission O&M and other expense costs billed to Citizens by PG&E; Citizens will not recover from customers its own incremental costs. As such, 18 19 the overall TRRs are equal. Therefore, Citizens' involvement, taking into account Citizens' contribution of half of its net after-tax profits to energy 20 21 programs for disadvantaged communities and low-income families, creates a tremendous benefit to ratepayers that would not exist absent Citizens' 22 23 involvement (and would only increase in subsequent leases under the 24 Program).

### TABLE 6-1 PG&E AND CITIZENS — BASE CASE REVENUE REQUIREMENT SUMMARY

(Deleted)	<u>Table - 1</u> nd Citizens - Base Ca Requirement Sumn				
	PG&E IPV 55 Years Levelized 30 years	Citizens PV 55 Years Levelized 30 years		<u>Variance</u> her / (Lower)	%
Capital Related Costs					
Cost of Entitlement	\$ 20,929,939	\$ 20,929,939	\$	0	
Subtotal Capital Related Revenue Requirement	\$ 20,929,939	\$ 20,929,939	\$	0	0.00%
Expense Related Costs					
O&M, A&G, & General & Common Plant	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	
Incremental A&G Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	
Debt Service Costs (PG&E)		\$ -	*\$	-	
Subtotal Expense Related Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	0.00%
Total Revenue Requirement on All Costs	\$ 20,929,939	\$ 20,929,939	\$	0	0.00%
Citizens Contribution to Low-Income Energy Programs	\$ _	\$ 2,000,000	\$	2,000,000	

#### B. Citizens' Revenue Requirement and Rate Recovery

While the cost of capital for Citizens' participation in the projects will remain fixed for the 30-year term of its participation in each lease, the cost of capital included in the PG&E TRR may change as the PG&E company risk and capital market conditions change. In Table 6-2 below, the same comparison of Citizens' and PG&E's cost of capital and total capital-related TRR are calculated again, this time assuming that PG&E's ROE increased by 2 percent in year five of the Entitlements Lease to reflect PG&E's ROE being reset for a higher interest rate environment. Under this scenario, Citizen's cost of capital is \$992,450 per year less than that of PG&E's, and Citizens' total capital-related TRR is 4.51 percent less than PG&E's total capital-related TRR.

TABLE 6-2
PG&E AND CITIZENS – ASSUMED 2 PERCENT INCREASE IN RETURN ON EQUITY IN YEAR 5
REVENUE REQUIREMENT SUMMARY

(Deleted)		PG&E IPV 55 Years Levelized 30 years		Citizens IPV 55 Years Levelized 30 years	Hig	Variance her / (Lower)	%
						, (== ,	
Capital Related Costs							
Cost of Entitlement	\$	21,918,463	\$	20,929,939	\$	(988,524)	
Subtotal Capital Related Revenue Requirement	\$	21,918,463	\$	20,929,939	\$	(988,524)	-4.51%
Expense Related Costs							
O&M, A&G, & General & Common Plant			<b>*</b> \$	_	<b>*</b> \$	_	
Incremental A&G Costs	\$	-	\$	_	\$	_	
Debt Service Costs (PG&E)			\$	_	\$	-	
Subtotal Expense Related Costs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Total Revenue Requirement on All Costs	\$	21,918,463	\$	20,929,939	\$	(988,524)	-4.51%
Citizens Contribution to Low-Income Energy Programs	Ś	_	Ś	2.000.000	Ś	2.000.000	

The comparisons of capital costs and TRRs are dependent on the assumptions made over a 30-year period. Citizens' ratemaking approach of a fixed, levelized capital cost for the term of Citizens' participation provides an advantage of rate stability that, as mentioned earlier, has been attractive to the CAISO.

Q <u>105</u> Please explain how the Citizens <u>rate model</u> <u>Rate Model</u> calculates Citizens' TRR for each <u>entitlements lease</u> <u>Entitlements Lease</u>.

A <u>105</u>The Citizens Rate Model calculates a levelized, fixed TRR for

Citizens' designed to provide a predictable and stable capital requirements for cost recovery over the 30-year term of or each lease based on inputs that are Entitlements Lease. This calculation uses inputs finalized at the time of the lease execution of each lease. The capital requirements fixed rate component of the TRR will include, including return on rate base, amortization of the capitalized lease and capped financing costs, and income taxes. The model sums the net present value (NPV) of thesethe annual TRRs are summed up to calculate an aggregate net present value of NPV for the 30-years of TRRs-year period. A levelized annual TRR is calculated to sum to the total project TRR. This levelized amount will be Citizens' then derived to establish a fixed capital cost for the entire term of the 30-year period of the lease Entitlements Lease.

<u>Like its prior transactions</u>, Citizens proposes to use a hypothetical capital structure of 50 percent debt and 50 percent equity to calculate the cost of capital that will be used to <u>calculate</u>determine Citizens' return on rate base.

ThisAs a result, my analysis assumes a hypothetical capital structure is based on the assumption comprised of equal amounts contributions of debt and equity capital. The cost of debt would be Citizens' actual cost of debt in obtaining the permanent financing necessary to pay the prepaid rent due to PG&E at lease execution, which for this assumed the first \$200 million investment is assumed to be 6.455.73 percent. Citizens proposes to use a proxy for its cost of equity capital. Citizens anticipates it will use PG&E's current ROE approved in a final and non-appealable non-appealable FERC order at the time of the execution of each the applicable Entitlements Lease as a proxy for its cost of equity, subject to FERC approval that such ROE is just and reasonable for Citizens' use. At this time, the ROE for PG&E in the most recent final and non-appealable FERC order that is final and non-appealable is 10.45 percent.

Citizens' rate base will be the capitalized lease cost of the Entitlements Lease plus financing costs not to exceed 4one percent of the lease cost, less accumulated capitalized lease and development amortization costs, plus accumulated deferred income taxes. The assumed value of the first capitalized lease Entitlements Lease plus 4 one percent financing costs is \$202 million. The Citizens' accumulated deferred income taxes for Citizens are created by the difference in timing between the 30-year straight-line amortization of result from differences in how the capitalized lease for book purposes and the amortization of the capitalized lease for is amortized for financial reporting versus income tax purposes under Section 467 of the United States Internal Revenue Code. The Citizens Rate Model uses the same Federal and State income tax rates as were used in the PG&EE's Representative Rate Model<sup>3</sup> for the purposes of calculation of calculating both ADIT deferred taxes and income taxes. The Citizens Rate Model is run as described above to calculate an unadjusted fixed, levelized Citizens capital-related TRR for illustrative purposes.—the Citizens Base Case.

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The Representative Rate Model in the Entitlements Lease generates the approximate PG&E rate at the time the applicable Entitlements Lease is executed ("PG&E Representative Rate").

<u>Q 6</u>	What are the results of the Citizens Base Case scenario when the Citizens
	Rate Model is run without any adjustments or caps?
<u>A 6</u>	The Citizens Base Case, i.e. the unadjusted, fixed, levelized Citizens
	capital-related TRR based on these assumptions, is
	\$22,735,447. The Citizens TRR is adjusted as described below to produce a
	Citizens Rate no higher than the PG&E Representative Rate. 22,027,018. It
	does not reflect any of the adjustments or caps contractually agreed upon by
	the parties as part of the Investment Program.
<u>C.</u> C	Customer Impacts and Rate Comparisons
Q 7	How does your analysis evaluate the economic impacts of Citizens'
	participation in the first tranche of the Investment Program?
<u>A 7</u>	I have calculated the fixed, levelized capital-related TRR for both Citizens
	(Citizens Base Case) and PG&E (PG&E Base Case) to compare and
	evaluate the economic impacts of Citizens' participation in the first \$200
	million tranche of the Investment Program. I based my calculations on each
	party's respective capital structures and costs of debt and equity.4
Q 8	How does the Citizens Base Case compare to PG&E's Base Case?
<u>A 8</u>	Using the stated assumptions, Citizens Base Case TRR—the unadjusted.
	fixed, levelized Citizens' capital-related TRR—is \$22,027,018, while the
	PG&E Base Case TRR from the PG&E Representative Rate Model, using a
	5.91 percent cost of debt, <sup>5</sup> is \$20,436,208. Table 6-1 below shows the PG&E
	Base Case, which is fully calculated in Attachment 1. Table 6-1 also shows
	the Citizens Base Case using Citizens' capital costs.
	C. Q 7 A 7

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All future leases will use the same methodology (with inputs updated as of that time), and as a result my analysis here will apply equally to Leases 2 through 5.

For the cost of debt, both Citizens and PG&E would finance investment in these projects using fixed rate long-term debt. As PG&E witness Divya Raman testifies, PG&E expects it would issue debt at 5.91%, which is higher than the 5.73% rate at which Citizens expects to finance the first lease.

## TABLE 6-1 PG&E AND CITIZENS – BASE CASE INITIAL REVENUE REQUIREMENT SUMMARY

(Added)	Annual	PG&E Levelized 30 years	Annua	Citizens Levelized 30 years	<u>Variance</u> her / (Lower)	%
Return on Equity		10.45%		10.45%		
Capital Related Costs						
Cost of Entitlement	\$	20,436,208	\$	22,027,018	\$ 1,590,810	
Subtotal Capital Related Revenue Requirement	\$	20,436,208	\$	22,027,018	\$ 1,590,810	7.78%
Expense Related Costs						
Citizens Administrative & Regulatory Costs	\$	-	\$	_	\$ -	
Subtotal Expense Related Costs	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 	0.00%
Total Revenue Requirement on All Costs	\$	20,436,208	\$	22,027,018	\$ 1,590,810	7.78%
Citizens Contribution to Direct Bill Assistance	\$	-	\$	2,049,151	\$ 2,049,151	

Q 9 Why is Citizens' Base Case TRR higher than PG&E's, despite having a lower 1 cost of debt? 2 A. 9 Even though Citizens' expected cost of debt is lower than PG&E's. Citizens 3 Rate Model produces a higher Base Case TRR because Citizens recovers 4 the amortization of the prepaid Entitlements Lease cost over the 30-year life 5 of the Lease compared to PG&E's depreciation of the asset over a 55-year 6 useful life. 7 Q 10 Will customers pay the higher Citizens Base Case TRR, and therefore, a 8 9 higher rate for electric service? A 10 No. In each Entitlements Lease between PG&E and Citizens, Citizens will 10 commit to recover a fixed, levelized capital cost that is no greater than what is 11 calculated in the PG&E Representative Rate Model attached to that 12 Entitlements Lease. The PG&E Representative Rate Model is specifically 13 designed to ensure that customers do not pay more than an approximation of 14 the rate PG&E could charge at the time of execution of the Entitlements 15 Lease for the portion of the projects subject to Citizens' leasehold interests. 16 This contractual customer protection is consistent with the prior Citizens 17 Sunrise and Sycamore transactions approved by this Commission and FERC. 18

1	Q <u>1111</u> How does <u>Citizens use the results of the PG&amp;E representative rate</u>
2	model in the calculations of Representative Rate Model limit the rate
3	Citizens' rate model actually charges customers?
4	A 11 As stated previously, under the terms of the Entitlements Leases,
5	Citizens will agree to recover a capital-related TRR that will be no
6	greater than what is calculated in the PG&E Representative Rate-Model.
7	Therefore, 11Citizens uses the fixed, levelized TRR calculated in the
8	PG&E Representative Rate Model asthe target result for PG&E Base
9	Case—as a cap on the Citizens' TRR. To accomplish this, Citizens reduces
10	the ROE component of the return on rate base in its FERC-approved rate
11	methodology (Citizens Rate Model) until the output equals the TRR produced
12	by the PG&E Representative Rate Model. The cost of equity By reducing
13	the ROE in the Citizens Rate Model is calculated to result in, Citizens
14	ensures it charges a fixed, levelized capital-related capital-related TRR equal
15	tono greater than the TRR from the PG&E Representative Rate Model. In the
16	results for the Citizens <u>Capped</u> Rate <u>Model</u> included in Attachment 2 and
17	Tables 6-1 and Table 6-2, the Citizens reduces its cost of equity that is used
18	is what is necessary to calculate a fixed, levelized capital-related TRR
19	that is no greater than what is from 10.45 percent to 9.18 percent to match
20	the overall capital-related TRR calculated in the PG&E Representative Rate
21	Model. In this case the Citizens cost of equity is adjusted downward
22	from 10.45 percent to 9.02 percent to achieve the capital-related TRR
23	equal to the TRR calculated in Citizens will repeat this alignment process at
24	the execution of each Entitlements Lease, ensuring that its final TRR for each
25	Lease is no higher than the TRR produced by the PG&E Representative Rate
26	Model. The process of calculating a fixed, levelized Citizens
27	capital-related TRR not to exceed the TRR in then-applicable PG&E
28	Representative Rate Model will be performed at the time of the
29	execution of the first Entitlements Lease and each subsequent lease.
30	attached to each Lease.
31	Additionally, Citizens is only recovering the transmission O&M and
32	other expense costs billed to Citizens by PG&E Citizens will not recover from
33	customers its own incremental costs. This is in contrast to the past projects
3/1	that Citizens has entered into where Citizens also recovered its unfront

development and ongoing administrative and regulatory costs in its TRR and is a benefit directly linked to the size and multi lease scope of the Investment

Program. As such, the overall TRRs of PG&E and Citizens are equal, as shown in Table 6-2.

## TABLE 6-2 PG&E AND CITIZENS ADJUSTED REVENUE REQUIREMENT SUMMARY

(Added)	Annual	PG&E Levelized 30 years	Annual	Citizens Levelized 30 years	Higl	%	
Return on Equity		10.45%		9.18%			
Capital Related Costs							
Cost of Entitlement	\$	20,436,208	\$	20,436,208	\$	(0)	
Subtotal Capital Related Revenue Requirement	\$	20,436,208	\$	20,436,208	\$	(0)	0.00%
Expense Related Costs							
Citizens Administrative & Regulatory Costs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Subtotal Expense Related Costs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Total Revenue Requirement on All Costs	\$	20,436,208	\$	20,436,208	\$	(0)	0.00%
Citizens Contribution to Direct Bill Assistance	\$	_	\$	2,049,151	\$	2,049,151	

Q 12 How would the financing and cost recovery for the transmission projects in the Investment Program differ if Citizens was not involved?

A 12 The transmission projects included in the Investment Program will be built and financed in the near-term regardless of Citizens' participation. If Citizens were not involved, PG&E would still develop and put these projects into service. Accordingly, PG&E would recover the costs of these assets through its transmission rates, and customers would bear these costs.

From a debt cost perspective, customers will pay rates that reflect current interest rate conditions whether PG&E or Citizens finances the projects. As explained by PG&E witness Divya Raman, PG&E will finance these projects using long-term, fixed-rate debt at prevailing market rates, like Citizens.

While the cost of equity for PG&E and Citizens may differ over the 30-year term of each Entitlements Lease, and future ROEs cannot be predicted with certainty, historically authorized ROEs for investor-owned utilities, including PG&E, have stayed within a relatively narrow range. Therefore,

See Amended Testimony of Divya Raman (Amended Chapter 3), Section E.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Testimony of Susan F. Tierney (Chapter 8), Section C.3.

1	even though Citizens' ROE in the projects will remain fixed for the 30-year
2	term of its participation in each Lease, and PG&E's ROE may change slightly
3	as regulatory and capital market conditions evolve, any difference is not
4	expected to be significant in the long run and overcome by the value of long-
5	term rate stability.
6	Q 13 Will the Investment Program result in added customer costs over the life of
7	the projects?
8	A 13 No, it should not. It is unlikely that the Investment Program adversely impacts
9	customer rates; but it will certainly provide meaningful direct bill-paying relief
10	to customers in need and long-term rate stability.
11	The Citizens' TRR is adjusted as described below to produce a
12	Citizens Rate no higher than the PG&E Representative Rate. The Citizens
13	Rate Model aligns Citizens' TRR with the PG&E Representative Rate Model
14	to ensure parity between the two rates for customers. This method was used
15	in the prior SDG&E transactions and was designed so that Citizens'
16	participation does not add costs for customers.
17	While small fluctuations (both up and down) in PG&E's ROE could
18	occur during the term of the Entitlements Leases and therefore impact a
19	portion of PG&E's rate, as Citizens' expert witness Susan F. Tierney explains,
20	ROEs have typically stayed within a relatively narrow range and are among
21	the lowest they have been since 1990. Thus, the fixed ROE component of
22	Citizens' rate is unlikely to expose customers to adverse rate impacts and it
23	provides customers the benefit of long-term ROE stability for a portion of the
24	applicable projects.
25	D. Both this Commission and the FERC Have Approved and Validated
26	Citizens' Fixed and Levelized Rate Methodology
27	Q <u>12</u> 14 Has the Commission examined this representative rate model and
28	fixed, levelized TRR approach before?
29	A <u>1214</u> Yes. Both this Commission and FERC have previously reviewed and
30	approved Citizens' fixed, levelized TRR approach in multiple projects.
31	Citizens used this fixed, levelized TRR approach for its cost recovery for in
32	both the Sunrise and Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission Projects.

<u>Projects, where this Commission explicitly recognized the rate stability and cost certainty benefits of Citizens' approach.</u>

In the Commission's decision granting approval to lease Entitlements to approving Citizens' participation in the Sunrise Project to Citizens, the Commission stated that the provision for levelized capital cost recovery over the 30-year term of the lease Entitlements Lease (compared to conventional ratemaking) provides a net benefit to ratepayers customers, because ratepayers customers are paying a constant amount for the lease period that will not increase with money- costs. 78

The Commission reaffirmed that this approach is beneficial to ratepayers customers in its decision to grant approval to lease Entitlements to the Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission- Project. The approach proposed by Citizens for the PG&E Program is the same approach previously seen and approved twice before by the Commission.

In approving Citizens' participation in the Sunrise Project, the Commission found value in the fixed nature of the Citizens' rate structure, holding:

"We concur with SDG&E that capital costs 30 years into the future are unknown. Thus, we do not attempt to forecast the future performance of capital markets over the next 30 years.

... Accordingly, since we are not prescient, we do not know the ratepayer benefit of the rate stability provisions of the [transaction], but we do find value in the fact that the cost component is capped and provides certainty to a key component of potential costs to customers. In a sense, this is 'insurance' against future higher costs. We find, therefore, that this provision of the [transaction] is not harmful to the public or

See CPUC Decision (D.)-11-05-048 at 18-19 (issued May 26, 2011) (available at: https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/WORD\_PDF/FINAL\_DECISION/13621 1.PDF Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*26-28 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

See CPUC-D.19-03-024 at 19-20 (issued April 5, 2019) (available at: https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M280/K049/28004941 5.PDFSycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*27-28 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

1	to customers, and only the passage of time will clearly tell us
2	whether it was a benefit."10
3	The Commission further held that the levelized nature of the Citizens'
4	rate "provides a net benefit" to customers as compared to traditional
5	ratemaking because "it is a benefit to the [customers] of today to not have to
6	pay the front-ended costs."11
7	In approving Citizens' participation in the Sycamore Project, the
8	Commission acknowledged the potential for capital market conditions to
9	change in the future, but held that "[r]egardless, Citizens' fixed capital costs
10	provide rate stability to [customers]. They also protect [customers] from
11	changes in money costs caused by fluctuations in the market. Furthermore,
12	the rate stability and protection from market fluctuations provide tangible
13	benefits to [customers]."12
14	FERC has approved Citizens' use of a fixed, levelized capital cost rate
15	methodology three times: for Citizens Sunrise Transmission LLC in 2009,
16	Citizens Sycamore-Penasquitos Transmission LLC in 2018, and Citizens S-
17	Line Transmission LLC in 2022.13 The fixed, levelized capital cost rate
18	methodology was also approved by FERC in 2014 for the Morongo
19	Transmission line.14 In each of these Orders FERC found the use of 30-year
20	levelized fixed rate of recovery of capital requirements reasonable. 15

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D.11-05-048 at 16-17 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*24-26 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>11</sup> D.11-05-048 at 18 (Sunrise Section 851 Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*27 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

D.19-03-024 at 18 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*22 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

Citizens Energy Corp., 129 FERC ¶ 61,242 (2009) (Sunrise Powerlink Declaratory Order), Citizens Energy Corp., 162 FERC ¶ 61,161 (2018) (Sycamore-Penasquitos Declaratory Order); Citizens S-Line Transmission LLC, 175 FERC ¶ 61,046 (2021) (S-Line Declaratory Order).

Morongo Transmission LLC, 148 FERC ¶ 61,139 (2014).

Citizens Energy Corp., 129 FERC ¶ 61,242 at PP 22-23 (2009); Citizens Energy Corp., 162 FERC ¶ 61,161 at P 22 (2018); Citizens S-Line Transmission LLC, 175 FERC ¶ 61,046 at P 24 (2021); and Morongo Transmission LLC, 148 FERC ¶ 61,139 at PP 19-20 (2014).

1	E. C	itizens' Fixed and Levelized Rate Structure Ensures Rate Stability,
2	<u>P</u>	redictable Costs, and Protection Against Market Volatility
3	Q 15	What customer benefits are generated by Citizens' participation in the
4		Investment Program?
5	A 15	My analysis concludes that Citizens' participation in the Investment Program
6		will generate substantial and measurable customer benefits. These include
7		direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need, long-term rate
8		stability, and protection against market volatility and potential increases in
9		capital costs. Each of these benefits is directly tied to Citizens' use of a fixed
10		and levelized capital cost recovery and are delivered without burdening
11		customers with adverse rate impacts.
12	Q 16	How does Citizens' fixed capital cost revenue requirement provide rate
13		stability?
14	A 16	An important customer benefit gained from Citizens' fixed, levelized capital
15		cost approach is that customers will be charged the same capital costs in the
16		Citizens' TRR for the entire 30-year length of Citizens' participation in each
17		Entitlements Lease. This contrasts with traditional utility ratemaking, where
18		the capital costs of a new project are frontloaded.
19		In traditional utility ratemaking, revenue requirements for new projects
20		are higher in the early years because the utility earns a return on the
21		undepreciated value of the project. At the start, when the project is newly
22		built, the net plant balance (essentially the project's book value after
23		depreciation) is at its highest, so the return is also highest. Over time, as the
24		project depreciates and the net plant balance decreases, the return earned or
25		that balance also decreases. As a result, customers in the early years of a
26		project's life pay higher costs for the same service compared to customers
27		using the project later, when the remaining value of the asset is lower and the
28		return collected by the utility has declined.
29		Citizen's fixed, levelized cost of capital approach results in a more
30		equitable distribution of costs and benefits for customers over the life of the
31		projects. At the end of each 30-year lease term, Citizens will transfer its
32		interest in the projects to PG&E at no cost to customers as the net plant
33		balance of Citizens' portion of any projects will have been fully amortized.

1	FERC has recognized the customer benefit of this approach, noting
2	that a fixed, levelized recovery of capital requirements aligns the financial
3	benefits of a project with its cost recovery over time. 16
4	Citizens' fixed and levelized rate structure also ensures a steady and
5	predictable revenue stream, which directly supports Citizens' ability to make
6	consistent charitable donations throughout the 30-year period of each
7	Entitlements Lease. 17 This structure aligns Citizens' revenue with its debt
8	service obligations, creating financial predictability and stability. As a result,
9	Citizens can reliably commit a significant portion of its net after-tax profits to
10	direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need without concern for
11	revenue fluctuations, discussed below.
12	F. Citizens' Commitment to Direct Bill-Paying Assistance to PG&E Customers
13	in Need
1/1	O 17 Please describe the financial support that Citizens will contribute to direct hill-
14 15	Q 17 Please describe the financial support that Citizens will contribute to direct bill-
15	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation
15 16	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.
15 16 17	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable
15 16 17 18	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this
15 16 17 18 19	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its
15 16 17 18 19 20	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its net after-tax profits to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its net after-tax profits to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. For the first \$200 million invested under the Investment Program.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its net after-tax profits to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. For the first \$200 million invested under the Investment Program, Citizens will contribute 50 percent of its net after-tax profits towards this
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its net after-tax profits to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. For the first \$200 million invested under the Investment Program.  Citizens will contribute 50 percent of its net after-tax profits towards this assistance.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its net after-tax profits to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. For the first \$200 million invested under the Investment Program.  Citizens will contribute 50 percent of its net after-tax profits towards this assistance.  Additionally, Citizens has contractually committed to increase its
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	paying assistance for PG&E customers in need as a result of its participation in the Investment Program.  A 17 One of Citizens' unique features is its dedication to supporting charitable activities by sharing the profits its business ventures earn. For this transaction, Citizens has committed to dedicating an escalating portion of its net after-tax profits to direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. For the first \$200 million invested under the Investment Program.  Citizens will contribute 50 percent of its net after-tax profits towards this assistance.

See Citizens Energy Corp., 162 FERC ¶ 61,161 at P 22 (2018); Citizens Energy Corp., 129 FERC ¶ 61,242 at P 23 (2009); Morongo Transmission, LLC, 148 FERC ¶ 61,139 at P 20 (2014).

See Amended Testimony of Peter Smith (Amended Chapter 5), Section G.

This commitment is reflected in Section 5.3.1 of the Form of Entitlements Lease.

1	<ul> <li>60 percent of the net after-tax profits from the second \$200 million</li> </ul>
2	invested,
3	<ul> <li>70 percent of the net after-tax profits from the third \$200 million</li> </ul>
4	invested,
5	<ul> <li>80 percent of the net after-tax profits from the fourth \$200 million</li> </ul>
6	invested, and
7	• 90 percent of the net after-tax profits from the fifth \$200 million
8	invested.
9	I estimate that the total Citizens' charitable contribution over the life of
10	the Investment Program will exceed \$450 million as shown in Table 6-4.
11 12	TABLE 6-3 CITIZENS CHARITABLE GIVING BY LEASE

**Each \$200 First Annual Last Annual Total Average** Million Charitable Charitable **Annual** Charitable Investment Contribution Contribution Charitable **Contributions (1) (2)** (3) Contribution **(5) (4)** \$2,156,129 \$1,803,689 \$2,049,151 \$61,474,528 \$2,674,355 \$2,237,205 2 \$2,541,664 \$76,249,928 3 \$3,228,644 \$2,700,890 \$3,068,452 \$92,053,546 4 \$3,822,896 \$3,198,006 \$3,633,219 \$108,996,582 \$4,461,595 \$3,732,304 5 \$4,240,229 \$127,206,869

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

**Total** 

13

Citizens' existing agreements with San Diego Gas & Electric Company for the Sunrise Project and the Sycamore Project currently generate \$1.5 million and \$650,000 annually, respectively, in contributions to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in those project areas.

For the Investment Program, assuming a debt cost of 5.73 percent.

Citizens estimates that its anticipated \$200 million investment in the first

\$15,532,715

\$465,981,454

6-21

tranche of projects pursuant to the Investment Program will generate an 1 estimated average of \$2.0 million annually in direct bill-paying assistance for 2 each year of the 30-year lease term. These contributions will benefit PG&E 3 customers, including those in disadvantaged communities and low-income 4 families within the PG&E service area. The estimated average annual 5 contributions will increase with each subsequent \$200 million investment: 6 \$2.5 million annually for the second \$200 million invested; 7 8 an annual average of just over \$3 million for the third \$200 million; • an annual average of just over \$3.6 million for the fourth \$200 million 9 invested; and 10 11 an annual average of just over \$4.2 million for the fifth \$200 million invested. 12 These contributions represent a direct and tangible customer benefit 13 that would not occur without Citizens' participation in the Investment Program. 14 As a result, Citizens' participation delivers clear, measurable financial benefits 15 to PG&E customers in need. And as I explained above, does so without 16 burdening customers with adverse rate impacts. 17 Q 18 What would be the impact on PG&E customers and communities without 18 Citizens' participation in the Investment Program? 19 A 18 The key difference is that, without Citizens' participation, PG&E customers 20 and communities would not benefit from the more than \$450 million in direct 21 22 bill-paying assistance that Citizens plans to contribute, assuming a full \$1.0 billion investment. This contribution provides a net benefit that would not 23 exist in a scenario where PG&E does not lease Entitlements to the applicable 24 projects to Citizens. And does so without burdening customers with adverse 25 rate impacts. 26 Q <del>13</del>19 Does this complete your prepared directamended testimony? 27 28 A <u>13</u>19 Yes, it does. 29

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 6 ATTACHMENT 1 PG&E REPRESENTATIVE RATE MODEL WITH THE BASE CASE CAPITAL COST ASSUMPTIONS

Attachment 1 - PG&E Representative Rate Model with the Base Case Capital Cost Assumptions

6.47<u>5.91</u>% 5.52% 202,000,000

Model Inputs
PG&E Cost of Debt
PG&E Cost of Preferred Equity
Cost of Entitlement

Calculation of Debt Cost as Input to Model												
The Moody's Baa Utility Bond Index	5.54%			The M	loody's Baa Ui	The Moody's Baa Utility Bond Index	5.54%					
Adjustment to Bond Index	0.93%			Prefer Comm	Preferred Equity Common Fauity			0.50%		552% 0	0.03% 5.20%	
Total Debt Cost Per Model	10 <u>6779</u>											
Calculation of WACC		Capital Ratio	Cost	WACC	#	Base Case						
Adjustment to Bond Index 0.93  Per Model 5.91%	0.937% Total Debt Cost	<u>st</u>										
Calculation of WACC		Capital Ratio	Cost	WACC								
Debt		49.75%	6.475.91%	3.22%2.94%		Base Case						
Preferred Equity Common Equity		0.50% 49.75%	$\frac{5.52\%}{10.45\%}$	0.03% 5.20%								
	•											
				<u>8.45</u> 8.17								
Revenue Requirement	Total	Year-1	Year-2	Year-3	Year-4	Year-5	Year-6	Year-7	Year-8	Year-9	Year-10	Year-11-55
							li I		8 101 964	7.812.320	7.525.105	147.933.992
- 44,563 43,012 41,474	39,949 785,354	354										1

-60,770,773	466,353,362	74,768,947	TCT CTC 231	147 033 007	141,733,772	<u>83,662,991</u>	60,770,773		458,425,837	000 020 92	0,970,002	91,590,516					
-3,005,851 -60,770,773 	-18,902,659	-8,750,259		3,672,727	· 6	4,255,768	3,005,851	1	18,499,402	8,775,435	7	4,659,026					
3,118,047	19,481,417	-9,779,785		3,672,727	41,474	4,418,200	3,118,047	4	19,062,769	9,781,164		4,836,849					
3,231,193	20,065,073	-10,923,460		3,672,727	43,012	4,582,007	3,231,193	"	19,630,903	10,895,281		5,016,177					
-3,345,355	20,653,975	12,193,654		3,672,727	44,563	4,747,286	3,345,355	"	20,204,144	12,129,201		5,197,117					
				3,672,727	8,692,395	4,915,921	3 461 836	- -	20,789,026	13,499,555			3,672,727	6,220,314		3,461,836	21,254,836
			7 CT CT 8		9,003,350	5,091,779	3 583 306	-	21,398,959	15,030,435				9,6419.832 6		3,583,306	21,881,433 -15,192,437
				3,672,727	9,331,521	5,277,374	3 711 501		22,042,663	16,746,981			3,672,727	2,35,155, 2,146,665,629		3,711,501	22,542,723 —16,973,398
				3,672,727	9,678,695	5,473,716	3 847 120		22,723,640	18,674,284			3,672,727	6 Return on De		3,847,120	23,242,304 -18,978,083
				3,672,727	10,046,847	5,681,921	3 000 033	-	23,445,765	20,841,263			3,672,727	10,040,047 47,797 46.1 <sup>2</sup>		3,990,933	23,984,158 -21,237,744
			7CL CL9 8		10,369,102	5,864,170	4 116 817	-	24,077,865	23,151,076			3,672,727	7.20,3627,303		4,116,817	24,633,527 -23,654,906
			202 000 000		236,889,505 1,257,603	133,971,133	06 182 731		670,300,972	226,494,676	20,436,208		202,000,000	5.048 53.337	1,731	96,182,731	682,995,468 -226,060,813 -20,929,939
			Denreciation Expense	Detrum on Common Lamity	Return on Preferred Equity	Return on Debt	Income Taxes	Property Taxes	Total Revenue Requirement	onet Present Value	Levelized Annual Amount (30 yrs)		Depreciation Expense	Return on Common Equity 1,257,603 55,048 53,337 51,382 49,539 47,707 46,146 Return on Debt 146,665,629 6,419,832 6,220,314	<u>5,92,380 5,777,434 5,574,253 5,381,731</u>	Income Taxes	Troperty taxes Total Revenue Requirement Net Present Value Levelized Annual Annount (30 yrs)
											At	ch	)				]

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 6 ATTACHMENT 2 CITIZENS CAPPED RATE

		nortization	Income Taxes	Capital Cost Revenue Requirement	Capital Cost Revenue Requirement Net Present Value
1	\$15,403,494 <u>14,842,924</u>	\$6,733,333	\$3,489,7973,550,559	\$25,626,62425,126,816	\$24,689,56124,239,713
2	\$ <del>14,960</del> , <del>207</del> <u>14,415,657</u>	\$6,733,333	\$3,389,3663,448,353	\$ <del>25,082,906</del> <u>24,597,344</u>	\$ <del>22,430,748</del> <u>22,083,010</u>
3	\$ <del>14,513</del> , <del>581</del> <u>13,985,174</u>	\$6,733,333	\$3,288,1793,345,378	\$ <del>24,535,093</del> <u>24,063,886</u>	\$20,365,61620,105,544
4	\$ <del>14,063,448</del> <u>13,551,314</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>3,186,198</del> <u>3,241,595</u>	\$ <del>23,982,979</del> <u>23,526,242</u>	\$ <del>18,478,083</del> <u>18,292,904</u>
5	\$ <del>13,609,633</del> <u>13,113,908</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>3,083,382</del> <u>3,136,963</u>	\$ <del>23,426,349</del> 22,984,204	\$ <del>16,753,375</del> <u>16,631,813</u>
6	\$ <del>13,151,953</del> <u>12,672,779</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,979,690</del> 3,031,441	\$ <del>22,864,977</del> <u>22,437,553</u>	\$ <del>15,177,926</del> <u>15,110,041</u>
7	\$ <del>12,690</del> ,214 <u>12,227,741</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,875,079</del> <u>2,924,984</u>	\$ <del>22,298,626</del> 21,886,058	\$ <del>13,739,271</del> <u>13,716,324</u>
8	\$ <del>12,224</del> ,212 <u>11,778,599</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,769,503</del> <u>2,817,546</u>	\$ <del>21,727,048</del> <u>21,329,478</u>	\$ <del>12,425,968</del> <u>12,440,288</u>
9	\$ <del>11,753,734</del> <u>11,325,149</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,662,912</del> <u>2,709,076</u>	\$ <del>21,149,980</del> <u>20,767,559</u>	\$ <del>11,227,509</del> <u>11,272,382</u>
10	\$ <del>11,278,558</del> <u>10,867,176</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,555,256</del> 2,599,525	\$ <del>20,567,148</del> <u>20,200,034</u>	\$ <del>10,134,247</del> <u>10,203,810</u>
11	\$ <del>10,798,447</del> <u>10,404,453</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,446,483</del> <u>2,488,837</u>	\$ <del>19,978,26</del> 4 <u>19,626,623</u>	\$ <del>9,137,325</del> <u>9,226,477</u>
12	\$ <del>10,313,156</del> 9,936,743	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,336,536</del> <u>2,376,957</u>	\$ <del>19,383,025</del> <u>19,047,034</u>	\$8,228,6178,332,929
13	\$ <del>9,822,424<u>9,463,799</u></del>	\$6,733,333	\$2,2 <u>63,8</u> 25 <del>,356</del>	\$ <del>18,781,114</del> <u>18,460,957</u>	\$ <del>7,400,662</del> <u>7,516,308</u>
14	\$ <del>9,325</del> ,980 <u>8,985,358</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>2,112,883</del> 2,149,377	\$ <del>18,172,197</del> <u>17,868,068</u>	\$ <del>6,646,616</del> <u>6,770,301</u>
15	\$ <del>8,823</del> ,539 <u>8,501,146</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,999,050</del> 2,033,550	\$ <del>17,555,922</del> <u>17,268,029</u>	\$ <del>5,960,199</del> <u>6,089,101</u>
16	\$ <del>8,314,800</del> 8,010,875	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,883,791</del> 1,916,272	\$ <del>16,931,92</del> 4 <u>16,660,481</u>	\$ <del>5,335,650</del> <u>5,467,364</u>
17	\$ <del>7,799,448</del> <u>7,514,243</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,767,033</del> <u>1,797,474</u>	\$ <del>16,299,814</del> <u>16,045,051</u>	\$4 <del>,767,686</del> 4,900,175
18	\$ <del>7,277</del> ,152 <u>7,010,933</u>	\$6,733,333	\$1,648,703 <u>1,677,077</u>	\$ <del>15,659,188</del> <u>15,421,344</u>	\$4,251,4604,383,013
19	\$ <del>6,747,566</del> <u>6,500,611</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,528,720</del> <u>1,555,004</u>	\$ <del>15,009,620</del> 14,788,948	\$ <del>3,782,531</del> 3,911,721
20	\$ <del>6,210,325</del> 5,982,926	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,407,004</del> <u>1,431,169</u>	\$ <del>14,350,662</del> 14,147,429	\$ <del>3,356,825</del> 3,482,476
21	\$ <del>5,665,046</del> <u>5,457,512</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,283,466</del> 1,305,485	\$ <del>13,681,845</del> <u>13,496,331</u>	\$ <del>2,970,608</del> 3,091,764
22	\$5,111,326 <u>4,923,984</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,158,016</del> <u>1,177,861</u>	\$ <del>13,002,675</del> <u>12,835,178</u>	\$ <del>2,620,459</del> 2,736,356
23	\$4,548,745 <u>4,381,935</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>1,030,558</del> <u>1,048,198</u>	\$ <del>12,312,636</del> <u>12,163,466</u>	\$ <del>2,303,242</del> 2,413,282
24	\$ <del>3,976</del> ,858 <u>3,830,940</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>900,992</del> <u>916,395</u>	\$ <del>11,611,183</del> <u>11,480,669</u>	\$ <del>2,016,086</del> 2,119,815
25	\$ <del>3,395,200</del> 3,270,554	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>769,212</del> <u>782,346</u>	\$ <del>10,897,746</del> 10,786,233	\$ <del>1,756,358</del> <u>1,853,449</u>
26	\$ <del>2,803</del> , <del>283</del> 2,700,308	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>635,108</del> <u>645,938</u>	\$ <del>10,171,725</del> 10,079,579	\$ <del>1,521,651</del> 1,611,882
27	\$ <del>2,200,59</del> 4 <u>2,119,709</u>	\$6,733,333	\$4 <del>98,56</del> 4 <u>507,053</u>	\$ <del>9,432,491</del> 9,360,095	\$ <del>1,309,757</del> <u>1,393,000</u>
28	\$ <del>1,586,593</del> <u>1,528,240</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>359,457</del> <u>365,569</u>	\$ <del>8,679,383</del> <u>8,627,142</u>	\$ <del>1,118,657</del> <u>1,194,862</u>
29	\$ <del>960,716</del> <u>925,360</u>	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>217,659</del> 221,354	\$ <del>7,911,708</del> 7,880,048	\$ <del>946,50</del> 4 <u>1,015,687</u>
30	\$ <del>322,368</del> 310,499	\$6,733,333	\$ <del>73,035</del> 74,274	\$ <del>7,128,736</del> 7,118,106	\$791,605853,838
			, <del></del>	, ,	

Total NPV Levelized Annual Amount \$241,644,803242,459,628 \$20,929,93920,436,208

### Calculation of WACC

	Ratio	Cost	Weighted Cost Long Term Debt	50.00%	
<del>6.45</del> <u>5.73</u> %	3.23 <u>2.87</u> %				
Common Equity	50.00%		<del>9.0196</del> <u>9.18</u> %		4.51 <u>9</u> %

WACC 7.737.45%

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY CHAPTER 6

### **ATTACHMENT 3**

# PG&E REPRESENTATIVE RATE MODEL, ASSUMING RETURN ON EQUITY INCREASES 2 PERCENT IN YEAR 5

										sar-11-55				9,652,533	
				Dob <del>t</del>	% %	%	மி			r 10 K	בנד נדם כ' דנד נדם כ	012,121			
					0.03%	5.20%	n Year !		;	kea   	c 7.77	(C 12)		7,000,	
					5.52%	10.45%	to 2.0% i		:	Year 5	. 643 6	3,072,		5,962 10	
	Attachment 3 - PG&E Representative Rate	Model, Assuming Return on Equity Increases			<del>0.50%</del>	49.75%	6.47% 3.22% ROE increases to 2.0% in Year 5		:	Year-2 Year-3 Year-4 Year-5 Year-6 Year-7 Year-8 Year-9 Year-10 Year-11-55	בנד נדש כ' בנד נדש כ' דנד נדש כ' דנד נדש כ	7,4,7,4,7,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4		<u> 10,726,428 10,355,962 10,000,712</u>	
	& <del>E Represe</del>	Return on E					6.47%		:	-5 Year	ס כ בנבנב	74,747 3,6		,331,521	
	ent 3 - PG	<del>\ssuming                                    </del>	2 Percent in Year 5		Preferred Equity	WACC Common Equity		8.45%	;	r 4 Year	3 6 767 6	<u> </u>		10,046,847 9,678,695 9,331,521	
	\ttachm	Model, 1	<u>Percer</u>		referre	Sommo	49.75%	# 4:8	:	kea Kea	73 6	0,0		847 9,6	
	1	4	( h		_	WACC.			:	Year 3	7.77	,,,,,		10,046,	<b>9</b>
						Cost			,	Year-2	7 2 5 7	2/0/2 2		11/6 3/1	1/0/243
					Capital	Ratio				Year-1	TCT CT3 C TCT CT3 C 000 000 COC	7,7,7,0,6 7,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0	1,11,004	Return on Common Equity 274,680,400 10,369,102 10,00	0,505,674
	5.54%		0.93%		10V J			ı		Total		700,000,-	1 2 1 1 2 1 0	74,680,40	00,700
put to Model	ility Bond		nd Index	-	Model								กิ	Equity 27	ί,
Debt Cost as In	y's Baa Ut		Adjustment to Bond Index	(	Cost Per	of WACC				eduireme				Common	
Calculation of Debt Cost as Input to Model	The Moody's Baa Utility Bond	<del>Index</del>	Adjustm	- - - -	<u>-lotal Debt Cost Per Model</u>	Calculation of WACC				Revenue Requirement	200	a 672 727	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Return on	
									<del>O</del>		\tc				
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Model Inputs	on Preferred Equity 1,257,603 55,048
PG&E Cost of Debt 6.47%	46,146 44,563 43,012 41,474 39,949 785,354
PG&E Cost of Preferred 5.53	5.52% Return on Debt 116,666,579 6,419,832 6,220,314 5,992,380 5,777,434 5,574,296 5,381,773
Equity	5,197,157 5,016,216 4,836,887 4,659,062 91,591,227
Cost of Entitlement 202,000,0	202,000,000
3,345,355 3,231,	3,231,193 3,118,047 3,005,851 60,770,773
Property Taxes	
Total Revenue	
Requirement 720,787,31324,633,	Requirement 720,787,31324,633,52723,984,15823,242,30422,542,723 23,604,55422,918,44422,260,51621,615,68120,976,59120,342,863494,665,952
Net Present	
Value 23,654,5	23,654,90621,237,74418,978,08316,973,398 16,388,81314,673,24313,142,12111,767,61410,530,371 9,416,94779,974,460
Levelized	
Annual	
Amount (30	
<del>yrs)</del>	
PG&E Representative Rate	

236,737, 698 21,918, 463 21,918,

Application: 24-03-009
Exhibit No.:\_\_\_\_\_
Witness: Joseph P. Kennedy III

Withess. 90seph 1. Reinfedy 111

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U 39 E) for Approval Under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC

Application 24-03-009 (Filed March 12, 2024)

# SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AMENDED CHAPTER 7

# CITIZENS ENERGY CORPORATION - CITIZENS'

**CHARITABLE GIVING** 

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 9, 2024

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# 1 I. <u>INTRODUCTION: PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF</u> 2 <u>THIS SUPPLEMENTALAMENDED TESTIMONY</u>

3 My name is Joseph P. Kennedy III. I am the President of Citizens Energy

4 Corporation ("Citizens").

5 <u>Citizens, a charitable organization founded in 1979 by my father, Joseph</u>

6 P. Kennedy II, has distributed over the course of its history more than \$600

7 <u>million in charitable benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income</u>

8 <u>families throughout the United States.</u>

9 <u>In prior testimony in this proceeding, I provided specific information</u>

10 <u>about Citizens' record of charitable giving in Southern California, using the</u>

11 <u>after-tax profits from our prior investments in two different San Diego Gas & </u>

12 <u>Electric Company ("SDG&E") transmission projects (both of which were</u>

13 approved by this Commission and by the Federal Energy Regulatory

14 <u>Commission ("FERC")</u>). Finally, I described our plans for deciding how to

15 <u>distribute the substantial charitable benefits (estimated to be more than \$450</u>

16 <u>million</u>) from the proposed Citizens-PG&E transmission investment ("PG&E

17 <u>Investment Program") in the PG&E service territory, if this investment is</u>

18 <u>approved by the Commission.</u>

In August 2024, with permission of the Assigned Administrative Law Judge, I provided written "Supplemental Testimony" in this proceeding. The amended version of my "supplemental" testimony is being provided in support of the amended Application in this proceeding.

1	In the intervening months since August 2024, I have become aware that
2	Governor Newsom and this Commission are keenly focused on ameliorating
3	what many have described as an affordability "crisis" facing utility customers in
4	California, including the customers of PG&E. In response to these concerns
5	about affordability, Citizens has decided to commit its charitable giving from the
6	proposed Citizens-PG&E investment exclusively to bill-paying assistance for
7	PG&E residential customers in need of such assistance. In this amended
8	testimony, I will describe these plans.
9	The purpose of this supplemental amended testimony is to provide
10	information describing how Citizens, a charitable corporation, carries out its
11	philanthropic work in providing financial assistance to disadvantaged
12	communities and low-income families, using the after-tax profits from our
13	various business enterprises. My particular focus in this testimony is our
14	charitable spending using the after-tax profits from Citizens' investments in
15	high-voltage electric transmission projects in California. This includes prior
16	transmission investments by Citizens approved by this Commission and by the
17	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), as well as the proposed
18	investments in the Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E") transmission
19	system that are the subject of the <u>amended</u> Application in this case ("(PG&E
20	Investment Program").).
21	In this testimony, I describe in general terms Citizens' 45-year history of
22	providing charitable support to disadvantaged communities and low-income

- 1 families throughout the United States and abroad. I then provide details about
- 2 Citizens' record of charitable giving, to date, using the after-tax profits from its
- 3 investments in two San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") projects in
- 4 southern California: -(1) the Sunrise Power Link Project ("Sunrise Project") and
- 5 (2) the Sycamore-Peñasquitos Transmission Project ("Sycamore Project"). The
- 6 Commission approved Citizens' investments in these SDG&E projects in
- 7 Decision 11-05-048 ("Citizens Sunrise Decision") and Decision 19-03-024
- 8 ("Citizens Sycamore Decision"), respectively. In both cases, Citizens committed
- 9 to devote 50% of its after-tax profits to charitable giving benefitting
- 10 disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the geographic areas
- where the transmission projects were constructed (i.e., in Imperial County in the
- 12 case of the Sunrise Project, and in San Diego County in the case of the Sycamore
- 13 Project).
- 14 <u>Finally</u>, I will describe our plans for distributing proposal to disadvantaged
- 15 communities and low-income families provide direct bill-paying assistance to
- 16 PG&E customers in PG&E's service territory need, using the after-tax profits
- 17 from our proposed investment in the PG&E transmission system, as proposed in
- 18 this the amended Application.
- 19 Peter Smith, the Chief Executive Officer of Citizens, has provided
- 20 testimony estimating that if the total investment of up to \$1 billion is authorized
- 21 by the Commission and consummated as planned by PG&E and Citizens, the
- 22 total amount of charitable contributions from this transaction will be greater

1 than \$400 exceed \$450 million over the 30-plus-year duration of the proposed

2investment.

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The proposed PG&E Investment Program uses essentially the same business model as our investments in the Sunrise and Sycamore Projects, both of which were approved by the Commission and by FERC. Here, Citizens and PG&E have taken that same proven business model, and have worked diligently to provide additional ratepayer benefits, and a significantly higher level of charitable benefits for families in need, including those in disadvantaged communities and low-income families. By way of comparison, our investments in the Sunrise and Sycamore projects Projects are on track to yield approximately \$60 million in benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income families over the 30--year span of our investments. We are certainly proud of this record. But the proposed PG&E

Investment Program, with an expected yield of over \$400450 million in community benefits, direct bill-paying assistance will greatly exceed what we have been accomplishing with our prior transmission investments.

We understand, therefore, that there is considerable interest in Citizens' plans for distributing these funds in PG&E's service territory. We will be looking forward in the months ahead to continuing our engagement with the communities that stand to benefit, and, if the proposed investment is approved by the Commission, for decades beyond.

### II. WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS

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 $^{2}$ Citizens Energy was founded by my father, former U.S. Representative 3 Joseph P. Kennedy II, 45 years ago, with a mission to help low-income families 4 meet basic needs. He understood that a reliable and sustainable source of 5 revenue was critical to meet that mission. So, rather than depending on 6 charitable donations, he created a unique company that invests in for-profit 7 enterprises in the energy sector and then uses the after-tax profits to support the 8 charitable work of our non-profit parent. 9 Over its 45-year history, Citizens has provided over \$600 million in 10 charitable benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in the U.S. and abroad, using profits from dozens of successful businesses. 11 12 LamFor the past three years, I have been honored to serve as the President of Citizens Energy. In that capacity, my primary responsibility is to 13 14 advance commercial and policy initiatives that align with the company's mission 15 of service to our community. I remain focused on supporting the transition to a 16 clean energy economy, using successful investments in renewable energy to 17 generate profits to lower the cost of the energy transition for struggling 18 households. 19 Prior to my work at Citizens, I served for four terms as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for the Fourth District of Massachusetts, which 20 21 stretched from the affluent suburbs of Boston to the post-industrial communities 22 on the South Coast of Massachusetts. I was a member of the House Energy and

- 1 Commerce Committee and a member of its Sub-Committee on Energy for several
- 2 years. Throughout my time in office, my top priority was economic opportunity
- 3 for working families. I authored several pieces of legislation in Washington
- 4 aimed at improving access to the modern economy, including the Perkins
- 5 Modernization Act, STEM Gateways Act, and the Revitalize American
- 6 Manufacturing and Innovation Act.
- 7 Before being elected to Congress, I served as an assistant district
- 8 attorney, a legal aid volunteer, and a volunteer in the Peace Corps.
- 9 Since leaving Congress, besides my work at Citizens, I founded a
- 10 non-profit social justice organization known as Groundwork Project. With a
- focus on Appalachia, the Deep South, and the Plains, Groundwork Project is the
- 12 sole national pro-democracy and social justice organization singularly focused on
- 13 supporting frontline organizers on the most crucial fronts to expand civil rights,
- equality, and democracy itself. We work with partners on the ground to resource
- 15 local organizers, support statewide infrastructure, shift civic narratives, and
- 16 develop local leaders. The regions where Groundworks is focused face the
- 17 highest rates of poverty, incarceration, illness and oppression anywhere in the
- 18 country. They have been forced to endure the dire consequences of our nation's
- 19 failure to protect justice and equity for all.
- 20 In addition, I havehad the honor of serving President Biden as his Special
- 21 Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs. In that role, I have focused my
- work on leveraging business partnerships and investments to help spread the

- 1 "peace dividend" of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement of 1998. I workworked
- 2 closely with elected officials, civil society leaders, and business executives to
- 3 build opportunities that address social divisions, increase confidence in the
- 4 political process, and spur economic development across post-conflict
- 5 communities.

# 6 III. <u>CITIZENS' RECORD TO DATE OF CHARITABLE</u>

7 GIVING IN CALIFORNIA

- 8 The philanthropic work for which Citizens is most widely known
- 9 throughout the United States, and the very heart of the Citizens mission, is
- 10 providing direct assistance with home energy costs for disadvantaged
- 11 communities and low-income families.
- 12 From its inception, Citizens has been helping the poor and elderly to pay
- 13 for essential heating and cooling in their homes. To date, Citizens has provided
- 14 approximately over \$600 million in charitable assistance of this kind, most
- 15 notably providing free deliveries of home heating oil to hundreds of thousands of
- 16 low-income families in the Northeast U.S. struggling to stay warm.
- Here in California, with this Commission's approval, Citizens has
- 18 invested in high-voltage transmission projects, and has used the after-tax profits
- 19 to fund a variety of charitable projects serving disadvantaged communities and
- 20 low-income families in the areas where the projects are located.
- In Imperial County, one of the poorest counties in California, Citizens has
- 22 used the after-tax profits from its \$9886 million investment in the Sunrise

1	Project in 2012 to distribute approximately \$17.49 million as of July 1 December
2	31, 2024, in assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families,
3	an average of approximately \$1.4 million per year. Initially, from 2013 until
4	2018, Citizens funded \$9.2 million to install residential rooftop solar systems on
5	Imperial Valley low-income homes, at no cost to the homeowners. Citizens
6	completed a total of 581 rooftop installations. Between 2019 and 2020, Citizens
7	provided approximately \$2 million in direct grants to 87 non-profit organizations
8	and public schools in Imperial County for energy efficiency measures and other
9	critical needs. In 2019, Citizens completed the development of a community
10	solar project that now provides clean power to 12,000 low-income families at
11	substantially reduced cost, saving each of them approximately \$350 per year on
12	their electricity bills for the next 23 years-, thereby directly addressing
13	affordability for the local utility's most economically vulnerable customers.
14	Citizens accomplishes this by purchasing one-third of the output of the
15	community solar project, and then we donatedonating the power at no cost to IID
16	for distribution to IID's low-income customers, through a virtual net-metering
17	arrangement. To date, Citizens has spent \$5.8 million on this program.
18	In 2023, in response to community needs, Citizens also funded \$350,000 of
19	grants to repair damaged streetlights in low-income neighborhoods in the city of
20	Calexico, and to aid flood relief victims in the city of Niland after devastating
21	storms caused irrigation canals to spill over their banks.

1	In San Diego County, meanwhile, beginning in 2020, Citizens has been
2	using the after-tax profits from its investment in the Sycamore Project to bring
3	the benefits of transportation electrification to disadvantaged communities and
4	low-income families- to address an important policy goal under SB 350. As of the
5	end of calendar year <del>2023, we have</del> <u>2024, Citizens has</u> invested
6	approximatelyover \$2.5 million in electric vehicles and charging infrastructure
7	serving disadvantaged communities in San Diego County. We have helped to
8	fund electric vehicle purchases by <u>fivesix</u> San Diego County non-profit
9	community service organizations (Outdoor Outreach, the Indian Health Council
10	in Valley Center, the Southern Indian Health Council in Alpine, Meals on
11	Wheels of San Diego County, and the Neighborhood House Association, and San
12	Diego Canyonlands).
13	When the Commission in D.19-03-024 authorized the Citizens-Sycamore
14	investment, it required SDG&E to submit an informational report to the Energy
15	Division every year, documenting Citizens' charitable contributions. These
16	annual reports are available to the Commission staff and to the general public.
17	They give the Commission and interested parties clear visibility into the
18	charitable contributions Citizens is making.
19	We are proud of our work in Imperial and San Diego Counties. Using the
20	after-tax profits from our investments in the Sunrise and Sycamore
21	projects Projects, we are addressing affordability while also bringing the benefits
22	of the clean energy transition to marginalized and often-overlooked communities

1 and low-income families in these areas. These community benefits will continue

2 to flow, in a sustainable manner, over the full 30-year terms of the project leases.

3 Our experience in Imperial County offers a good illustration of how 4 Citizens responds to community and stakeholder input; in deciding how to 5 distribute charitable benefits among disadvantaged communities and low-6 income families. Our program of installing rooftop solar arrays on the homes of 7 low-income families was well received when it was introduced in 2013. But we 8 came to realize, through consultations with the community, elected officials, and 9 our utility partner ( HD the Imperial Irrigation District), and through our own 10 assessment, that investing in a community solar project would enable us to 11 provide better address affordability by providing deeply discounted renewable 12 energy to a much larger universe of low-income households. So, we pivoted to 13 the community solar model. We are now, and now are providing this benefit to 14 12,000 low-income utility customers. Each of these low-income customers, 15 regardless of their type of housing (e.g., rental apartment, condominium, 16 townhome, or single family home) gains access to emission-free solar energy, at a

This evolution of our program of charitable assistance in Imperial County is a good example of the emphasis Citizens places on being responsive to community needs. The same flexibility is necessary in the PG&E Investment Program, to ensure that the input of stakeholders and communities in the PG&E service territory is fully considered.

savings of \$350 per year on each customer's electric bill.

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# 1 IV. <u>DISTRIBUTING THE CHARITABLE BENEFITS FROM</u> 2 THE PG&E INVESTMENT PROGRAM

3 4 5	A. Citizens' Commitment to Community and Stakeholder Engagement Direct Bill-Paying Assistance to PG&E Customers in Need of Such Assistance
6	Over the years, Citizens has consistently engaged with community
7	leaders, non-profit community organizations, elected officials, its utility
8	partners, and other key stakeholders, in deciding how to distribute its charitable
9	assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families.
10	Our commitment to community and affordability is at the core of Citizens'
11	45-year history and mission, and we will bring this same philosophy to our work
12	in PG&E's service area. That territory is substantial, encompassing some 16
13	million people across 48 counties, with diverse demographic and socio-economic
14	backgrounds and environmental and community needs. The area contains some
15	of the most affluent communities in the nation yet is also home to dozens of
16	communities designated as disadvantaged by Cal EPA pursuant to Senate Bill
17	535 (De León, Statutes of 2012). It includes the Pacific Coast, National and
18	State Parks, Indigenous communities, California's Central Valley and
19	agricultural heart of America, the Sacramento River and Delta, the foothills of
20	the Sierra Nevada, dozens of elected officials, and hundreds of community-based
21	organizations. As diverse as the needs of these communities may be, the one
22	thing we know for certain is that they will change over the 30-plus-year lifetime
23	of the proposed PG&E Investment Program. Since the initial filing of the
24	Application, Citizens has been actively listening to feedback from policymakers

1	and stakeholders, and the message is clear: affordability is the number one
2	concern. In response to these concerns, Citizens is now committing to dedicate
3	its charitable donations emanating from the proposed PG&E Investment
4	Program (expected to exceed \$450 million, assuming a full \$1 billion
5	investment), exclusively toward direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E
6	customers in need. This commitment is reflected in Section 5.3.1 of the DCOA.
7	As Citizens CEO Pete Smith has testified, Citizens will continue to work with
8	Commission staff, community members, intervenors, and other stakeholders to
9	identify the most efficient, effective and user-friendly method of delivering this
10	bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers.
11	Such a broad and complex network of communities necessitates early and
12	active engagement, which is why we already begun discussions with key
13	community stakeholders in PG&E's service territory. These include elected
14	officials, philanthropic leaders and non-profit organizations, as we seek to
15	familiarize them with the proposed PG&E Investment Program, answer initial
16	questions, and begin a process for continued dialogue. In the coming weeks, we
17	plan to bring on additional personnel, based in California, to develop a strategic
18	plan, coordinate outreach, and continue our conversations with key
19	stakeholders.
20	I understand the interest and questions about which individuals,
21	communities and organizations may benefit from the substantial charitable
22	distributions that our PG&E investment program will generate, and which types

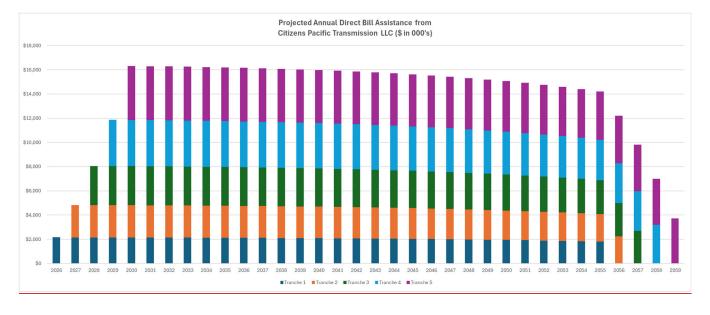
of assistance to provide. But we think it would be a mistake to attempt, at this 1 early date, to specify the particular use, programs, area or organizations that 2 3 may benefit. I am mindful that, given the Commission approval process, we are roughly two years away from the point where any funds could be deployed. 4 Many of these communities have not yet had the opportunity to become involved 5 in the stakeholder process. These communities deserve the time to listen, learn, 6 understand, question and engage with this process. 7 My experience, both at home and abroad, as an elected official and 8 diplomat, all counsels towards consistent engagement rather than a rushed 9 10 process. 11 We hope to receive a final Commission decision approving the PG&E Investment Program by no later than mid-2025. In the meantime, Citizens has 12 already begun to engage in good faith with the affected communities, 13 stakeholders, elected officials, and PG&E, our utility partner. 14 15 My particular goal is to maximize the social justice impact of our 16 charitable spending. As Citizens' President, I am committed to seek out community projects that can leverage the funds they receive from Citizens to 17 18 obtain additional financing from other sources, such as state and federal funds and other philanthropic organizations. These types of projects take time to come 19 20 to fruition and, given that the proposed PG&E investment program has vet to be approved, it would be premature to attempt to identify any such opportunities at 21 22 this early stage. I hope that the Commission appreciates the potential for

- 1 Citizens' investment to catalyze other funding into the region, but obviously this
- 2 will take time to develop.

B. An Illustrative Showing of the Magnitude and Pace of Citizens' Charitable Giving Direct Bill-Paying Assistance, If The Proposed PG&E Investment Program Is Approved

Below is a chart depicting the <u>charitable givingdirect bill-paying</u>

<u>assistance</u> Citizens will undertake if the proposed PG&E Investment Program is approved by the Commission. It assumes, for illustrative purposes, that Citizens is afforded the opportunity to invest the full \$1 billion as proposed, in five equal tranches of \$200 million each over five years, commencing in <u>20252026</u>.



The chart illustrates three noteworthy aspects of the Citizens charitable giving under the proposed PG&E Investment Program.

First, the sheer scale of what Citizens will contribute to disadvantaged communities and low-income families address affordability for PG&E customers

in need – estimated to be over \$400450 million – is extraordinary. By leveraging

- 1 a known, proven business model, which the Commission has reviewed and 2approved on two prior occasions (Citizens-Sunrise Decision (D.11-05-048) and 3 Citizens- Sycamore Decision (D.19-03-024)), we will be scaling this model to provide charitable contributions dedicated to direct bill-paying assistance at a 4 5 level exceeding anything done heretofore substantially higher than the charitable 6 benefits we have been able to generate from our prior transmission investments 7 in the United States. California. 8 Second, the pace of Citizens' charitable giving to direct bill-paying 9 assistance for PG&E customers in need will ramp up quickly over timethe initial five years of the Investment Program. As explained in the Application, Citizens 10 11 has proposed to contribute 50% of its after-tax profits from the first \$200 12 invested, 60% from the next \$200 million, 70% from the third \$200 million, 80% 13 from the fourth \$200 million, and 90% from the fifth \$200 million. Our 14 contributions will increase from approximately \$2.1 million in Year Oneyear one 15 to a peak of over \$16.3 million per year for several years beginning in year five. 16 (As the chart shows, in the latter years of the 30--plus-year period, our level of
- (As the chart shows, in the latter years of the 30--plus-year period, our level of
  after-tax profits for charitable giving will begin to taper off -as Citizens
  completes its capital recovery.) Once they scale Citizens' giving scales up, the
  magnitude of these benefits this direct bill-paying assistance for disadvantaged
  communities and low-income families PG&E customers in PG&E's service
  territoryneed will be truly extraordinary. The scale of the assistance will make a

significant contribution to advance the statutory and policy goals of the

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- 1 Commission to help disadvantaged communities and marginalized populations.
- 2 <u>It also will be responsive, in a very meaningful way, to concerns from Governor</u>
- 3 Newsom and other state officials about customer affordability.
- 4 Third, the fixed and levelized nature of the transmission rate that
- 5 Citizens has proposed at FERC (which FERC previously approved for the
- 6 Citizens-Sunrise Project and Citizens-Sycamore Project investments) will allow
- 7 for stable and sustainable charitable contributions by Citizens in the source of
- 8 revenue for bill-paying assistance to PG&E service territory.customers in need.
- 9 Using a fixed and levelized rate structure provides more predictable after-tax
- 10 profits, which enables Citizens to make long term plans and commitments for .
- 11 This, in turn, will provide much-needed funding to help vulnerable PG&E
- 12 customers who are struggling to pay their utility bills.
- The importance of the fixed and levelized rate structure in helping
- 14 Citizens accomplish its charitable giving, in collaboration with our community
- 15 partners. The benefit of this approachmission is illustrated by Citizens'
- 16 involvement in the Sunrise project Project, which I described above. The
- 17 predictability that comes from the FERC-approved fixed and levelized rate for
- the Citizens-Sunrise investment Project enabled Citizens to make a long-term
- 19 commitment to purchasing a third of the output from the Citizens Imperial Solar
- 20 community solar project. Thanks to the levelized rate, we were able to come up
- 21 with an innovative rate structure, in collaboration with IID, the local utility,
- 22 that has delivered not only clean energy but also a \$350/year bill reduction for

1	each of IID's 12,000	low-income rate	payers for a total	l of $23$ years -	- extending for
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- 2 another 18 years from now. Thus, Citizens has been able to leverage its annual
- 3 charitable contribution of approximately \$1.4 million, from its after-tax profits,
- 4 into approximately \$4.2 million in direct bill savings to low-income ratepayers in
- 5 the Imperial Valley.
- 6 If the PG&E Investment Program is approved, Citizens will bring this
- 7 same innovative mindset to identify opportunities to leverage its charitable
- 8 distributions in PG&E's service territory in ways that will amplify the benefits
- 9 <u>stability of support, on an even larger scale, for low-incomebill-paying assistance</u>
- 10 <u>for PG&E ratepayers.customers in need.</u> The fixed <u>and</u> levelized cost recovery
- 11 model helps ensure that community the affordability benefits Citizens will bring
- 12 to PG&E's customers are sustainable over time; they do not peak in the early
- 13 years and then abruptly decline.

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14 C. Citizens Needs The Opportunity To Work
15 With Supporting Disadvantaged Communities and
16 Stakeholders

Investing in a community without consistent community engagement perpetuates power disparities, fails to maximize the potential for community enhancement and does not result in community benefit. For PG&E, Citizens or any community leader, advocate, or advocacy organization to attempt to dictate how an unprecedented amount of community benefits should be spent, years before the funds become available, and before engaging in a comprehensive stakeholder process, would undermine the fundamental promise of this project.

The ramping up of our charitable giving over time in this case, which I described above, is another reason why consistent community engagement is eritical and why limiting or designating benefits at this early stage would be counterproductive. The impact of a roughly \$2 million distribution of charitable benefits in 2026 across the PG&E service area pales in comparison to what can be achieved with over \$16 million per year a few years later. The opportunity to create a meaningful impact for disadvantaged communities is truly extraordinary, but we need the time and scope to plan for it accordingly, even though we have already begun. Citizens has already had conversations with local, state and federal officials and members of their staffs, non-profit leaders and foundations. We have explained the benefits of our model, our track record of success, and the impact we have created. We have sought guidance and advice, and have started to explore areas of potential collaboration. We will continue to do so while this ease is pending before the Commission. It is our hope that the Commission will move this case forward expeditiously, and render its final decision by mid-2025 at the latest, so that we can begin deploying the community benefit as quickly thereafter as possible. Some parties have suggested that the Commission should actively supervise how Citizens distributes its charitable assistance to disadvantaged communities and low-income families in PG&E's service territory. Respectfully,

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we do not believe that this is necessary or advisable, nor is it supported by any
 past case precedents.

First, the Commission did not impose any such requirement in connection with the prior Citizens investments in the Sunrise and Sycamore Projects, presumably because the Commission was aware of the accountability and public scrutiny to which Citizens is subject.

We agree that an annual reporting requirement by Citizens' partner utility, of the type imposed in the *Citizens-Sycamore* transaction (D.19 03 024), provides an appropriate model for Commission oversight and stakeholder information. These annual reports give the Commission and interested parties timely and complete information about Citizens' performance in carrying out its contractual obligation to fund charitable benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income families.

Second, Citizens' 45-year history of supporting charitable activities should allay any concerns that Citizens will not honor its commitment. Moreover, even in the unlikely event that Citizens were to fall short of its contractual obligations to fund charitable benefits to disadvantaged communities and low-income families—something which has never happened during our 45-year history, which is contrary to our core mission, and which would jeopardize our entire future—then PG&E, our Commission-regulated utility company partner, could seek appropriate legal relief.

1	Finally, while it would be misguided to dictate how a company should use
2	its after-tax profits, I do understand the concern about how such a substantial
3	sum of money may be deployed. It is yet another reason why communication
4	and engagement with local community stakeholders is critical. We do not expect
5	to be able to meet all the requests for funding, or to be able to satisfy every need
6	across PG&E's service territory, but we know that community members know
7	their communities best and can help us allocate funda appropriately if we follow
8	their lead. The Citizens team must demonstrate engagement, constant and clear
9	communication, responsiveness and respect. We are looking forward to the
10	opportunity over the weeks, months and years ahead to do just that.
11 12	D. Supporting Historically Marginalized Low-Income Families Populations Is Our Mission.
13	Citizens Energy was founded over 45 years ago to help low-income
14	families meet their basic needs. We are proud of our record of service to the
15	poor, whether they be in Africa, South America, or across the United States.
16	Over the years, Citizens has reinvested over \$600 million to assist low-income
17	families, and to this day we continue to supporthelp roughly 120 homeless
18	shelters and food pantries pay their heating bills every winter. Our Boston-
19	based staff engage in monthly service projects at churches, community centers,
20	food pantries, and other social service organizations across Massachusetts.
21	We look forward to exploring the best ways to support disadvantaged
22	communities and low-income families acrossimplement the large-scale bill-

1	paying assistance we have proposed here for PG&E service territory.customers
2	in need. Indeed, that charitable giving of this type is the reason why we are
3	participating in this project. That assistance could come in a variety of ways:
4	through direct support to low-income ratepayers, like we've done several times
5	in California, or through innovative methods to maximize the impact for the
6	poor, perhaps through collaborating with other foundations, state programs and
7	federal government initiatives proposed Investment Program.
8	The Commission can be confident that, if it approves the proposed PG&E
9	Investment Program, Citizens will provide substantial, ongoing benefits for
10	PG&E's low-income E customers in need of bill-paying assistance.
11	We respectfully urge the Commission to approve PG&E's application at
12	the earliest reasonable date.
13	* * * *
14	This concludes my supplementalamended testimony on behalf of Citizens
15	Energy.

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY CHAPTER 8

<u>CITIZENS ENERGY – CITIZENS' PUBLIC INTEREST ANALYSIS</u>

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

### CHAPTER 8

### <u>CITIZENS ENERGY – CITIZENS' PUBLIC INTEREST ANALYSIS</u>

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# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY CHAPTER 8 CITIZENS ENERGY – CITIZENS' PUBLIC INTEREST ANALYSIS

#### A. Purpose and Summary of Testimony

The purpose of my testimony is to evaluate the public interest and economic impacts of the proposal by Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E") in its Amended Application<sup>1</sup> to lease entitlements ("Entitlements Leases") to certain of its transmission assets to Citizens Energy Corporation ("Citizens").<sup>2</sup> I was engaged by Citizens to assess these impacts and provide my expert perspective.

Based on my expert analysis, I conclude that the proposed Investment Program will result in net positive public benefits and is consistent with the public interest.

My opinions are informed by insights I gained from my experience as a state utility regulator. From 1988 until 1991, I served as a Commissioner on the Massachusetts

Department of Public Utilities – this Commission's counterpart in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts – and participated actively in the National Association of Regulatory Utility

Commissioners ("NARUC"). In recognition of my work, I received NARUC'S Mary Kilmarx Award for Good Governance, Clean Energy and the Environment in 2014.

In addition to my service as a state utility commissioner, I have a long history of public service in other government agencies, both federal and state. For example, I served as the Assistant Secretary for Policy at the U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE"). For

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> PG&E filed its original Application for Approval Under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation ("Application") on March 12, 2024, amended on January 31, 2025 ("Amended Application"). The PG&E Amended Application addresses a proposed Investment Program between PG&E and Citizens, the terms of which are laid out in the Development, Coordination and Option Agreement ("DCOA" or "Agreement") between PG&E and Citizens, executed on February 20, 2024 and amended and restated on January 29, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Citizens has or will have subsidiary companies involved in this transaction. See Amended Testimony of Peter F. Smith (Amended Chapter 5) ("Smith Amended Testimony") (Section G).

decades, I have been an expert analyst of economic, technological, regulatory, public policy, environmental, and other trends affecting the electric industry. I have never previously worked for Citizens but have long been familiar with Citizens' non-profit/organizational model and the important philanthropic components of Citizens' mission and work. This awareness is informed by my many years of work in government agencies involved in energy, environmental, and utility activities in Massachusetts, where Citizens is headquartered. I was raised in Southern California, taught at the University of California at Irvine, and have a Ph.D. and a Master's degree in regional planning from Cornell University.

My testimony makes several key points and explains how the proposed Investment

Program offers affirmative benefits for PG&E's customers and the broader public.

First, over approximately 30 years, Citizens will provide substantial, sustained charitable funding (totaling more than an estimated \$450 million in contributions, assuming full implementation of the Investment Program) for direct bill-paying assistance programs that would not otherwise occur, directly benefitting PG&E's customers most in need of assistance in paying their bills. Second, the Investment Program supports the Commission's statutory and policy goals to remedy historical inequities affecting disadvantaged communities and low-income and marginalized populations, thereby helping to mitigate California's affordability challenge. Third, the Investment Program benefits customers by

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As I explain below, because of the substantial and positive public benefits Citizens will bring to disadvantaged communities and historically marginalized low-income populations, which would not occur in the absence of the proposed Investment Program, this proposal will help fulfill the Commission's obligations under several distinct but related statutory and policy goals, including: (1) the Legislature's statutory mandate under Senate Bill 350 ("SB 350") to ensure that disadvantaged communities obtain a fair share of the benefits of California's clean energy transition; (2) the Commission's statutory mandate under California Public Utility Code § 739 to observe "the principle that electricity and gas services are necessities, for which a low affordable rate is desirable;" (3) the Commission's focus on addressing the needs of underserved communities and historically marginalized populations under the Commission's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan ("ESJ Action Plan"); and (4) Governor Newsom's commitment to ameliorate the affordability challenge facing California ratepayers, as expressed in the Governor's October 2024 Executive Order N-5-24.

customers from fluctuations in PG&E's cost of equity over the 30-year life of each lease, serving as a hedge against future volatility, and offering long-term predictable rates on a portion of the costs for the applicable projects. Additionally, Citizens' financing approach aligns closely with PG&E's own debt-raising practices, meaning customers will not be disadvantaged by Citizens' debt costs. And fourth, customers served by the leased transmission assets will benefit from greater rate certainty, enhanced cost allocation, and improved intergenerational equity – aligning with established ratemaking principles.

These benefits are reinforced by critical customer protections embedded in the proposed Investment Program: (a) no double recovery of costs for the specific portion of the transmission assets covered by the leases under the proposed Investment Program; (b)

Citizens will not recover in rates the incremental costs it will incur to undertake the proposed Investment Program; (c) PG&E has not provided any guarantee to Citizens that it will actually recover its costs to participate in any leases undertaken under the proposed Investment Program; and (d) the leases will involve only transmission assets that are planned to go into service in the near-term and for which there will be no change in regulatory oversight or in the planning, development, siting, permitting, construction, operation, maintenance, physical control, or ownership.

I understand that under Section 851 of the California Public Utilities Code ("Section 851"), PG&E must show the proposed Investment Program is not adverse to the public interest. In my opinion, the proposed Investment Program will provide substantial benefits to customers and to the general public and therefore is not adverse to the public interest. In fact, with its higher level of public benefit and stronger ratepayer protections, the proposed Investment Program compares favorably to two other similar leasing transactions previously

# approved by the Commission.

I provide two attachments to this testimony: Attachment SFT-1 is a set of maps showing the geographic distribution of various populations, demographic characteristics and services in California. Attachment SFT-2 is my CV.

### B. Standard of Review

I understand that the Commission will seek to determine whether the proposed

Investment Program is not adverse to the public interest.<sup>4</sup> In my professional judgment, the

structure of the proposed Investment Program will readily allow the Commission to conclude

with full confidence that the proposal meets this standard and will provide affirmative

benefits to PG&E's customers.

I have reviewed prior Commission orders on similar transactions. The Commission's orders in D.11-05-048 (the Sunrise Decision)<sup>5</sup> and D.19-03-024 (the Sycamore Decision)<sup>6</sup> stated that, in reviewing applications under Section 851, the "Commission has a long-standing policy to apply the standard of 'not adverse to the public interest' ... [and to] 'foster and encourage transactions ... where the transaction is also 'in the public interest.'" These two orders involved Citizens' leasing of transmission entitlements from San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") under terms that are substantially similar to those proposed in the Amended Application of PG&E. In all of these transactions, Citizens has committed to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Lunderstand that The Utility Reform Network ("TURN") has indicated that the appropriate standard is "whether the transaction will serve the public interest." Protest of the Utility Reform Network, Docket A.24-03-009 at 2-3 (Cal. P.U.C. Apr. 15, 2024). In my opinion, even if this standard were applicable, the Investment Program would readily meet this standard.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> D.11-05-048 (Sunrise Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011). This decision relates to Citizens' lease agreement with respect to the Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project ("Sunrise Transmission Project").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> D.19-03-024 at 9 (Sycamore Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*13 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019), quoting D.09-07-035 at 13 (Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Lamar Central Outdoor), 2009 Cal. PUC LEXIS 360, at \*19 (Cal. P.U.C. 2009).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> D.19-03-024 at 9 (Sycamore Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*12 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

dedicate a major portion of its after-tax profits to provide substantial, ongoing charitable assistance, directly benefiting low-income customers, disadvantaged communities, and historically marginalized low-income populations.

The Commission's prior orders have informed my understanding of the

Commission's standard of review to be applied here and the types of considerations

relevant to these public interest tests. I address these considerations here.

# C. The Proposed Investment Program Will Provide Significant, Affirmative Public Benefits

1. Economic benefits to PG&E's customers most in need of bill-paying assistance through Citizens' provision of 30 years of substantial, incremental charitable funding

From a public-benefit perspective, one of the most innovative and beneficial features of the proposed Investment Program is Citizens' binding commitment to devote an increasing percentage of its after-tax profits from the Entitlements Leases with PG&E to fund direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. Citizens' charitable funding will increase from 50% of net after-tax profits for the first \$200-million tranche of investment, to 90% of net after-tax profits for the fifth \$200-million investment. This element of the proposed Investment Program (which Citizens' expert witness Mr. Ronald E. Kennedy estimates will amount to over \$450 million<sup>9</sup>) will directly help address energy affordability challenges faced by PG&E customers who have difficulty paying their bills.

Affordability is a key concern of the Commission, Governor Gavin Newsom, 10 other

The Agreement provides that the percentage of Citizens' after-tax profits that will be used for expenditures on low-income households and/or disadvantaged communities are: (1) 50% of the net after-tax profits from the first \$200 million invested; (2) 60% of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested; (3) 70% of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested; (4) 80% of the net after-tax profits from the next \$200 million invested; and (5) 90% of the net after-tax profits from the final \$200 million invested. See Amended Application, Section II.B.9 Key Features of the Investment Program.

Mr. R. Kennedy's estimate assumes that PG&E and Citizens enter into all five leases. Further information about his assumptions are in his testimony. See Amended Testimony of Ronald Kennedy (Amended Chapter 6) ("R. Kennedy Amended Testimony") (Section F).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Governor Gavin Newsom, Executive Order N-5-24 (Oct. 30, 2024), https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/energy-EO-10-30-24.pdf.

public officials, consumer advocates, and low-income families in California. California will miss out on Citizens' charitable contributions aimed at addressing affordability challenges if the proposed Investment Program is not approved. If approved, the Investment Program will provide concrete, quantifiable, and incremental benefits for PG&E customers.

The Commission's prior decisions approving the Citizens-Sunrise and Citizens-Sycamore transactions provide a benchmark to assess the public interest benefits of this transaction. Citizens' charitable giving in the Citizens-Sunrise and Citizens-Sycamore transactions has yielded approximately \$30 million in public benefits from the Sunrise transaction<sup>11</sup> and approximately \$12 million in public benefits from the Sycamore transaction, based on Citizens' pledge of providing 50% of after-tax profits in each of those transactions. Those amounts are far more modest than the public benefits Citizens will contribute if PG&E's proposed Investment Program is approved.

The percentage of after-tax profits that Citizens has promised to distribute to PG&E customers in need of assistance is far more substantial here (i.e., 50% for the first \$200 million invested, increasing by 10 percentage points with each subsequent \$200 million investment up to 90% for the fifth \$200 million invested – producing over an estimated \$450 million in benefits over a 35-year period). Further, in contrast to the Sunrise and Sycamore transactions, both of which the Commission and FERC approved to allow Citizens' request to recoup its relatively modest incremental costs in rates, here Citizens has agreed to recover its incremental costs from project profits and to forego any recovery of these costs from customers. In these important respects, the proposed Investment Program compares

<sup>11</sup> Citizens dedicated 50% of its after-tax profits from the lease to programs serving low-income families in Imperial County, estimated \$1 million per year for 30 years. This does not include indirect benefits such as increased employment opportunities, tax base contributions, and support for renewable energy development. See D.11-05-048 at 12 (Sunrise Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*18 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>12</sup> Citizens dedicated 50% of its after-tax profits from the lease to support transportation electrification for low-income ratepayers and disadvantaged communities in San Diego County, estimated for a total of \$12 million over the 30-year lease team. See D.19-03-024 at 7 (Sycamore Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*9 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

<u>very well from a public-interest perspective to the Citizens-Sunrise and Citizens-Sycamore</u>
<u>transactions the Commission previously approved.</u>

Moreover, Citizens' annual charitable contributions will be material when examined in the context of other California programs that provide bill-paying assistance to utility customers. For example, the value of Citizens' after-tax charitable contributions is estimated to be \$2.2 million in the first year, rising year-by-year so that by 2030 the contribution would be approximately \$16.3 million per year. Over the 30-year lives of the five leases, these investments are estimated to add up to over \$450 million in total.

By way of comparison, in 2024, PG&E reported that some of its customers in need "received more than \$50 million in total financial assistance" from the Relief for Energy

Assistance through Community Help ("REACH") program. 14 The REACH program has been in place for several decades and uses charitable contributions from a variety of sources to fund assistance to help "low-income families keep their utility services turned on in times of hardship." 15 Prior years' funding for the REACH program was much lower than in 2024, ranging between around \$0.9 million to \$2 million a year in 2019-2023. 16

PG&E customers in need that Citizens' charitable contributions are estimated to provide (if approved and implemented) compared to annual funding levels in the REACH program

<sup>13</sup> This assumes that PG&E and Citizens enter into leases for all five tranches, with one \$200 million tranche per year after Commission approval. See the testimony of Citizens' witness Mr. Joseph P. Kennedy III, showing an illustrative estimate of over \$450 million in after-tax charitable contributions by Citizens and the basis for an estimated \$16.3 million in charitable contributions in 2030. See Amended Testimony of Joseph P. Kennedy III (Amended Chapter 7, Section IV).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> PG&E, "PG&E Provides Over \$50 Million in Bill Support to Customers Through REACH Program in 2024, Additional CARE & FERA Discounts Available to Qualifying Customers," *PR Newswire* (Nov. 25, 2024) (hereafter "PG&E November 25, 2024 Newswire"), https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/pge-provides-over-50-million-in-bill-support-to-customers-through-reach-program-in-2024-additional-care-fera-discounts-available-to-qualifying-customers-302315703.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> PG&E, "Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH)," https://www.pge.com/en/account/billing-and-assistance/financial-assistance/relief-for-energy-assistance-through-community-help.html (accessed Jan. 24, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Actual REACH funding amounts were: \$0.92 million in 2019; \$0.95 million in 2020; \$2.07 million in 2021; \$1.73 million in 2022; \$1.61 million in 2023; \$57.29 million in 2024. These data were provided by PG&E at my request.

from 2019 through 2024. Figure 2 shows the estimated number of households that could be supported with Citizens' contributions – i.e., more than 54,000 households as of 2030 – compared to the estimated number of recipients in those recent years of REACH program funding, based on a consistent assumed funding level of \$300 per household. These figures illustrate that Citizens' contribution is significantly larger than the amounts that have been available in the REACH program in most recent years and can provide meaningful incremental assistance to PG&E customers in need; the figures are not intended to predict future REACH funding levels or to suggest that Citizens' funding would supplant or replace other sources of assistance.

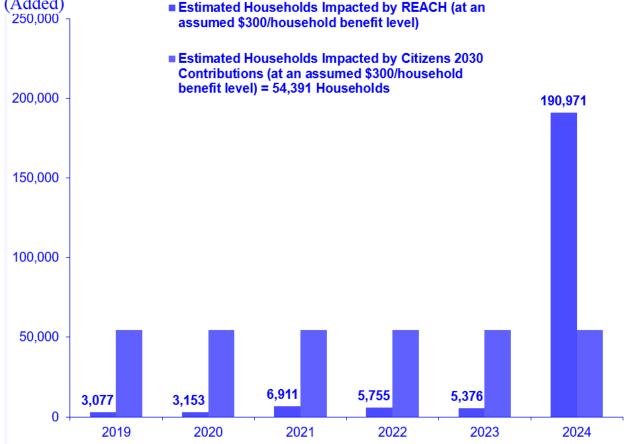
Figure 1: Citizens' Estimated Charitable Contribution (Million \$) Compared to Actual Past REACH Program Funding Levels (2019-2024) (Added) ■ REACH Actual Annual Funding Amounts ■ Citizens 2030 Charitable Contribution Amount (Estimated at \$16.3 Million) 60 \$57.3 50 40 30 20 10 \$2.1 \$1.7 \$1.6 \$0.9 \$0.9 0 2019 2024 2020 2021 2022 2023 Ι Source: REACH program funding by year (2019-2024) was provided by PG&E at my request.

Figure 2: Estimated Number of Households That Could Be Funded by Citizens' Charitable

Contribution Compared to Actual Past Funding Levels

(Added)

Estimated Households Impacted by REACH (at an assumed \$300/household benefit level)



Source: REACH program funding by year (2019-2024) was provided by PG&E at my request.

As seen in these two figures, the estimated average \$16 million per year in bill-paying assistance that Citizens has committed to provide (assuming a \$1 billion investment) is clearly material from a customer perspective, considering the REACH program's historical funding levels. Notably, the REACH program temporarily ran out of funds as of September 2024 and assistance to customers had to be suspended for the remainder of 2024. PG&E informed customers that it expected "to re-open the REACH program" in January 2025 "at the standard benefit level of up to \$300 per household a year." That the REACH assistance program had to be suspended for the last quarter of 2024 shows that the need for customer assistance is greater than what the existing REACH program can serve.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> PG&E November 25, 2024 Newswire.

In 2030, at the assumed benefit level of \$300 per household per year, Citizens' charitable contributions would provide more than 54,000 additional households with bill-paying assistance.

Citizens CEO Peter Smith mentions in his testimony that Citizens intends to work within REACH and/or other existing bill-paying assistance programs (e.g., the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LIHEAP") to distribute Citizens' charitable dollars towards bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need. I describe the REACH program here only to illustrate that the bill-paying assistance Citizens will provide will be material in scope and will help a substantial number of PG&E customers over a sustained period of time. I am not proposing that Citizens use the REACH program (as distinct from other programs Mr. Smith discusses) for the purpose of distributing its charitable dollars to PG&E customers in need of bill-paying assistance or that Citizens' charitable dollars would replace any other funding the REACH program receives.

Another way to assess the benefit of Citizens' charitable contributions is to consider its size relative to the value of the support provided to PG&E's low-income customers through the California Alternate Rates for Energy ("CARE") program. CARE provides a discount of 30-35% to qualified households on their monthly PG&E electricity bills. 19 During

<sup>18</sup> Smith Amended Testimony (Section G). The LIHEAP program is federally funded, administered by state agencies (i.e., in California by the Department of Community Services and Development), and provides assistance to low-income and other eligible populations for paying energy bills and installing energy efficiency measures and other weatherization actions in their homes. See CPUC, "Paying My Energy Bills," https://www.csd.ca.gov/Pages/Assistance-PayingMyEnergyBills.aspx (accessed Jan. 24, 2025); PG&E, "Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)," https://www.pge.com/en/account/billing-and-assistance/financial-assistance/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program.html (accessed Jan. 24, 2025). The AMP program is a debt-forgiveness program for eligible low-income customers behind in paying their energy bills and is funded by other PG&E customers as part of PG&E's cost of providing service. See PG&E, "Arrearage Management Plan (AMP)," https://www.pge.com/en/account/billing-and-assistance/financial-assistance/arrearage-management-plan-amp.html (accessed Jan. 24, 2025).

<sup>19</sup> CPUC, "CARE/FERA Program," https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/electrical-energy/electric-costs/care-fera-program (accessed Jan. 16, 2025). PG&E's electric rates show CARE customers received a 34.985% discount off of their total bundled charges in 2024. See PG&E, "Residential Incl TOU (OCT 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024) Electric Rates," https://www.pge.com/tariffs/en/rate-information/electric-rates.html#accordion-a84c67dc1e-item-e10eec0cc5 (accessed Jan. 15, 2025).

2023, a PG&E residential electricity customer supported by CARE received an average monthly benefit of \$52.78 (or about \$633 over the full year).<sup>20</sup> Using these assumptions, if the proposed Investment Program were approved and PG&E and Citizens entered into all five leases by 2030, Citizens' average charitable contribution (at an estimated \$16.3 million a year) would be equivalent to providing full CARE-level assistance for over 25,500 PG&E customers annually as of 2030.<sup>21</sup>

Citizens' charitable contributions from the leases would provide incremental and meaningful assistance to PG&E's customers most in need of bill-payment aid. The PG&E transmission projects eligible to be included in the proposed Investment Program will be built, go into service, and have costs recovered from customers, with or without Citizens' involvement. Thus, the only real decision for the Commission to consider is whether these costs will be recovered through PG&E's rates or through Citizens' rates. However, the more than \$450 million in direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers will be unlocked only if the Commission approves the proposed Investment Program. When this public benefit is coupled with the rate stability that will be provided for customers (discussed below), the proposed Investment Program will affirmatively advance the public interest in the critically important area of affordability for PG&E's residential electricity customers most in need.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> PG&E, "Energy Savings Assistance (ESA), California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE), and Family Electric Rate Assistance ("FERA") Programs 2023 Annual Report," at 75 (Cal. P.U.C. May 1, 2024) <a href="https://liob.cpuc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2024/06/A.19-11-003">https://liob.cpuc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2024/06/A.19-11-003</a> PGE-ESA-CARE-2023-Annual-Report 5-1-2024.pdf (hereinafter "PG&E, 2023 Annual Report").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> This illustrative calculation is based on the following assumptions: Citizens' 2030 charitable contribution of \$16.3 million divided by residential customer's annual CARE benefit of \$633.36. This comparison is not meant to suggest that a charitable contribution from Citizens (and associated with the proposed Investment Program) would literally fund CARE discounts for PG&E customers because such discounts are funded by other customers through a surcharge on electricity customers' bills; rather, it is intended to provide a reference point for the sizeable and positive contribution that Citizens would be providing to support energy affordability and low-income customers' ability to pay their electricity bills.

2. Citizens' commitment to use its after-tax profits to fund bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers over the full 30-year terms of the proposed transmission leases in the context of the Commission's statutory and policy obligations to disadvantaged communities and historically marginalized and low-income populations

This Commission is unquestionably a leader among state public utility commissions in the United States in focusing attention on the needs of disadvantaged communities and historically marginalized and low-income populations. This Commission also has increasingly emphasized the critical importance of customer affordability, even as the Commission has led the nation in promoting the transition to a clean and sustainable energy system. Likewise, California Governor Gavin Newsom has made customer affordability a centerpiece of his energy policy, as evidenced by his October 2024 Executive Order N-5-24. The proposed Investment Program advances these policy goals.

Citizens' commitment to charitable giving, using the after-tax profits from its proposed investment, will help accomplish the Commission's statutory mandate under SB 350 to bring the benefits of California's clean energy transition to disadvantaged communities.

In its Sycamore Decision, which approved Citizens' investment in SDG&E's

Sycamore Transmission Project and which included a commitment by Citizens to contribute

50% of its after-tax profits to charitable giving programs in San Diego County, the

Commission found that the proposal "will benefit disadvantaged communities and low-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> For example, the Commission has continuously demonstrated that its "mission is to ensure that California investor-owned utility (IOU) customers receive safe, reliable, affordable and clean utility service at just and reasonable rates." See CPUC, 2021/2022 Annual Affordability Report, at 3 (Oct. 2023), <a href="https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M521/K479/521479752.PDF">https://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M521/K479/521479752.PDF</a>. In addition, the CPUC's strategic directives include "empower[ing] California through access to safe, clean, and affordable utility services and infrastructure" and "promot[ing] policies and rules that provide customers access to and affordable essential services for energy, communications, water and transportation." CPUC, "Strategic Directives, Governance Process Policies, and Commission-Staff Linkage Policies," at 4, 7 (updated Feb. 27, 2020), <a href="https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/files/uploadedfiles/cpuc-public\_website/">https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/files/uploadedfiles/cpuc-public\_website/</a> content/about us/mission and values/strategic-directives-and-governance-policies.

income families in San Diego County and advance Senate Bill 350's goal of increasing access of clean energy programs for disadvantaged and low-income communities."<sup>23</sup>

The same will be true if the Commission approves the proposed Investment

Program, with its extraordinary level of customer benefits (estimated to amount to over \$450 million). This is an order-of-magnitude greater than the public benefits produced by the earlier Citizens-Sycamore investment, and it will be devoted entirely to providing bill-paying assistance to PG&E customers most in need.

Use of Citizens' charitable contributions to assist PG&E's electricity customers in need will help address energy affordability issues in disadvantaged communities and historically marginalized and low-income populations in California. There is significant overlap in the location of (a) PG&E's low-income customers, (b) low-income communities in PG&E's service territory, and (c) disadvantaged communities in PG&E's service territory. Attachment SFT-1 shows several maps that indicate the geographic areas of California with Disadvantaged Communities (Figure 1-A), Low-Income Communities (Figure 1-B), Electric Areas of Affordability Concern (Figure 1-C), PG&E's Electricity Service Area (Figure 1-D), California Electricity Climate Zones (Figure 1-E), and California Counties with a majority of residents that are Hispanic (Figure 1-F).

Attachment SFT-1 Figure 1-G shows a map of California that overlays geographic information on Disadvantaged Communities, Low-Income Communities, and counties with high numbers of residential customers eligible for PG&E's CARE program (based on those customers' low household income). Figure 1-G is reproduced below as Figure 3. Over half of PG&E's low-income residential customers that are eligible for the CARE program

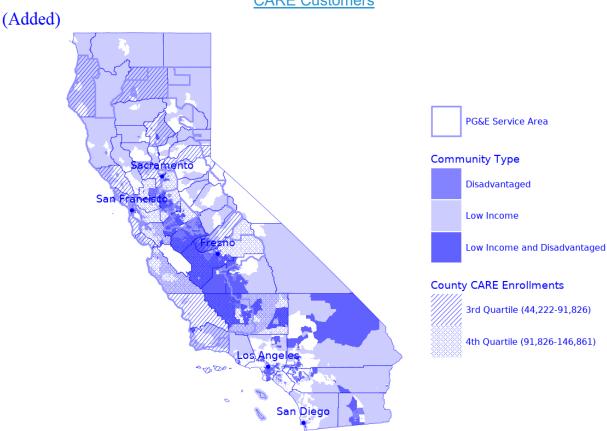
8-13

 $<sup>^{23}</sup>$  D.19-03-024 at 24, Finding of Facts 10 (Sycamore Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*34 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

reside in the electricity climate zones in California's Central Valley (Attachment SFT-1 Figure 1-E). This area overlaps with portions of PG&E's service territory where there are Electricity Areas of Affordability Concern, Disadvantaged Communities and Low-Income Communities, and counties with Hispanics (Latinos) as the majority population group. As shown in Figure 3, 24 of the 52 counties in PG&E's service territory have more than the median number of low-income households participating in the CARE program (44,000+) with many of these counties located in the Central Valley.

Figure 3: California Composite Map of Disadvantaged Communities, Low-Income Communities, and PG&E Service Area with Counties Having High Numbers of Electricity

CARE Customers

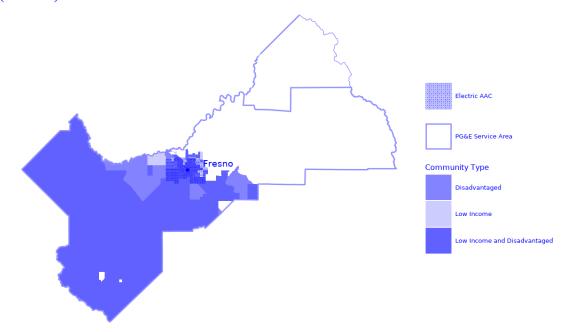


Sources: See Attachment SFT-1.

Fresno County offers a good example of such demographic characteristics. There are nearly 147,000 PG&E customers in Fresno County who participated in the CARE

program in 2023.<sup>24</sup> Fresno County also has Low-Income Communities, Disadvantaged Communities, and Electric Areas of Affordability Concerns ("AAC"), as shown in Figure 4 below, as well as a majority Hispanic (Latino) population.

<u>Figure 4: Fresno County – Map of Disadvantaged Communities, Low-Income Communities, and PG&E Service Area with Electric Areas of Affordability Concerns</u>
(Added)



Note that Hispanics (Latinos) make up approximately 55% of Fresno County's population according to US Census data, but this fact is not highlighted in the Figure itself because this characteristic affects the entire county. Sources: See Attachment SFT-1.

Because of the high degree of overlap between PG&E customers in need of assistance – the customers that Citizens has pledged to assist through its charitable contributions from the proposed Investment Program – and the communities in PG&E's service area that are disadvantaged, low-income, struggling with affordability challenges, and consisting of historically marginalized minority (in particular, Latino people, in the case

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Another roughly 18,000 households in Fresno County are estimated eligible for the FERA program (which has household income eligibility requirements just slightly higher than the CARE program). See PG&E, 2023 Annual Report, at 152, 168.

of Fresno County), I am confident that the monetary benefits from Citizens' commitments
will flow predominantly to these deserving communities. This will further advance this
Commission's goal of redressing historical injustices in these communities.

The public benefits that will result from the proposed Investment Program will help fulfill the Commission's obligation under SB 350 to bring to low-income customers and disadvantaged communities in PG&E's service territory a fair share of the benefits of California's transition to a clean-energy economy. The proposal is explicitly aligned with California's goals for an equitable and affordable clean energy economy.

The proposed Investment Program also will advance in a meaningful way the policy goals of the Commission's Environmental and Social Justice ("ESJ") Action Plan. As the Commission emphasized when it adopted and later updated the ESJ Action Plan:

The CPUC is tasked with serving all Californians, and to do so equitably while reaching the state's climate goals, it must acknowledge that some populations in California face higher barriers to access to clean, safe, and affordable utility services. To fulfill its mission, the CPUC acknowledges it must focus resources on communities that have been underserved, as this plan outlines. Additionally, the CPUC acknowledges that its decisions have the potential to perpetuate and exacerbate existing disparities in ESJ communities. As such, the ESJ Plan serves as an ongoing commitment to mitigate and eliminate harms to these communities. As the CPUC fulfills the goals and objectives listed in this ESJ Action Plan and improves its ability to serve ESJ communities, it will become even more transparent, accessible, and effective for all the communities it serves.<sup>25</sup>

Continuing to assess the cumulative impact of rates on households and working to mitigate these impacts on the most burdened households will remain a priority in all actions the CPUC takes.<sup>26</sup>

Here, the substantial charitable funding that Citizens will provide to support bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need (estimated to total over \$450 million) is a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> CPUC, ESJ Action Plan, version 2.0 at 9 (Apr. 7, 2022), https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/news-and-outreach/documents/news-office/key-issues/esj/esj-action-plan-v2jw.pdf.

<sup>26</sup> Id. at 22 (emphasis added).

significant step towards meeting the goals of the Commission's ESJ Policy. This assistance will help many at-risk customers avoid having their PG&E service terminated for non-payment. The ESJ Policy is designed to protect these customers.

A third important policy goal the proposed Investment Program will help to achieve is affordability for California electricity consumers, which has become particularly pronounced over the last few years as rate increases have begun to outpace inflation.<sup>27</sup> The large amount of bill-paying assistance Citizens will provide to PG&E customers in need (estimated to be over \$450 million, assuming a total investment of \$1 billion) is a material amount that will make a real difference from the perspective of customer affordability.

In my view, the Commission should approve the proposed Investment Program given that it will generate an estimated \$450 million in direct bill-paying assistance for PG&E customers in need, advance the goals of SB 350 and the Commission's ESJ Policy by bringing a greater share of the benefits of California's clean energy economy to disadvantaged communities and historically marginalized and low-income populations, and will help ameliorate the affordability challenge facing California ratepayers.

3. Benefits to PG&E customers from long-term rate stability and a hedge (or insurance policy) against changes in the cost of PG&E's equity over the 30-year life of each Lease

The Entitlements Leases under the proposed Investment Program also will benefit customers by creating greater certainty and stability in the cost of capital for the applicable PG&E transmission projects. By using a fixed and levelized rate structure, Citizens' \$1 billion total potential investment in these projects offers long-term rate stability and a critical hedge against market fluctuations, ensuring predictable costs for customers.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> The 2024 SB 695 report noted "rate increases for all of the three major electric IOUs… began to outpace inflation for the first time [in 2021]." See CPUC, "2024 Senate Bill 695 Report," at 11 (July 2024), https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/office-of-governmental-affairs-division/reports/2024/2024-sb-695-report.pdf.

This Commission and FERC have previously recognized that Citizens' fixed and levelized rate structure is beneficial for customers as it serves as an effective hedge against increases in the cost of capital over time. In its Sycamore Decision, the Commission found that "Citizens' fixed capital costs provide rate stability to ratepayers," that it "protect[s] ratepayers from changes in money costs caused by fluctuations in the market," and that "the rate stability and protection from market fluctuations provide tangible benefits to ratepayers." The Commission made a similar finding in its Sunrise Decision. PERC likewise determined that Citizens' fixed and levelized recovery of its capital costs "is expected to benefit consumers by providing rate stability and protection against potential capital cost increases over time." Citizens' fixed and levelized cost recovery in the proposed PG&E Investment Program, which is consistent with the method used in the precedent leasing transactions, warrants a similar conclusion that it serves customers' interests from a public interest perspective.

First, there will be no discernible impact on customers related to the cost of debt

(i.e., interest rates for borrowed money) for customers under the proposed Investment

Program. The actual cost of debt for Citizens and the cost of debt for PG&E will be closely

matched for the projects included in the Entitlements Leases. PG&E witnesses Ms. Jennifer

Nelson (Chapter 9) and Ms. Divya Raman (Chapter 3) explain why.

Also, as Ms. Nelson explains, utility companies operate pursuant to public service obligations which require them to undertake capital investments with regulatory approval to satisfy demand and other electric-system requirements, regardless of market conditions, including the interest-rate environment. Given expectations about the central roles of the electric system and grid modernization in the transition to a decarbonized energy system in California, as well as expected load growth, PG&E will need to take on significant new

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> D.19-03-024 at 16 (Sycamore Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*22 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> D.11-05-048 at 18-19 (Sunrise Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*26-28 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Citizens S-Line Transmission LLC, 175 FERC ¶ 61,046 at P 25 (2021).

capital commitments on a timely basis — even when capital costs may be relatively elevated. This means that PG&E cannot time its investments to capital market conditions and wait for some ideal interest rate (which may never come) to issue new debt or to undertake transactions. As Ms. Raman explains, absent Citizens' involvement, PG&E would finance the long-life transmission projects, like those included in the Investment Program, by issuing long-term, fixed-rate debt at prevailing market rates — which mirrors how Citizens will finance its investment in the projects. Consequently, customer rates will reflect the then-current interest-rate environment, with or without Citizens' involvement. Concerns that the proposed Investment Program might allow Citizens to set rates at a time of relatively elevated debt costs overlook the reality that PG&E would also issue fixed-rate debt at prevailing rates to finance these projects even if Citizens were not involved.

Notwithstanding the fact that customers will not be disadvantaged by Citizens' cost of debt relative to PG&E's, it is important to remember that interest rates have historically gone up and down over time, underscoring the importance of maintaining a long-term perspective when evaluating debt costs. Figure 5 provides an overview of the 30+ year trend in corporate bond rates. Notably, during the past 15 years, interest rates have been "exceptionally low", 22 especially during the Great Recession (2007-2009), the subsequent slow economic recovery period (through 2015), and the pandemic (2020-2021). Even in current market conditions, interest rates remain well below the highest rates seen in the past 30 years.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Corporate bonds are issued by firms as a means to borrow money at a particular interest rate over a specific period of time, and typically have higher default risk relative to treasury bonds and thus have higher interest rates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> John Weinberg, "The Great Recession and Its Aftermath," Federal Reserve History (Nov. 22, 2013), https://www.federalreservehistory.org/essays/great-recession-and-its-aftermath.

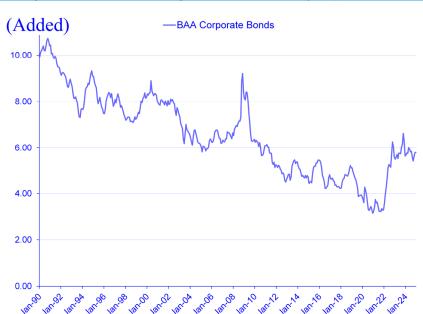


Figure 5: Monthly Interest Rate for Key Debt Instrument (Corporate Bonds), 1990-2024

Source: Moody's, Moody's Seasoned Baa Corporate Bond Yield [BAA], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/BAA, accessed January 11, 2025.

While historical patterns provide important context, it is not possible to know what interest rates will look like in the future. Although various financial observers and analysts have opined about potential changes in interest rates in the next few years.<sup>33</sup> economic and political developments will continue to drive fluctuations, making meaningful predictions unreliable – including any prediction that current interest rates will decline any time soon.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Federal Open Market Committee, "FOMC Projections Materials," Accessible Version (Sept. 18, 2024), https://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/fomcprojtabl20240918.htm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Recent media reports have described this state of uncertainty about future economic outlooks for the next few years (in which not just inflation rates but also other factors - like monetary policy, consumer spending, trade dynamics, global economic conditions - can affect interest rates). See Colby Smith, "The Fed is About to Hit Pause on Rate Cuts," New York Times (Jan. 28, 2025), 2025/01/28/business/fed-ratecute-pause-why.html; Colby Smith, "What to Watch at the Federal Reserve's First Meeting of 2025," New York Times (Jan. 29, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/29/business/economy/federal-reservewhat-to-watch.html; Rebecca Patterson, "Trump's Plans Are Making Your Life More Expensive," New York Times (Jan. 29, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/29/opinion/trump-inflation-bonds-debtyield.html. See also: Ben Casselman, "Inflation Sped Up in December, a Fresh Challenge for the Fed." New York Times (Jan. 15, 2025), https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/15/business/inflation-decembereconomy.html; Paul Kiernan, "Jobs Growth Tops Expectations: Report Put Further Fed Rate Cut in Doubt," Wall Street Journal (Jan. 11, 2025), https://www.wsj.

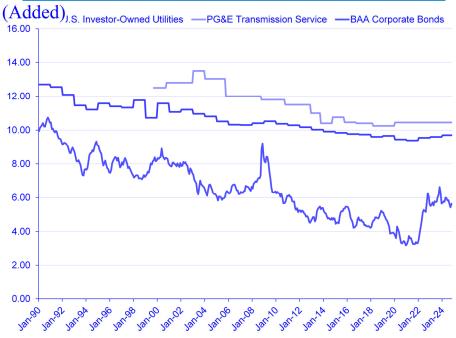
Second, Citizens' fixed return on equity (i.e., its FERC-authorized ROE) provides valuable long-term rate stability to customers. While Citizens' ROE for each Lease will be fixed for the full 30-year term of the applicable Lease, PG&E's ROE (and that of other investor-owned utilities) will float with market and regulatory conditions over this period. As Figure 6 illustrates, historical trends show that authorized ROEs for investor-owned utilities, including PG&E, have stayed within a relatively narrow range, and PG&E's current authorized ROE is among the lowest it has been since 1990.<sup>35</sup> I expect this stability to continue going forward and, taking a long-view, do not think it is likely that PG&E's ROE will materially decline.<sup>36</sup> Accordingly, Citizens' fixed and locked-in ROE is not likely to expose customers to adverse rate impacts. However, customers (and the Commission) can be certain that they are getting the benefit of a hedge against fluctuations in PG&E's ROE over the lease terms, which provides meaningful long-term rate stability.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Moreover, allowed ROEs have varied significantly less over time than interest rates for corporate bonds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> While ROEs are significantly less volatile than interest rates, and PG&E's current ROE is near a historical low, attempting to predict with any degree of certainty what a utility's ROE will be ten, twenty or thirty years down the road is not realistic or reliable. Accordingly, a hedge is a valuable instrument here.

Figure 6: Historical Trends in Long-Term Debt Compared to Allowed Returns on Equity for U.S. Investor-Owned Utilities and PG&E Transmission Service



#### Sources:

[1] U.S. Investor-Owned Utility Average ROE: Data from S&P Global Intelligence, Regulatory Research Associates, Major Energy Rate Case Decisions in US, through October 31, 2024.

[2] PG&E Transmission Service ROE: Data from PG&E Transmission Owner Rate Cases at FERC.

[3] BAA Corporate Bonds: Data from Moody's, Moody's Seasoned Baa Corporate Bond Yield [BAA], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/BAA, accessed January 11, 2025.

Third, by fixing the ROE over the 30-year period of each Lease, the proposed Investment Program protects customers from the impact of future volatility in the allowed return on the capital needed to finance new transmission investment. Because the structure of the transaction involves spreading a total \$1 billion investment across up to five tranches, each investment tranche will have its own fixed, levelized rate reflecting market conditions when that lease is executed. This ensures that any future shifts in capital costs are captured in the rates for subsequent leases. Essentially, this structure provides customers with the benefit of diversification and avoids the risks of "putting all eggs in one basket."

Buying a hedge now has inherent value, even if future outcomes might seem more or less favorable in hindsight. The benefit lies in mitigating uncertainty, not merely in outperforming alternative scenarios.

Even if future conditions end up making the hedge less advantageous than

expected, its limited application to a small fraction of the CAISO transmission system ensures that any potential downside for ratepayers remains minimal. CAISO's total high-voltage transmission annual revenue requirement is \$2.804 billion as of January 1, 2025. 37

The annual revenue requirement for all five Citizens-PG&E leases is estimated to peak at approximately \$100 million in 2030 with a gradual reduction thereafter over the 30-year lives of the five leases. 38 Even assuming (unrealistically) that CAISO's revenue requirement remains static, Citizens' maximum revenue requirement would account for less than 3.5% of the total. In fact, the CAISO transmission asset base grew by over \$522 million over the past five years, 39 and is likely to continue increasing over the time of the proposed Investment Program. Importantly, regardless of Citizens' participation, PG&E would still develop these assets to meet system needs, and the associated costs would be recovered through the CAISO revenue requirement. The Investment Program simply provides a more predictable and stable cost structure for a small portion of these necessary projects, providing customers with the benefits and protections of diversification.

The locked-in portion of the revenue requirement is analogous to a small annuity within a diverse investment portfolio. While the ROE for the majority of CAISO transmission assets will fluctuate with the market, the fixed-rate structure of the leases provides stability and predictability for a small subset. With Citizens' involvement, a small portion of those assets will have a fixed cost of equity, insulated from market fluctuations. This approach reflects a common and prudent risk-mitigation strategy.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> California ISO, "High Voltage Access Charge Rates Effective Jan 01, 2025" (Jan. 13, 2025), https://www.caiso.com/documents/high-voltage-access-charge-rates-effective-jan-01-2025.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> The estimated \$100 million annual revenue requirement in 2030 is based on the unadjusted, fixed, levelized Citizens' capital TRR of \$22,027,018 for the first lease. See R. Kennedy Amended Testimony (Section B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> CAISO's total high-voltage transmission annual revenue requirement as of January 1, 2019, was \$2.283 billion. See California ISO, "High Voltage Access Charge Rates Effective Jan 01, 2019" (Mar. 21, 2019), https://www.caiso.com/library/high-voltage-access-charge-rates-effective-2019.

4. Economic benefits to customers associated with greater rate certainty and improved cost incurrence and intergenerational equity, consistent with long-standing ratemaking principles

The proposed Investment Program will provide greater rate certainty and improved cost allocation and intergenerational equity for customers served by the affected transmission assets over the multi-decadal lives of the leases, which is consistent with long-standing utility ratemaking principles of rate stability and predictability.<sup>40</sup>

The five Entitlements Leases support these rate-stability and predictability outcomes in two ways: first, by locking-in the return on equity (as described above); and second, by levelizing the payments that recover the costs of these assets over 30 years.

Under normal ratemaking, the revenue requirements for the return on investment are calculated based on the undepreciated amount of investment in rate base times the allowed return in any year. This front-end loads the dollar levels of return on investment because most of the investment has not yet been depreciated at the beginning of the investment-recovery period. Levelization of the cost recovery for an investment flattens and smooths the timing of recovery so that customers that use the asset in different years pay a consistent amount for both return of (i.e., depreciation) and on (i.e., allowed return) investment.

Thus, the proposed Investment Program's approach is consistent with the principles of rate stability and predictability, along with intergenerational equity and fairness. This was the conclusion of the Commission when it determined that a similar cost-recovery methodology for Citizens' investment in the Sunrise Transmission Project was net beneficial

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> James Bonbright, *Principles of Public Utility Rates*, Powell Goldstein LLP, *first published by* Columbia University Press in 1961, https://www.raponline.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/powellgoldstein-bon bright-principlesofpublicutilityrates-1960-10-10.pdf.

# to customers.<sup>41</sup>

# D. Summary and Conclusion: In My Opinion, the Proposed Investment Program is Not Adverse to the Public Interest

The Investment Program benefits I described above accompany explicit elements of the proposed design that provide robust protections for the retail electricity customers of PG&E and the transmission customers of the CAISO, ensuring that ratepayers are not disadvantaged as a result of the Entitlements Leases. The DCOA has multiple provisions that specifically provide such customer protections:

- a. The cost of capital for Citizens' financing of leases associated with the proposed
   Investment Program is capped at PG&E's own cost of capital.<sup>42</sup>
- b. PG&E has not provided any guarantee to Citizens with respect to Citizens' actual
   recovery of its costs.<sup>43</sup>
- c. Citizens will recover its upfront and ongoing incremental costs associated with the proposed Investment Program from project profits and not through rates charged to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> The Commission stated in the Sunrise Decision (D.11-05-048 at 18-19 (Sunrise Decision), 2011 Cal. PUC Lexis 302, at \*26-28 (Cal. P.U.C. 2011)) that: "SDG&E touts the levelized cost recovery component of the DCA as another benefit of the Citizens project. In contrast to conventional utility ratemaking, where capital investment cost recovery is 'front end loaded' because revenue requirements decline as rate base depreciates, the DCA provides for levelized revenue requirements over the 30-year lease period. Citizens contends this is a significant consumer advantage because, according to its witness Dr. Wilson, in any long term projection the early years are important and 'distant forecasts (30, 40, 50 years into the future) are scarcely worth the air they ride on.' [footnote 19 in the original] DCA's provision for levelized capital cost recovery over the 30-year term of the lease, (compared to conventional ratemaking) provides a net benefit to ratepayers, because ratepayers are paying a constant amount for the lease period. While some could argue that this levelization is merely an inter-temporal shift of cost responsibility among ratepayers, it is a benefit to the ratepayers of today to not have to pay the front-ended costs. It is fair to ratepayers to levelize the costs out, at a set, but lower amount, for the entire 30 years rather than burdening some ratepayers today. Under the circumstances, we conclude that the DCA's levelized rate methodology provides a ratepayer benefit."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Smith Amended Testimony (Section G); Raman Amended Testimony (Section D).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Amended Testimony of Michael Medeiros (Amended Chapter 2) ("Medeiros Amended Testimony") (Section B.4).

### customers.44

Together, those provisions of the DCOA help to protect PG&E customers from adverse rate impacts. Additionally, the DCOA expressly precludes any double-recovery of the costs of PG&E's transmission assets supported through the Investment Program. The affected transmission assets will be financed either (a) by Citizens through the leasing arrangement, excluded from PG&E's rate base, and subject to FERC's normal transmission ratemaking, or (b) by PG&E using its traditional sources of capital and subject to FERC's normal ratemaking for transmission in the CAISO region.

Based on my experience in utility ratemaking, I conclude that these various attributes of the proposed Investment Program will ensure that it will provide ample protection of the interests of customers of PG&E and the CAISO.

Finally, there are several additional aspects of the proposed transaction that will further protect against any adverse impact on the public interest. There will be no diminution of this Commission's regulatory oversight over the approval of transmission facilities that will be financed through the proposed Investment Program. Citizens may only gain an interest in projects that have received the necessary regulatory approvals and have been constructed and are ready for service. 47 More broadly, the proposed Investment Program introduces no change in the planning, development, siting, permitting, construction, operation, maintenance, and physical control over the transmission assets that will be subject to the Entitlements Leases under the proposed Investment Program.

<sup>44</sup> Medeiros Amended Testimony (Section B.4); Raman Amended Testimony (Section E); Smith Amended Testimony (Section H).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Amended Application, Section 3.B; Medeiros Amended Testimony (Section B.4); Raman Amended Testimony (Section C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Medeiros Amended Testimony (Section B.4); Raman Amended Testimony (Section D).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> For example, see the Proposed Project List for Option Period 1 from the Medeiros Amended Testimony (Section B.2, Table 2-1).

For these reasons, in my opinion the proposed Investment Program will provide net benefits to ratepayers and to the general public and is not adverse to the public interest.

Compared to two other similar leasing transactions previously approved by the Commission, this proposal provides substantially greater public benefits without adverse impacts.

# **ATTACHMENT SFT-1:**

Maps of California:

**Disadvantaged Communities**,

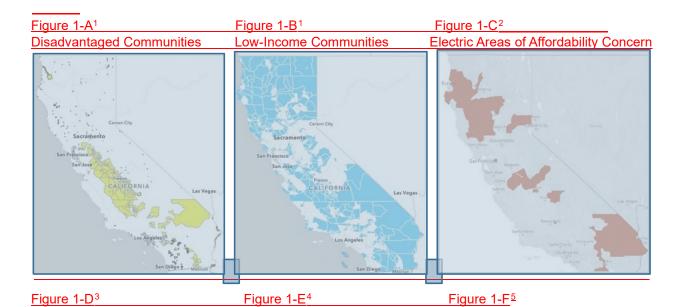
**Low-Income Communities,** 

**Electric Areas of Affordability Concern,** 

**PG&E Service Territory,** 

California Electric Climate Zones,

# **Counties with a Majority of Hispanic Residents Composite Map**



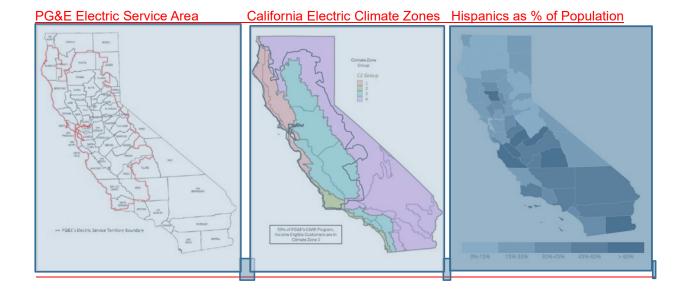
<sup>1</sup> California Air Resources Board, "California Climate Investments Priority Populations Mapping Tool 4.0 - LowIncome Community Designation," https://gis.carb.arb.ca.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience /?id=5dc1218631fa46bc8d340b8e82548a6a&page=Priority-Populations-4 0 (accessed Jan. 14, 2025).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CPUC, "2021/2022 Annual Affordability Report," at 22 (Oct. 2023), https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpucwebsite/divisions/energy-division/documents/affordability-proceeding/2021-2022/2021-and-2022annualaffordability-report.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> PG&E, "Electric Service Area Maps," at 2 (Nov. 17, 2014), https://www.pge.com/tariffs/assets/pdf/tariffbook/ELEC MAPS Service%20Area%20Map.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Evergreen Economics, "2022 Low Income Needs Assessment," at 9 (Dec. 9, 2022), https://liob.cpuc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2023/07/2022 LINA Report 120922 FINAL.pdf.

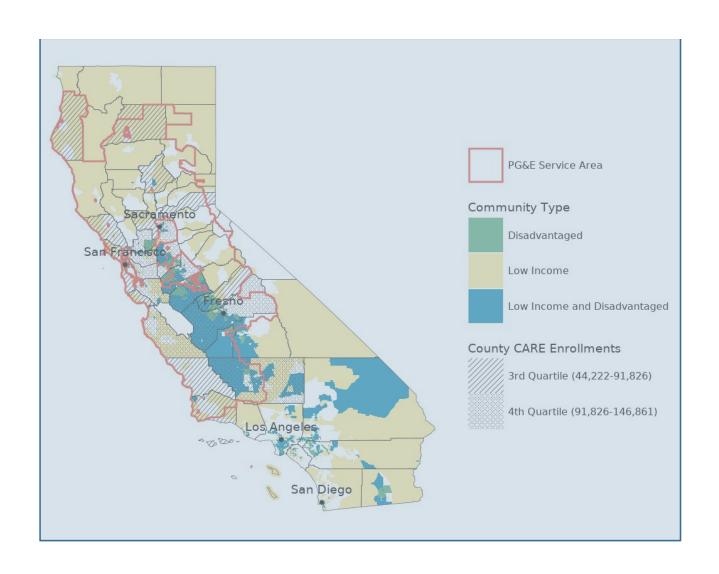
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Rural Health Information Hub, "Hispanic Population, 2023 – California," https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/charts/ 25?state=CA (accessed Jan. 15, 2025).



<sup>1</sup> California Air Resources Board, "California Climate Investments Priority Populations Mapping Tool 4.0 - Disadvantaged Community Designation," https://gis.carb.arb.ca.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=5dc1218631fa46bc8d340b8e82548a6a&page=Priority-Populations-4 0 (accessed Jan. 14, 2025).

Figure 1-G<sup>7</sup>

<u>California Composite Map: Disadvantaged Communities, Low-Income Communities, PG&E Service Area with Counties Having High Numbers of PG&E Electricity CARE Customers</u>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> California State Geoportal, "Low-Income or Disadvantaged Communities Designated by California," https://gis.data.ca.gov/datasets/CAEnergy::low-income-or-disadvantaged-communities-designated-bycalifornia-1/about (accessed Jan. 14, 2025); U.S. Dep't of Homeland Security, "Electric Retail Service Territories," https://hifld-geoplatform.hub.arcgis.com/datasets/f4cd55044b924fed9bc8b64022 966097 (accessed Jan. 14, 2025); PG&E, "2023 Annual Report," at 152; CPUC, "2021 and 2022 Annual Affordability Refresh – 2022 Areas of Affordability Concern," https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/electrical-energy/affordability/2021-and-2022-annual-affordability-refresh (accessed Jan. 14, 2024).

# **ATTACHMENT SFT-2:**

**CV of Susan F. Tierney** 

# SUSAN F. TIERNEY, Ph.D. Analysis Group

Office (617-425-8114) and Mobile (617-901-6921)180 N. Stetson Ave., Suite #2300Susan.tierney@analysisgroup.comChicago, Illinois 60601

Dr. Tierney, a Senior Advisor at Analysis Group, is an expert on energy economics, regulation, and policy, particularly in the electric and gas industries. She has consulted to businesses, federal and state governments, tribes, environmental groups, energy consumers, foundations, and other organizations on energy markets, economic and environmental regulation and strategy, and energy projects. Her expert witness and consulting services have involved wholesale and retail market analysis and design, technology and market trends, regional transmission organizations, the siting of electric and gas infrastructure projects, electric system reliability, utility ratemaking, carbon-emission-reduction policy, and other environmental policy and regulation. She has served as an expert in civil litigation cases and regulatory proceedings before state and federal agencies.

Previously, she served as the Assistant Secretary for Policy at the U.S. Department of Energy. She was the Secretary of Environmental Affairs in Massachusetts, where she was responsible for environmental regulation and natural resource protection. She was Commissioner at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, Chairman of the Board of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, and Executive Director of the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Council.

Dr. Tierney has authored numerous articles and spoken frequently at industry conferences. She serves on a number of boards and advisory committees, including chairing the Board of Resources for the Future and the National Academies of Sciences, Energy and Medicine's Board on Energy and Environmental Systems. She also serves as: a trustee of the Barr Foundation and of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; a director of World Resources Institute, the Coalition for Green Capital, the Energy Foundation, and Climate Lead; and an Advisor to the Trustees of the Oak Foundation. She is a member of the advisory councils at the New York University's Institute for Policy Integrity and the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO). She is a member of the National Academies' Climate Crossroads Initiative, and was a member of the National Academies' Committee on Accelerating Decarbonization of the U.S. Energy System (2021-2023), Committee on the Future of Electric Power in the U.S. (2021), Committee on the Role of Net Metering (2023), and Committee on Enhancing the Resilience of the Nation's Electric Power Transmission and Distribution System (2021). Until recently, she chaired the External Advisory Council of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and previously chaired the Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee. She was co-lead author of the energy chapter of the National Climate Assessment. She was Chair of Board of Directors of ClimateWorks Foundation, a member of the Columbia University's Center for Global Energy Policy Advisory Council, Duke University's Nicholas Institute Advisory Board, and a Visiting Fellow in Policy Practice at the University of Chicago's Energy Policy Institute, and served on the U.S. Secretary of Energy Advisory Board.

She taught at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT and at the University of California at Irvine, and has lectured at Harvard University, Yale University, New York University, Tufts
University, Northwestern University, University of Chicago, and University of Michigan. She received
NARUC's Mary Kilmarx Award in 2015, and in 2020 was designated as a National Associate of the
National Research Council of the Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. She earned her
Ph.D. and M.A. in regional planning at Cornell University and her B.A. at Scripps College.

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# **EDUCATION**

1980	Ph.D., regional planning, Cornell University
1976	Masters of Regional Planning, Cornell University
1973	B.A., art history, Scripps College  Studied political science at L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris, France

# **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2003–Present	Analysis Group, Inc., Boston, MA, Denver, CO, and Chicago, IL
	Senior Advisor (April 2014–Present)
	Managing Principal (July 2003–March 2014)
1999–2003	Lexecon, Inc., Cambridge, MA (formerly The Economics Resource Group, Inc.) Senior
	Vice President
<u>1995–1999</u>	Economics Resource Group, Inc., Cambridge, MA
	<u>Principal and Managing Consultant</u>
<u>1993–1995</u>	U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.
<u>1995–1995</u>	Assistant Secretary for Policy
	Assistant Secretary for Poticy
<u>1991–1993</u>	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Boston
	Secretary of Environmental Affairs
<u>1988–1991</u>	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Utilities, Boston, MA
	<u>Commissioner</u>
<u>1984–1988</u>	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Energy Facilities Siting Council, Boston, MA
1701 1700	Executive Director
	Excernee Enceret
<u>1983–1984</u>	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy Resources, Boston, MA
	Senior Economist
1000 1000	
<u>1982–1983</u>	Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Energy Facilities Siting Council, Boston, MA
	<u>Policy Analyst</u>

# 1978–1982 University of California at Irvine, Irvine, CA

Assistant Professor

# SELECTED CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

### Various Confidential Engagements

<u>Including power sales agreements, fuel contracts, investment strategy, project development, and other electric and gas industry matters.</u>

# <u>Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Office of Energy</u> Transformation

Providing pro-bono assistance to support the "Financing the Transition Working Group" (2024-2025)

# © Center for Applied Environmental Law and Policy

White paper on how vertically integrated electric utilities could maximize return on federal funding opportunities (2024)

### Environmental Defense Fund

White paper on electric system reliability and the EPA's proposed rule to regulate GHG emissions from the nation's power plants (2023-2024)

# National Grid US

White paper on the important role of the electric distribution system in the decarbonization of the Massachusetts economy (2023)

### Environmental Defense Fund

White paper on market fundamentals and transitions affecting coal-fired power plants in the U.S. (2023).

### Commonwealth Edison Company

Expert witness in support of ComEd's proposed grid modernization plan and multi-year rate case (20222023).

### Coalition of Bondholders

Expert witness to assess demand forecasting and supply projections for the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (2023-2024)

### Major Electric Utility

Analyzed the economic and policy implications of wholesale electricity market congestion (2022).

#### Zuni Tribal Council

Advisor on transmission line right-of-way compensation issues (2020-2022).

### RISE Light & Power/Outerbridge New Jersey LLC

Co-author of report on the public benefits of the client's onshore transmission proposals to support the delivery of offshore wind into New Jersey (2021).

# <u>Pacific Gas & Electric Company</u>, <u>Southern California Edison</u>, <u>San Diego Gas & Electric Company</u> Witness on policy issues related to reforms of the companies' net energy metering tariff (2021-2022).

### Group of U.S. and European Foundations Funding on Climate Mitigation Issues

Work with China clean energy expert to analyze gaps in philanthropic funding on GHG mitigation in China (2021-present).

<u>Coalition of CEOs of Investor-Owned Electric Utilities and Environmental Organizations Project manager to support roundtable discussions on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. power sector (2020-2022).</u>

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### CMS Energy

Witness in support of CMS Energy's appeal before the Michigan Tax Tribunal (2020-2022).

# Coalition for Green Capital

Co-authored a white paper on a new national green bank (2020-2021).

# Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Conducted benchmarking study on investor-owned utilities' provision of wholesale distribution service and submitted testimony in PG&E's rate case filing on its wholesale distribution tariff (2020-present).

# Santee Cooper

Prepared affidavit on states' electric industry structure (2020).

### Major Electric and Gas Utility

Analyzed the impacts (e.g., on cost, GHG emissions, gas and electric system costs) associated with alternative strategies for shifting end-use consumers' non-electric energy uses to electricity (2019-2020).

#### La Plata Electric Association

Prepared testimony before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission regarding the complaints by La Plata Electric and United Power of the exit fee to be charged by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association for La Plata's and United's potential withdrawal from the Tri-State system (2020).

### Natural Resources Defense Council

Prepared a white paper on comments filed in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission docket on whether to modify its Policy Statement related to certification of new gas pipelines (2019).

### Delta-Montrose Electric Association

Provided testimony before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission regarding the complaint by DeltaMontrose of the exit fee being charged by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association for Delta Montrose to withdraw from participation in the Tri-State system. (2019)

### Transource

Provided testimony before the Maryland Public Service Commission regarding regulatory standards for reviewing transmission proposals that emanate from the regional transmission-planning process administered by a Regional Transmission Organizations. (2019)

### New York ISO (NYISO)

<u>Prepared a white paper on the impacts on New York of the introduction of a carbon pricing mechanism into NYISO wholesale markets (2019).</u>

### Salt River Project

Wrote white paper on utility ratemaking processes and principles (2019).

# <u>Attorney General of New York State, on behalf of a coalition of state Attorneys General Preliminary assessment of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rule with changes in the New Source Review program (2018-2019).</u>

### Xcel Energy (Northern States Power - Minnesota)

Facilitated stakeholder meetings and outreach related to NSPM's integrated resource plan (2018-2019).

### Commonwealth Edison (ComEd)

Provided expert testimony before the Illinois Commerce Commission on regulatory policy issues related to proposed pilot projects involved battery energy storage systems (2018).

# Pacific Gas & Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company

<u>Prepared white paper on a future structure for California's resource-adequacy and wholesale market structure in a low-carbon power system (2018).</u>

# Analysis Group, Inc.

<u>Prepared a white paper about the rebound effect in estimating the impacts of changes in federal fuel economy and greenhouse-gas-emissions standards (2017-2018).</u>

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# Merck Family Foundation

Analyzed the economic impacts of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative's third compliance period (2015-2017) (2018).

### © Commonwealth Edison (ComEd)

Provided expert testimony before the Illinois Commerce Commission on regulatory policy issues related to a proposed microgrid pilot project (2017).

### Natural Resources Defense Council

<u>Prepared a white paper on changes in the natural gas industry since 1999 when the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued its Policy Statement related to certification of new gas pipelines (2017).</u>

# New York State Research and Development Administration

Provided support to NYSERDA and the New York Department of Public Service on issues relevant to the New York "REV" proceeding (2017-2019).

# Mewlett Foundation

Supported strategy development for the Foundation's Environment Program (2017).

# Advanced Energy Economy Foundation and American Wind Energy Association

Co-authored a white paper on wholesale power markets and system reliability and resilience (2017).

# <u>© Entergy Vermont Yankee</u>

<u>Provided expert testimony before the Vermont Public Service Board on the public benefits of the proposed sale of Vermont Yankee to NorthStar (2016–2018).</u>

# Ominion Energy

Analyzed the implications for carbon emissions and consumer costs of a hypothetical shutdown of the Millstone Nuclear Station in Connecticut, and proposed testimony in support of Dominion filings before state agencies related to Millstone and a potential long-term power sales agreement for zerocarbon supply (2017–2019).

#### Protect the Granite State

Analyzed the economic implications of the proposed Northern Pass Transmission project for New Hampshire and New England (2017).

### Environmental Defense Fund

Authored a white paper on challenges facing the U.S. coal industry in the 21st Century (2016).

# Merck Family Fund

<u>Co-authored a white paper on potential design issues relating to trading of carbon-emission credits</u> between RGGI states and other states under the U.S. EPA's Clean Power Plan (2016).

### © Consolidated Edison and Southern California Edison

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Authored a white paper on the role of distributed energy resources in distribution utility planning and operations (2016).

# Mawaii Gas Company

<u>Provided expert testimony before the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission on issues related to the proposed merger of the Hawaii Electric Companies and NextEra (2015–2016).</u>

# The Energy Foundation and Merck Family Fund

<u>Co-authored report on the economic impacts of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative's (RGGI's) second three years of implementation during 2012–2014. (2015).</u>

### State of Delaware

Provided expert testimony before the Delaware Superior Court on issues related to the impact of the RGGI program on electricity customers and the economy in Delaware (2015–2016).

### NEXUS Gas Transmission

Co-authored a report on the market for natural gas in the state of Ohio (2015).

# Electric Power Supply Association

<u>Co-authored a report for EPSA on the design of State Plans to align with organized wholesale markets in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Clean Power Plan (2015).</u>

# <u>Baltimore Gas and Electric, Pepco Holdings Inc. and PHI's affiliates Pepco, Delmarva Power, and Atlantic City Electric</u>

<u>Provided expert testimony before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on the need for and risks</u> <u>associated with transmission investment (2015).</u>

### Exelon Generating Company LLC

Analyzed alternative generation technologies and the consistency of Exelon's proposal to construct a natural-gas fired peaking unit with Massachusetts energy and environmental policies (2015).

### The Energy Foundation

<u>Co-authored reports on reliability issues related to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan. (2014–2015).</u>

### New England Power Generators Association

Analyzed the impact of legislative proposals in Massachusetts to direct electric utilities to enter into long-term power supply agreements with Canadian hydropower companies. (2014, 2015).

### Spectra Energy

Provided expert report in Maine regulatory proceeding related to the potential for the State of Maine to enter into a contract to support natural gas pipeline infrastructure in New England (2014).

### The Energy Foundation and Merck Family Fund

Co-authored report on the consumer impacts of the U.S. EPA's proposed Clean Power Plan. (2014).

# Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc.

Analyzed customer and state economic benefits of the proposed merger (2014–2015).

### Major electric utility

Conducted independent review of the company's internal customer and shareholder analyses of long-term resource options (2014).

Major merchant generating company Conducted valuation of assets (2014).

### <u>© Entergy Wholesale Commodities</u>

Provided strategic advice on wholesale and retail market issues in the Northeast power markets (2013–2016).

# Mualapai Tribe

<u>Provided strategic advice regarding energy resource development and valuation of electric transmission rights of way (2014–2018).</u>

#### Barr Foundation

Prepared a report on the impacts of the Massachusetts Green Communities Act of 2008 on the Massachusetts economy. (2013–2014).

### Five California Utilities (LADWP, PG&E, SCE, SDG&E, SMUD)

Served on the four-person expert independent advisory panel for the third-party study of integration of renewable energy into California's Electric System. Contributed to report titled "Investigating a Higher Renewables Portfolio Standard in California" (2013–2014).

#### State of Colorado

Prepared expert report on behalf of the three public utility commissioners in Colorado, in support of the complaint against them on implementing Colorado's renewable energy standard under alleged violations of the interstate commerce clause (2013–2014).

# Energy Foundation

Wrote white paper on the implications for electric system reliability of the Environmental Protection Agency's implementation of its authority under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act, to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from existing power plants (2013–2014).

### Major engineering, construction and project management company

<u>Prepared an expert report on electric market conditions in a dispute surrounding cancellation of a major power plant (2012–2017).</u>

### Ambri (battery company)

Analyzed energy system issues related to integration of renewables on a military base (2013–2014).

### Advanced Energy Economy Institute

Facilitated workshop for state utility commissioners in Midwest states, on advanced energy technologies and related regulatory issues (2013).

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# Environmental Defense Fund – North Carolina

Testified on energy efficiency program design issues (2013).

# Advanced Energy Economy Institute (with the New England Clean Energy Council and the New England Conference of Regulatory Utility Commissioners)

Supported workshop on advanced energy technologies and related regulatory issues (2013)

#### <u>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Energy Program</u>

Provided regulatory policy support at the NJ Board of Public Utilities on smart grid workshop (2013).

# Advanced Energy Economy Ohio

<u>Provided testimony before the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee in support of the Ohio Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (2013).</u>

# Pepco Holdings Inc., and its operating affiliates, Potomac Electric Power Company, Delmarva Power & Light Company, and Atlantic City Electric Company

Provided testimony in support of appropriate incentives for investment in electric transmission (2013)

#### Baltimore Gas and Electric Company

Provided testimony in support of appropriate incentives for investment in electric transmission (2013).

#### Advanced Energy Economy Institute

Survey of CEOs of advanced energy companies doing business in California, with regard to the state's energy and environmental policies (2012–2013).

#### NSTAR and Cape Wind

Provided testimony in support of the long-term power contract of NSTAR and Cape Wind (2012).

#### Energy Foundation

Conducted strategic planning for the China Sustainable Energy Program (2012).

#### Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Provided testimony on ratemaking issues for PG&E's proposed pipeline safety enhancement plan (2012).

#### COMPETE Coalition

<u>Provided testimony on energy efficiency as part of the performance of state and wholesale electric markets in New Jersey (2011).</u>

# Compressed Air Energy Storage Company

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Confidential engagement to analyze regional wholesale markets for baseload and renewable energy power generation (2011).

#### **Merck Family Foundation**

Analyzed the economic impacts of the funds collected through the auction of allowances under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (2011).

# <u>American Clean Skies Foundation Corporation</u>

Analyzed the reliability and air emission issues associated with potential retirement of the Potomac River Generating Station (2011).

#### Colorado Public Utilities Commission

Analyzed the Colorado solar photovoltaic incentive program (2011).

# Exelon Corporation and Constellation Energy (Baltimore Gas & Electric)

Analyzed the economic impacts on the Maryland economy associated with the proposed clean-energy commitments tied to the proposed merger of Exelon and Constellation Energy (2011–2012).

# New England Power Generators Association

Analyzed competition issues in the proposed merger of Northeast Utilities and NSTAR (2011).

#### Dominion Generation

Analyzed the proposed state tax on output from in-state power generation (2011).

#### Exelon Corporation and Clean Energy Group

Analyzed electric industry issues involved in responding to the U.S. EPA's air regulations (2010-2015).

# Major electric distribution company and independent power producer

Analyzed (modeled) the net benefits of retiring several generating units and replacing them with a long-term contract to provide power from a gas-fired power plant (2010).

# Major electric utility company

Analyzed changing fuel-market conditions affecting the value of gas-fired power generation in the context of litigation (2010).

#### Commonwealth Edison Company

Analyzed the ratemaking issues for an electric distribution utility with respect to energy efficiency program effects in Illinois (2010–2011).

#### National Grid – Massachusetts electric distribution companies

Analyzed the market for the long-term contract for power from the Cape Wind project (2010).

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# Spectra Energy (with the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America)

Analyzed the markets for natural gas, and analysis of the implications of the U.S. EPA's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on PCBs (2010–2011).

# Renewable energy company

Analyzed transmission access, planning, cost allocation and siting conditions in US regions (2010-2011).

#### Indian tribe in Midwest

Analyzed the value of an oil pipeline right-of-way (2010).

#### Ominion Generation

Analyzed the proposed legislation in Connecticut to establish a windfall profits tax on all generating assets located in the state (2010).

#### Transmission consortium

Analyzed cost-allocation models for an interstate transmission project involving transmission utilities and merchant transmission companies (2009–2010).

# Massachusetts renewable energy trust

Analyzed transmission-related approaches to the development of offshore renewable energy (2009).

#### Major electric utility

<u>Developed business models and approaches for deploying energy efficiency within the context of the American Climate and Energy Security Act framework (2009).</u>

#### Major industrial electricity consumer

Assisted in analyzing the implications of the American Climate and Energy Security Act for the company, in light of impacts on energy prices and trade considerations (2009).

#### National Grid

Assisted in developing a revenue decoupling mechanism for retail distribution service, and testifying in electric and natural gas distribution rate cases in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, and New Hampshire (2009–2011).

#### Sandia Pueblo

Assisted in valuing a transmission corridor on tribal reservation land (2008–2011).

#### Major electric and gas company

Provided analytic and strategic support for company's development of a business plan for energy efficiency and other energy-related investments on the customer side of the meter (2008).

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#### AEP Transmission

<u>Prepared a white paper on the design and cost allocation framework for a high-voltage transmission</u> system designed to support renewable and other resources (2008).

# Reliant

Prepared study assessing competition in the wholesale and retail electricity markets in ERCOT (2008).

# Major environmental organization

Analytic and strategic support for utility ratemaking policies for advancing energy efficiency in many states (2008–2012).

# New York Independent System Operator

Supported strategic planning and assessment for the Board of Directors (2008–2010).

# Commonwealth Edison Company

Provided testimony on ratemaking policy issues relating to regulatory lag (2008).

# Energy Association of Pennsylvania (EGA)

Analyzed of proposed legislation to cap retail electricity rates in Pennsylvania after the expiration of rate caps (2008).

#### \_

# National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)

<u>Prepared study on best practices relating to state regulatory agency policies and utility practices on competitive procurement of resources to serve retail electricity customers (2007).</u>

#### KeySpan/Boston Gas

Analyzed of the implications of utility ratemaking for valuation of utility assets for property taxation purposes (2008).

#### <u>Electric company</u>

Analyzed of state's retail and wholesale power market structure (2008).

#### Electric company

Prepared expert report on electric industry structure in the 1990s and 2000s (2007–2008).

# Major electric company

<u>Provided analytic support for company's development of strategic plan for company-wide GHGreduction commitments (2008).</u>

Sierra Pacific Power Company

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<u>Provided testimony on policy issues relating to the use of historic, future, and hybrid test years in state utility rate cases (2007–2008).</u>

# Marvard University

Provided strategic assistance relating to regulatory issues affecting the planning and design of Harvard's "green campus" development in Allston Landing (2007–2008).

# Public Service Gas & Electric Company of New Jersey (PSEG)

<u>Provided assistance in facilitating the development of a policy to address "leakage" of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated with the adoption of the RGGI cap-and-trade program (2007).</u>

# Electric Power Supply Association

<u>Prepared white paper on economic, environmental, and regulatory trends in the electric industry (2007).</u>

# Sempra Energy Company - San Diego Gas & Electric Company and SoCalGas Company

<u>Provided testimony on policy issues relating to the provision of financial incentives to electric and gas utilities for the successful provision of energy efficiency programs (2007).</u>

#### PECO Energy Company

<u>Provided advice and testimony on various economic and policy issues relating to electric industry restructuring policy (2007).</u>

<u>Provided testimony on issues relating to the market for alternative energy credits and the proposal of PECO to voluntarily solicit, procure, and bank alternative energy credits (2007).</u>

#### Commonwealth Edison Company

<u>Provided testimony on issues relating to the relationship of auctions for wholesale supply for basic service customers and alternative proposals for utility resource procurement (2007).</u>

#### ISO New England

Assisted in scenario planning for transmission and other alternatives (2006–2007).

#### PIM

Preparing report on market monitoring functions performed under various federal regulatory agencies with responsibility to oversee electricity and energy markets (i.e., the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Commodities Futures Trading Commission) (2006–2007).

#### Major Industrial and Power Plant Company

Assisted company in analyzing market and negotiating the price and other terms and conditions for long-term gas supply and in valuing a power plant asset (2006–2007).

#### State of North Carolina

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Provided expert witness services on electric utility economics and regulatory issues, on behalf of the Attorney General in a nuisance lawsuit to require the Tennessee Valley Authority to put in place air pollution control equipment on coal-fired power plants in TVA's system. (2006–2008)

# Major Regional Transmission Organization

<u>Performed analysis of market conditions and trends, and benchmarking market rules and reliability performance with other comparable organizations (2006–2007).</u>

- Special LNG Committee, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
   Prepared pro-bono report on the need for natural gas and liquefied natural gas in the Northeast (2006).
- **Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation**

Prepared a report on economic and policy issues relating to use of tribal lands for energy rights-of-way, as called for in Section 1813 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (2006).

#### New York ISO

Prepared white paper on fuel diversity issues in the New York market (2008).

Prepared white papers on long-term contracting issues in states with restructured electric industries, and on the economic foundations for single-clearing-price markets versus pay-as-bid markets (2007). Performed economic benefit/cost study of wholesale competition into the region's wholesale electric market (2006–2007).

# Commonwealth Edison Company

<u>Provided testimony on appropriate ratemaking principles for recovery of pension-related costs in proceeding to set rates to go into effect following the transition period (2006).</u>

# Commonwealth Edison Company

<u>Provided testimony on economic principles associated with single-price auction design versus payasbid auction design (2006).</u>

#### <u>Section Exercises</u> <u>Exercises</u>

Provided analysis of designs of mandatory carbon control policies (2005–2007).

#### Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Endreson & Perry, LLP, on behalf of various Indian Tribes

Provided analysis in support of comments filed with the Departments of Interior and Energy on energy rights of way on tribal land (as called for in Section 1813 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005) (2005–2006).

Provided analysis in support of various tribal negotiations with energy companies with respect to valuation of energy rights of way on tribal reservation lands (2007).

#### Electric utility company

Performed independent evaluator services in procurement for power resources (2005–2006).

#### Power Generation Company

Provided analysis of product market development in MidWest and Eastern RTOs (2005).

#### New England Energy Alliance

Prepared a white paper on energy infrastructure needs in the New England states (2005).

# <u>Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (of the Western Interstate Energy Board)</u> <u>Provides research on market monitoring for Western wholesale electric markets (2005–2007).</u>

#### Southern California Edison Company

<u>Provided Independent Evaluator services for a competitive procurement of new long-term generation</u> resources and renewable resources (2005).

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# <u>LNG / Interstate Gas Pipeline project – Duke Energy/Excelerate project</u>

Prepared regional market study for the project proposed for Massachusetts (2004–2005).

# Electric Generating Company

In a contract dispute, provided expert witness services relating to whether changes in a region's wholesale power market rules nullified a power sales agreement (2004–2006).

#### Louisville Gas & Electric and Kentucky Utilities

For two vertically integrated electric companies, provided expert witness services in a state investigation of which regional transmission approach satisfies state policy objectives (2004).

#### Independent Generating Company

For a power company owned by commercial lenders in a Northeast power market, provided consulting services to monitor state regulatory policies and actions affecting power plants (2004).

# Major Electric and Gas Company

Performed confidential study of the benefits, costs and current conditions in certain wholesale and retail electric power markets (2004–2005).

#### Regional Transmission Organization

For a confidential project, analyzed market monitoring and mitigation approaches (2004–2005).

#### Major Commercial Bank

For a confidential project, advise with regard to electric industry restructuring and profitability of large energy marketer and trading organization (2004–2005).

#### Consumer Energy Council of America

For a group of electric industry market participants, regulators, and interest groups, prepared white papers on the need for transmission enhancements in U.S. power markets (2004).

#### Retail electric company

<u>Provides confidential analysis of business models and regulation approaches for providing retail electric service in the state (2004).</u>

#### Independent system operator

Provided confidential analysis and research on aligning retail and wholesale market policies (2004).

#### © California State attorney general

Provided expert witness services with regard to state resource adequacy & planning practices (2004).

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# Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Provided expert witness services relating to the public benefits of the settlement between PG&E and the California Public Utility Commission, to enable PG&E to emerge from bankruptcy (2003).

# Independent power company

Provided consulting advice on economics of compliance strategies for air and water permits (2003).

# Major public utility company

Advised on the pricing and other terms for a long-term purchase power agreement (2003).

#### Duke Power

Provided expert advisory services relating to ratemaking and other regulatory practices (2003).

#### Exelon Generation

Provided strategic advice and analytic services relating to market conditions in New England (2003).

# Entergy Services Inc.

<u>Provided services as the independent monitor of Entergy's Fall 2002, Spring 2003 and Fall 2003 Requests for Proposals for Supply-Side Resources (2002–2005).</u>

# Power generation company in New England

<u>Provided expert testimony in contract dispute regarding allocation of uplift costs in an agreement concerning the supply of wholesale power for standard offer service (2002).</u>

# Connecticut Light and Power Company

<u>Provided expert testimony in contract dispute regarding allocation of congestion costs in an agreement concerning the supply of wholesale power for standard offer service (2002–2003).</u>

#### Ocean State Power

<u>Provided arbitration services in a dispute regarding a gas purchase contract between Ocean State</u> <u>Power and ProGas Ltd. (2002–2003).</u>

#### Regional independent system operator

Provided strategic advice on regional market trends and strategy (2002).

#### PIM Interconnection

<u>Provided advice to the appointed mediator as part of the Alternative Dispute Resolution process, in a dispute involving PJM and a market participant (2002).</u>

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# **Duke Energy Corporation**

<u>Provided analysis on strategic issues in gas and electric regulatory policy for Duke Energy's corporate office, including with regard to code of conduct issues and wholesale competition (2001–2002).</u>

#### Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation

<u>Provided expert witness testimony in proceedings of the FERC on public benefits of the proposed restructuring of PG&E assets as part of its emergence from bankruptcy (2001–2002).</u>

#### Massachusetts Renewables Trust

Provided assistance in support of the Trust's renewables and power quality program (2001–2002).

#### Major electric holding company

<u>Prepared an analysis of the regulatory policies for reviewing merger applications in states where potential merger candidates are located (2001).</u>

# Western Massachusetts Electric Company

Provided expert testimony in contract disputes regarding allocation of congestion costs in agreements concerning the supply of wholesale power for standard offer service (2001–2002).

#### Energy Foundation

Researched and wrote a white paper on California's process for permitting new power plants (2001).

#### © Cross-Sound Cable Company

<u>Provided expert testimony regarding public benefits of proposal to construct merchant transmission facility across Long Island Sound (2001–2002).</u>

#### Major independent power company

Served as expert witness in litigation surrounding power plant development project (2001–2004).

#### MASSPOWER Inc.

Served as Mediator in a contract dispute involving pricing of power purchases (2001).

#### NRG Energy and Dynegy

Provided expert witness support in regulatory proceeding to review these companies' acquisition of power plants being divested by Sierra Pacific and Nevada Power (2001).

#### Occidental Chemical Corporation

Served as expert witness on vertical market power in electric utility's transmission practices (2000).

# PP&L Global

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Provided economic and environmental analysis and expert witness support for proposal to build the Kings Park Energy power plant in Long Island, New York (2000).

# Calpine Corporation

Provided economic and environmental analysis and expert witness support for the Wawayanda power project in Rockland County, NY and for the Towantic power plant in Oxford, Connecticut (2001).

American National Power, Calpine, El Paso, NRG Energy, Sithe, Southern Energy
 Provided support for the development of a proposal for an RTO for New England (2000–2001)

# <u>Duke Energy/Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline</u>

Provided expert reports on the market and environmental impacts of new natural gas infrastructure and supply in New England (2000–2003).

Arkansas Electric Distribution Cooperatives and Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation Served as expert witness on economic and public policy issues associated with wholesale and retail competition in Arkansas (2000–2001).

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# TransÉnergie U.S.

Served as expert witness on public benefits of a proposed merchant transmission facility (2000–2001).

#### Conective

<u>Provided strategic wholesale market analysis and support for procurement of supplies for distribution utility company's provision of Basic Generation Services to retail customers (2000).</u>

# SCS Energy Corp. – Astoria Energy

Served as expert witness for proposal to build new power plant in New York City (2000–2001).

# MEFA Power Options

Provided strategic advice regarding wholesale power market for retail buyers' group (2000–2003).

# Major real estate development company

Provided analysis of electric and gas infrastructure for large mixed-use development (2000–2001).

# Investment company

Provided strategic advice to investment company with regard to potential investment in major electric generating equipment manufacturing company (2000)/

#### Major independent power company

<u>Provided economic and environmental support for company's application to construct a merchant power plant in Florida (2000).</u>

#### Major railroad company

<u>Provided expert witness support on economic and regulatory policy issues for railroad in state regulatory proceeding on a proposed utility merger (2000).</u>

#### **©** Coalition of Wireless Telecommunications Carriers

Prepared an expert report on economic benefits of wireless telecommunications (2000).

#### Major brownfield property developer

Provided valuation of property as a site for new electric generating facility (2000).

# Fitchburg Gas and Electric Company

Provided litigation support for a gas and electric company on rate design policy (2000)/

# © Consortium of electric companies

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Provided economic analysis, contract review, and litigation support for a consortium of electric companies with power purchase agreements with PURPA projects (1999).

# FirstEnergy Corp.

<u>Provided expert witness support regarding generation asset valuation and the impacts of a new electric industry restructuring law on the company (1999–2000).</u>

#### Ozone Attainment Coalition

<u>Provided strategic analysis and advice on electric system reliability issues relating to electric companies' implementation of 2003 NOx requirements issued by the U.S. EPA (1999).</u>

#### Municipal electric department

<u>Provided expert witness services and analysis of the economics and need for a new natural gas pipeline proposed to serve an existing electric power plant in Massachusetts (1998–2001).</u>

#### Seneca Nation

<u>Provided expert analysis and strategic advice regarding the value of transmission rights of way, in a dispute with an electric utility company (1998–2000).</u>

#### Major cable company

<u>Provided strategic advice in a series of regulatory and court cases involving inter-affiliate transactions</u> of electric utility company entering into competitive telecommunications and cable markets (1998).

#### Major electric utility company

<u>Provided expert witness support regarding structural changes in the electric industry, in litigation pertaining to the company's restructuring plans (1998–1999).</u>

# Sithe Energies, Inc.

Provided strategic advice and regulatory support on a variety of issues (market analysis, transmission and ISO issues, federal and state market rules, legislation, siting, environmental strategy) relating to the company's participation in the New England, New York, and PIM markets (1997–2003).

<u>Provided transition assistance to the company in its acquisition and integration of approximately 2,000 MW of existing fossil fuel generation from Boston Edison Company (1997–1998).</u>

<u>Provided transition assistance to the company in its acquisition and integration of approximately 4,100 MW of existing fossil and hydroelectric generation capacity from GPU Genco (1998–1999).</u>

<u>Provided support for the company's participation in electricity product markets under development in New England, New York and PJM (1997–2002).</u>

<u>Provided strategic project development advice and expert witness support for the company's applications to construct three natural gas merchant power plants (totaling 2865 megawatts) in Everett, Weymouth, and Medway, Massachusetts. (1998–2001)</u>

<u>Provided strategic guidance and regulatory support regarding design of air quality improvement plan</u> for existing fossil units at Mystic Station. (1998–2001)

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<u>Provided strategic guidance regarding company's natural gas-fired merchant power plant development projects in Ontario, Canada (2000–2001).</u>

#### Natural Resources Canada

<u>Prepared a white paper on the implications for electric system reliability in Canada that are associated with restructuring the electric industry in the United States (1999).</u>

# © Cummins Engine Company, Inc.

<u>Provided strategic analysis on implications of national energy and environmental policies for the Company's long-term business opportunities (1999).</u>

#### Electric utility company

<u>Provided advice and regulatory support with regard to the economics and prudency of an existing long-term power purchase agreement (1998).</u>

#### National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)

Assisted the Executive Director and NARUC leadership in updating its strategic plan and in preparing a business plan for its implementation (1998).

#### State energy office

Assisted in analyzing options for supporting renewable resource development in the state and in designing a market-based strategy to implement a new renewables portfolio standard (1997–1998).

#### **U.S. Generating Company (PG&E Generating Company)**

Provided analysis of and testimony on the economic, reliability, and environmental benefits to the host state and region of a new merchant power generation facility: the 360-megawatt Millennium project in Massachusetts (1996–1997).

<u>Provided analysis of and testimony on the economic, reliability, and environmental benefits of a new merchant power generation facility: the 792-megawatt Lake Road Generating Project in Connecticut (1997–1998).</u>

#### Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

Provided strategic guidance, economic and policy analysis, and regulatory support for electric utility company as it developed and proposed its plan for restructuring its company for retail competition. Provided expert witness testimony on rate design policy issues (1996–1998).

# Major diversified electric equipment company

Provided strategic advice and analysis on market opportunities and risk in various regions of the U.S. electric industry, under numerous restructuring scenarios (1996–1997).

#### Major nationwide electricity consumer

Conducted analysis of buying options and strategies for acquisition of electricity services in states with customer choice in retail generation markets (1997).

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# National Council on Competition in the Electric Industry

Prepared a Briefing Paper on Regional Issues in Electric Industry Restructuring, for the NCCEI – a joint project of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the U.S. DOE and the U.S. EPA (1997).

#### Major western coal company

Analysis of western states' electric industry restructuring policies and market prices for power in various states within the Western Systems Coordinating Council area (1996–1997).

# Major gas pipeline company

Provided analysis of market structures and prices for generation and delivery services in electric service territories where the gas pipeline would locate facilities that use electricity (1997).

# Major electric supply company

Provided analysis of regional electricity market conditions to support the company's analysis of the value of various utility assets that were being divested as part of corporate restructuring (1997).

# Massachusetts Division of Energy Resources

Analyzed Boston Gas Company's proposal for unbundling its retail service, its proposal for performance-based rates, and its plan for departing the merchant function (1996–1998).

#### Massachusetts Division of Energy Resources

Assisted the state's energy office in developing policies for establishing a statewide fund to support renewable resource development as part of the state's electric industry restructuring plan (1997).

#### Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Advisory Board

Analyzed opportunities for use of the Authority's energy-using and -producing assets, to position itself beneficially as a participant in a restructured retail electricity market in New England (1996–1997).

#### Coalition of marketers and independent power producers

Analyzed state regulatory proposals for restructuring the electric industry (1996–1997).

#### Major independent power producer

Analyzed market opportunities and risks for merchant plant development in a U.S. region (1996).

#### Major independent power producer

Analyzed the expected market price of power in two regions of the U.S. electricity markets (1996).

# • Group of municipal electric companies in New York State Served as expert witness on cost allocation issues in litigation on wholesale power contracts (1996).

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# **TESTIMONY**

Many confidential expert reports, testimonies, declarations, affidavits, and depositions.

On behalf of Environmental and Public Health Respondent-Intervenors (in the motion to stay the EPA's Mercury and Air Toxics Rule) 
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Before the U.S Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, State of North Dakota, et al., v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, No. 24-1119, Declaration of Susan Tierney, July 22, 2024.

# On behalf of Environmental and Public Health Respondent-Intervenors (in the motion to stay the EPA's Power Plant GHG Rule)

Before the U.S Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, State of West Virginia, et al., v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, No. 24-1120, Declaration of Susan Tierney, June 11, 2024.

#### On behalf of her own behalf

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 2023 Electric Reliability Technical Conference, "Reliability Implications of EPA's Proposed Rule on Greenhouse Gas Standards and Guidelines for Fossil-Fuel Power Plants," November 9, 2023.

#### On behalf of her own behalf

Before the Senate Budget Committee, Hearing on "Beyond the Breaking Point: The Fiscal Consequences of Climate Change on Infrastructure," July 26, 2023.

# On behalf of Ad Hoc Group of PREPA Bondholders, et al.

Before the *U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico*, Main Docket, 17-BK-3283-LTS and Case No. 17BK-4780-LTS; Expert Report, May 5, 2023, December 18, 2023, January 12, 2024; cross-examination at deposition, May 31, 2023, January 22, 2024; testimony and cross-examination at trial, June 7th, 2023; declaration and cross-examination at trial, March 12-13, 2024.

# On behalf of Commonwealth Edison Company

Before the Illinois Commerce Commission, Order Requiring Commonwealth Edison Company to file an Initial Multi-Year Integrated Grid Plan and Initiating Proceeding to Determine Whether the Plan is Reasonable and Complies with the Public Utilities Act and Verified Petition for Approval of a MultiYear Rate Plan under Decision 16-108.18 of the Public Utilities Act, Consolidated Dockets No. 22-0486 and 23-0055, 2021, Direct Testimony, January 17, 2023; Rebuttal Testimony, June 27, 2023; Surrebuttal Testimony, August 14, 2023.

#### On her own behalf

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Technical Conference on Greenhouse Gas Mitigation: Natural Gas Act Sections 3 and 7 Authorizations," Docket No. PL21-3-000, November 19, 2021.

# Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Before the California Public Utilities Commission, Order Instituting Rulemaking to Revisit Net Energy Metering Tariffs Pursuant to Decision 16-01-044, and to Address Other Issues Related to Net Metering, Docket No. R.20-08-020, Opening Testimony (June 18, 2021), Rebuttal Testimony, July 16, 2021, crossexamination at hearing (July 26-27, 2021).

# On behalf of CMS Energy

Before the *Michigan Tax Tribunal*, CMS Energy Corporation v. Michigan Department of Treasury, Docket No. 19-003783, affidavit, supplemental affidavit and cross-examination at deposition (2021).

# On her own behalf

Before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Energy Subcommittee Hearing on "The CLEAN Future Act and Electric Transmission: Delivering Clean Power to the People," June 29, 2021.

#### On her own behalf

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Workshop on the Office of Public Participation, April 16, 2021.

### On her own behalf

Before the *House Committee on Science, Space and Technology*, hearing on "Lessons learned from the Texas blackouts: Research needs for a secure and resilient grid," March 18, 2021.

#### On her own behalf

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Technical Conference on Carbon Pricing in Organized Wholesale Electricity Markets, Docket No. AD20-14-000, September 30, 2020.

# Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in the Matter of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Wholesale Distribution Tariff Rate Case, Docket ER20-2878-000, Testimony, September 15, 2020; crossexamination at hearing, March 9, 2023.

# Santee Cooper

Before the Court of Common Pleas for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina, City of Goose Creek v. South Carolina Public Service Authority, Civil Action No. 2020-CP-08-00821, Affidavit, August 24, 2020.

Amicus Curiae Brief of Susan Tierney in Support of Petitioners the Environmental Defense Fund in Support of Reversal of the Challenged Orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, in the case of Environmental Defense Fund v. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Case Nos. 20-1016 and 20-1017, Petition for Review of Orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, July 1, 2020.

#### On her own behalf

Before the House Energy Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, at hearing on the Natural Gas Act, February 5, 2020.

#### La Plata Electric Association

Before the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, in the matter of La Plata's and United Power's complaints that the Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association's exit fee is unjust, unreasonable and discriminatory, Proceeding Nos. 19F-0620E and 19F-0621E, Testimony, January 10, 2020; CrossExamination at Deposition, January 31, 2020; Rebuttal Testimony, March 10, 2020; Cross-Examination at hearings, May 18, 2020.

# Delta Montrose Electric Association

Before the *Colorado Public Utilities Commission*, in the matter of Delta-Montrose's complaint that the TriState Generation and Transmission Association's exit fee is unjust, unreasonable and discriminatory, Proceeding No. 18F-0866E, Rebuttal Testimony, June 28, 2019.

# Transource Maryland LLC

Before the Maryland Public Service Commission, in the matter of Transource's request for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct new high-voltage transmission facilities in Maryland, Case No. 9471, rebuttal testimony, May 8, 2019, and testimony under cross-examination at hearing before the Maryland PSC, June 24, 2019.

### On her own behalf

Before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, at hearing on the electric industry in a changing climate, oral and written testimony, March 5, 2019.

#### © Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd)

Before the *Illinois Commerce Commission*, in the matter of ComEd's petition concerning the annual formula rate update and revenue requirement (on regulatory policy issues relating to two battery energy storage systems proposed to be part of ComEd's distribution services), Docket No. 18-0808, surrebuttal testimony, August 29, 2018.

# Pacific Gas & Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company

Before the California Public Utility Commission, in the matter of the Order Instituting Rulemaking to Oversee the Resource Adequacy Program, Consider Program Refinements, and Establish Annual Local and Flexible Procurement Obligations for the 2019 and 2020 Compliance Years, Rulemaking 17-09-020, July 10, 2018.

# Dominion Energy Nuclear Connecticut

Before the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in the matter of implementation of Public Act 17-3, Docket No. 18-05-04, May 2018; testimony under cross-examination, August 2018.

# <u>Dominion Energy Nuclear Connecticut</u>

Before the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection and Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, in the matter of DEEP's and PURA's joint proceeding to implement the Governor's Executive Order Number 59, Docket No. 17-07-32; affidavit, January 8, 2018.

# <u>Amici Curiae Brief of Independent Economists in Support of New York State Public Service Commission</u>

Before the *U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit*, in the matter of the Coalition for Competitive Electricity, et al., v. Zibelman et al., Case No. 17-2654-cv, On Appeal from a Final Judgment of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, No. 16-cv-8164 (VEC), November 22, 2017.

#### © Commonwealth Edison Company (ComEd)

Before the *Illinois Commerce Commission*, in the matter of ComEd's petition concerning the implementation of a demonstration distribution migrogrid, Docket No. 17-0331, rebuttal testimony submitted October 27, 2017; surrebuttal testimony, November 20, 2017.

#### On her own behalf

Before the *House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy,* Hearing on "Powering America: Defining Reliability in a Transforming Electricity Industry, October 3, 2017 (testimony dated September 12, 2017, the original date of the hearing).

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NorthStar Decommissioning Holdings, LLC, NorthStar Nuclear Decommissioning Company, LLC, NorthStar Group Services, Inc., LVI Parent Corp., NorthStar Group Holding, LLC, Entergy Nuclear Vermont Investment Company, and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Before the Vermont Public Service Board, in the matter of the Joint Petition to transfer ownership of Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC, Docket No. 8880, December 16, 2016.

Entergy Nuclear Indian Point 2, LLC, Entergy Nuclear Indian Point 3, LLC, Entergy Nuclear FitzPatrick, LLC, and Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.

Before the New York Public Service Commission, in the matter of the Proceeding on Motion of the Commission to Implement a Large-Scale Renewable Program and a Clean Energy Standard, Case 15–E-0302, Affidavit of Susan Tierney Regarding the Staff White Paper on a Clean Energy Standard, April 21, 2016.

<u>Amici Curiae Brief of Former State Environmental and Energy Officials in Support of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</u>

Before the *U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit,* in the case of State of West Virginia v. U.S. EPA, Case No. 15-1363, Petition for Review of a Final Agency Action of the U.S. EPA 80 Fed. Reg. 64,662, April 1, 2016.

Environmental and Public Health Respondent-Intervenors (Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund, Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, American Lung Association, Clean Air Council, Clean Wisconsin, Conservation Law Foundation, and Ohio Environmental Council, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Coal River Mountain Watch, Kanawha Forest Coalition, Mon Valley Clean Air Coalition and Keepers of the Mountains Foundation)

Before the *U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit*, Nos. 15-1365 and Consolidated Cases, in Re: West Virginia, et al., on Petitions for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, prepared declaration, December 8, 2015.

New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA)

Before the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, Hearing on Clean Energy Procurement, Transmission and Financing, Statement on SB 1965 (An Act relative to energy sector compliance with the Global Warming Solutions Act), September 29, 2015

Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund, Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, Clean Air Council, Clean Wisconsin, and Conservation Law Foundation Before the U.S.

Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Nos. 15-1277 & 15-1284 in Re: West Virginia, et al., and in Re: Peabody Energy Corp., on Petitions for Extraordinary Writ, prepared declaration, August 31, 2015.

Pepco Holdings, Inc., and its operating affiliates, Potomac Electric Power Company, Delmarva Power & Light Company, and Atlantic City Electric Company

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in Delaware Division of Public Advocate, et al., v.

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<u>Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Pepco Holdings Inc., Docket No. EL13-48-000, April 3, 2013;</u> prepared answering testimony, June 2, 2015; and prepared cross-answering testimony, August 21, 2015.

#### Mawaii Gas Company

Before the *Public Utilities Commission of Hawaii*, in the Matter of the Application of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Limited, and NextEra Energy, Inc., for Approval of the Proposed Change of Control and Related Matters, Docket No. 20150022, answering and direct testimony filed July 20, 2015, rebuttal testimony, October 5, 2015. Crossexamination under oath, February 9, 2016.

# Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

Before the Superior Court of the State of Delaware in and for Sussex County, C.A. No. S13C-12-025
RFS, in Re: David T. Stevenson, et al., v. Delaware Department of Natural Resources and
Environmental Control and David S. Small, prepared affidavit, July 15, 2015, prepared affidavit,
September 8, 2016; prepared affidavit, June 7, 2016; prepared affidavit, June 2, 2017; deposition, August
9, 2017; testimony at trial, December 4, 2017.

#### On her own behalf

Before the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, Subcommittee on the Environment and Subcommittee on Energy, Hearing on the U.S. Energy Information Administration Report: Analysis of the EPA's Clean Power Plan, June 24, 2015.

# <u>Baltimore Gas and Electric, Pepco Holdings Inc. and PHI's affiliates Pepco, Delmarva Power, and Atlantic City Electric</u>

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in the Matter of Delaware Division of the Public Advocate, et. al., v. Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, et al, Docket Nos. EL13-48-001 and EL15-27-000 (Consolidated), June 2, 2015.

#### On her own behalf

Before the *House Committee on Commerce and Energy*, Subcommittee on Energy and Power, Hearing to Examine EPA's Proposed 111(d) Rule for Existing Power Plants and the Proposed Ratepayer Protection Act, April 14, 2015.

#### Exelon Generating Company LLC

Before the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board for Approval to Construct a 200 MW Simple Cycle Combustion Turbine Generating Facility in the Town of Medway, Massachusetts, Exelon West Medway, LLC/Exelon West Medway II, LLC, EFSB Docket No. 15-1/D.P.U. 15-25, March, 2015; cross- examination under oath, December 8, 9, and 14, 2015.

#### On her own behalf

Before the *House Committee on Investigations and Government Oversight*, Subcommittee on Interior, Hearing to Examine the Impacts of EPA Air and Water Regulations on the States and the American People, February 26, 2015.

#### Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc.

Before the District of Columbia Public Service Commission, In the Matter of the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc., prefiled direct testimony (June 18, 2014); rebuttal testimony (December 17, 2014); testimony under cross-examination (April 8, 2015); direct testimony in support of Settlement Agreement, October 20, 2015; testimony under cross-examination, December 4, 2015.

#### On her own behalf

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Technical Conference on Environmental Regulations and Electric Reliability, Wholesale Electricity Markets, and Energy Infrastructure, Docket No. AD15-4000, February 19, 2015.

# <u>Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc.</u>

Before the Maryland Public Service Commission, In the Matter of the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc., prefiled direct testimony (August 19, 2014); rebuttal testimony (January 7, 2015); testimony under cross-examination (January 26–27, 2015); post-settlement testimony (March 27, 2015); supplemental post-settlement testimony (April 14, 2015); testimony under cross-examination (April 15, 2015).

# <u>Algonquin Gas Transmission and Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline (Spectra Energy)</u> Before the *Maine Public Utilities Commission*, Investigation of Parameters for Exercising Authority Pursuant to the Maine Energy Cost Reduction Act, 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1901, Docket No. 2014-00071,

testimony under cross-examination, July 11, 2014, and August 8, 2014.

# Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc.

Before the *Delaware Public Service Commission*, In the Matter of the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc., prefiled direct testimony (June 27, 2014), rebuttal testimony (January 12, 2015).

#### <u>Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc.</u>

Before the New Iersey Board of Public Utilities, In the Matter of the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc., prefiled direct testimony (June 27, 2014), rebuttal testimony (December 10, 2014)

#### Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc.

Before the *District of Columbia Public Service Commission*, In the Matter of the Merger of Exelon Corporation and Pepco Holdings, Inc., prefiled direct testimony (June 18, 2014), rebuttal testimony (December 17, 2014).

#### On her own behalf

Before the *Oregon State Legislature's* House Interim Committee on Revenue, Senate Interim Committee on Finance and Revenue, on "Consideration of the Feasibility and Implications of a Clean Air Tax or Fee in Oregon: Implementing Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Policies – Experience from Other States," January 15–16, 2014.

#### On her own behalf

Before the *U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power*, "Hearing on EPA's Proposed GHG Standards for New Power Plants and H.R. , Whitfield- Manchin Legislation," November 14, 2013.

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# Joshua Epel, James Tarpey, and Pamela Patton, et al.

Before the *U.S. District Court of the State of Colorado*, on behalf of Joshua Epel, James Tarpey, and Pamela Patton (commissioners of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission), and Environment Colorado, Conservation Colorado Education Fund, Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, Solar Energy Industries Association, and Interwest Energy Alliance, in re: *American Tradition Institute and Rod Lueck, v. Epel at al.*, Civil Action Number 11-cv-00859-WJM-BMB, expert report, November 7, 2013.

#### On her own behalf

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in the Matters of Centralized Capacity Markets in Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators," Docket No. AD13-7-000, re: considerations for the future, September 9, 2013.

# On behalf of Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee

Before the U.S. District Court, District of Vermont, in Central Vermont Public Service Corporation and Green Mountain Power Corporation v. Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, Docket No. 2:12-cv-10- wks, expert report, May 8, 2013.

<u>Environmental Defense Fund and North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association Before the Public Utilities Commission of North Carolina, Docket E-7, SUB 1032, August 7, 2013.</u>

# Advanced Energy Economy Ohio

Before the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee in support of the Ohio Energy Efficiency Resource Standard, April 9, 2013.

# Pepco Holdings, Inc., and its operating affiliates, Potomac Electric Power Company, Delmarva Power & Light Company, and Atlantic City Electric Company

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in Delaware Division of Public Advocate, et. al., v. Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Pepco Holdings Inc., Docket No. EL13-48-000, April 3, 2013.

#### Major engineering, construction and project-management company

<u>Prepared an expert report on electric market conditions in a dispute surrounding cancellation of a major power plant, 2012.</u>

# Baltimore Gas and Electric Company

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in Delaware Division of Public Advocate, et al., v. Baltimore Gas and Electric Company and Pepco Holdings Inc., Docket No. EL13-48-000, April 3, 2013.

# NSTAR Electric Company and Cape Wind LLC

Before the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, in the Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for Approval of a Proposed Long-Term Contract for Renewable Energy with Cape Wind Associates, LLC Pursuant to St. 2008, c. 169, §83, Prefiled Direct Testimony, March 30, 2012; testimony under crossexamination, August 2, 2012.

# Pacific Gas and Electric Company

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Before the *California Public Utilities Commission*, in the Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion to Adopt New Safety and Reliability Regulations for Natural Gas Transmission and Distribution Pipelines and Related Ratemaking Mechanisms, Rulemaking 11-02-019, Rebuttal Testimony filed on February 28, 2012; testimony under cross-examination, March 20, 2012.

#### COMPETE Coalition

Before the New Iersey Board of Public Utilities, In the Matter, In the Matter of the Board's Investigation of Capacity Procurement and Transmission Planning, Docket No. EO11050309, October 14, 2011.

#### On her own behalf

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#### <u>Exelon Corporation and Constellation Energy Group</u>

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# New England Power Generators Association

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#### Commonwealth Edison Company

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#### National Grid: Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company

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# National Grid: Boston Gas Company, Essex Gas Company, Colonial Gas Company

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# National Grid: EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc., d/b/a National Grid NH

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## National Grid: Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation

Before the *New York Public Service Commission*, Investigation as to the Propriety of Proposed Electric Tariff Changes, Docket No. 10-E-0050, prefiled direct testimony (filed January 29, 2009), rebuttal testimony (filed August 2010).

# National Grid: Narragansett Electric Company

Before the *Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission*, Investigation as to the Propriety of Proposed Tariff Changes, Docket No. R.I.P.U.C. 4065, prefiled direct testimony (filed June 1, 2009; testimony under cross-examination, November 4, 2009).

# National Grid: Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company

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# Amerada Hess Corp., et al.

Before the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York, on behalf of Amerada Hess Corp., et al., in City of New York v. Amerada Hess Corp. et al., Case No. 1:00-1898, testimony in deposition, May 12, 2009.

#### State of North Carolina

Before the District Court of the United States for the Western District of North Carolina, on behalf of North Carolina in State of North Carolina, ex rel. Roy Cooper, Attorney General, v. Tennessee Valley Authority, Case No. 1:06CV20, testimony in deposition, May 17, 2007; testimony at July 22, 2008.

# <u>KeySpan Energy Delivery (National Grid)</u>

Before the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board, Boston Gas Company, d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New England v. City of Boston, Docket No. F275055-F275056 (FY 2004), F279207-F279208 (FY 2005), F284088-F286194 (FY 2006), testimony and cross-examination, May 20–21, 28, June 4, 2008.

# © Commonwealth Edison Company

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#### Sierra Pacific Power Company

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Before the *Public Utilities Commission of Nevada*, In the Matter of the Application of Sierra Pacific Power, filed pursuant to NRS 704.110(3), for authority to increase its general rates charged to all classes of electric customers to reflect an increase in annual revenue requirement, Docket No. 07-12 (filed December 3, 2007), Prefiled Direct Testimony; cross examination, April 17–18, 2008.

# Amerada Hess Corp., et al.

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# Sempra Energy Company – San Diego Gas & Electric Company and SoCalGas Company Before the California Public Utility Commission, Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine the Commission's post-2005 Energy Efficiency Policies, Programs, Evaluation, Measurement and Verification and Related Issues, Rulemaking Docket 06-04-010 (Filed April 13, 2006), testimony filed May 3, 2007, cross examination, May 29, 2007.

# Commonwealth Edison Company

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# PECO Energy Company

Before the *Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission*, Petition of PECO for Approval of (1) a Process to Procure Alternative Energy Credits During the AEPS Banking Period, and (2) A Section 1307 Surcharge and Tariff to Recover AEPS Costs, Prefiled Direct Testimony, March 19, 2007.

#### Masspower

Before the Superior Court Department of Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company v. Masspower, et al., Civil No. 05-02710 (BLS1), on the changes in conditions in the electric industry in New England as they relate to Masspower's performance under its power supply agreement with MMWEC; Expert Report, September 11, 2006; oral testimony under cross examination at trial, October 16–17, 2006.

#### © Commonwealth Edison Company

Before the *Illinois Commerce Commission*, Proposed general increase in electric rates, general restructuring of rates, price unbundling of bundled service rates, and revision of other terms and conditions of service, Docket No. 05-0597, Rebuttal Testimony, January 30, 2006; Surrebuttal Testimony, March 14, 2006; oral testimony under cross-examination, March 23, 2006. Testimony on rehearing, September 20, 2006.

#### © Commonwealth Edison Company

Before the Illinois House of Representatives, Electric Utility Oversight Committee, on the Pay-as-Bid versus Uniform Price Auction Approach To Procurement of Wholesale Power for ComEd's Full-Requirements Customers, January 18, 2006, Springfield, Illinois.

#### <u>Louisville Gas & Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company</u>

Before the *Kentucky Public Service Commission*, Application of LG&E and KU to transfer functional control of their transmission assets, Direct Testimony, November 19, 2005.

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#### <u>Louisville Gas & Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company</u>

Before the *Kentucky Public Service Commission*, Investigation Into The Membership of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company In The Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc., Case No. 2003-00266, September 29, 2004; Supplemental Rebuttal Testimony, January 10, 2005; testimony at hearing, June 2005.

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# Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Before the *California Public Utilities Commission*, In Re: Order Instituting Investigation into the ratemaking implications for Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) pursuant to the Commission's Alternative Plan of Reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code for PG&E, in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, In re Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Investigation 02-04-026, Pre-Filed Testimony, July 23, 2003, Testimony under crossexamination, September 12, 2003.

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#### Pacific Gas and Electric Company/PG&E Corporation

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#### PP&L Global

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# Connecticut Light & Power Company

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# Pacific Gas and Electric Company/PG&E Corporation

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# © Cross-Sound Cable Company LLC

Before the *Connecticut Siting Council*, on the public benefits of the proposed Cross Sound Cable Project's Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need, Docket No. 208.

Prepared direct testimony, July 23, 2001; oral testimony under cross-examination, October 24–26, 29–30, 2001.

# Sithe New England (Sithe Edgar LLC, Sithe New Boston LLC, Sithe Framingham LLC, Sithe West Medway LLC, Sithe Mystic LLC)

Before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in the Matter of NSTAR Electric & Gas Corp., v. Sithe Edgar LLC, Sithe New Boston LLC, Sithe Framingham LLC, Sithe West Medway LLC, Sithe Mystic LLC, and PG&E Energy Trading, Docket No. EL01-79-000. Affidavit comparing historical cost recovery by Boston Edison for its fossil generation units (pre-divestiture) under rate regulation, versus Sithe's revenue recovery for these same units (post-divestiture) under market prices, June 5, 2001.

#### NRG Energy Inc. and Dynegy Holdings Inc.

Before the *Public Utilities Commission of Nevada*, In Re: petition of the Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection to issue an Order staying further proceedings regarding divestiture of Nevada's electric generation assets and to open a docket to consider whether to issue a moratorium on divestiture in Nevada. Supplemental prepared direct testimony on behalf of Valmy Power LLC, April 6, 2001; testimony under cross-examination.

Before the *Public Utilities Commission of Nevada*, In Re: petition of the Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection to issue an Order staying further proceedings regarding divestiture of Nevada's electric generation assets and to open a docket to consider whether to issue a moratorium on divestiture in Nevada, prepared direct testimony on behalf of Reid Gardner Power LLC and Clark Power LLC, April 3, 2001; testimony under cross-examination.

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#### Sithe New England, LLC

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# Arkansas Electric Distribution Cooperatives

Before the *Arkansas Public Service Commission*, In the Matter of a Generic Proceeding to Establish Uniform Policies and Guidelines for a Standard Service Package. Prepared joint reply testimony (with Janet Gail Besser), July 21, 2000; prepared joint surreply testimony (with Janet Besser), August 3, 2000.

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# Sithe New England, LLC

Before the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board, Docket EFSB 98-10, in support of an application to construct a 540 MW gas-fired single cycle peaking power plant in Medway, Massachusetts. Prepared direct testimony, April 1999; oral testimony under cross-examination, July 27, 1999.

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#### RECENT SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS IN THE PAST 10 YEARS

"The Spark of Innovation: Exploring Decarbonization from Electrification," IEEE PES Conference, Anaheim, May 8, 2024.

"The State-RTO Partnership: Policies, Markets, Reliability, and the Energy Transition," Northwestern University Electricity Dialogue," Chicago, April 23, 2024.

"The Future of Fossil Fuels in a Decarbonized United States," Resources Radio podcast, March 26, 2024.

"Accelerating Decarbonization in the US," The Energy Transition Show podcast, February 21, 2024.

"What's Really Needed to Cut U.S. Emissions Faster This Decade?" Electrify This! podcast, February 9, 2024.

"Reality Check on Policy and Markets," Aspen Institute Winter Energy Forum, February 6, 2024.

"Energy Grid Infrastructure: Progress and Impediments to Sustainability," Cosmos Club Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Group and Economics Group, Washington DC, February 6, 2024.

"The Electric Power Sector: Context for Climate Pollution Reduction Grants," Environmental Protection Agency Technical Assistance Forum, December 13, 2023.

"Weather, Markets, and Reliability: Harmonizing the Gas and Electric Industries," Northwestern University Electricity Dialogue, Chicago, October 5, 2023.

"Rate Design for Electrification and Activating Demand," New England Roundtable, March 24, 2023.

"Net Zero America," National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, November 7, 2021.

"Transmission's Critical Role in Decarbonizing New England," New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable, September 24, 2021.

"Wholesale Electricity Markets," National Governors Association, September 23, 2021.

Expert Panel on "Greenhouse Gases - Where are they from, why do they matter, and can they be reduced?" America in One Room: Climate and Energy - Deliberative Polling Event (Stanford University), September 2021.

"Improving Electricity Transmission Siting Opportunities to Meet America's Consumer, Economic, Clean Energy and Climate Goals," Progressive Policy Institute, September 14, 2021.

"Energy Transitions: Agency of Change, Changing Agents," UT Energy Week, 2021, University of Texas Energy Institute, April 2021.

<u>Briefings on the National Academies' study on The Future of Electric Power, February-March 2021.</u>
Briefings on the National Academies' study on Decarbonizing the U.S. Energy System, February-March 2021.

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"CEO Roundtable: The New England Investment Thesis," moderator of panel at the New England Power Generator Association's Summit, Boston, December 2, 2019.

"Government Policies Promoting Low Carbon Transitions," moderator of panel at the U.S. Association of Energy Economists, Denver, November 5, 2019.

"A Transformation of Power: The U.S. Electric Grid Undergoes Change," Energy Journalism Initiative, Center for Global Energy Policy, Columbia University, New York City, June 12, 2019.

"Trends and Issues in the Electric Industry – and Potential Implications for State AGs," New York University State Energy & Environmental Impact Center, Washington, DC, May 29, 2019.

"Electric System Planning: Mapping Opportunities for Participation by State Air Offices," National Association of Clean Air Agencies, Webinar, April 4, 2019.

"Emerging Energy and Environmental Technologies: Possibilities, Policy Implications, and Potential Consequences," Resources for the Future/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Conference on Energy Research Insights for Decision making, Washington, DC, November 29, 2018.

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"Potential Solutions & Discussions, NERC (North American Electric Reliability Corporation), Technical Workshop on Gas Infrastructure Risk and Associated Recommendations, Atlanta, July 10, 2018.

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"State Policies and Proposals to Support Existing Nuclear Power Plants," Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, Washington, DC, May 9, 2018.

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"The Fracking Debate: The Pros, Cons, and Lessons Learned from the U.S. Energy Boom," Energy Policy Institute of Chicago, University of Chicago, April 11, 2018.

"Power Sector Transformation: Natural Gas/Electricity Panel," Annual Meeting of the Joint Institute for Strategic Energy Analysis, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, April 5, 2018.

"The Evolution of Utility and Regulatory Reform in the U.S.," 2018 e21 Forum #1: Toward a 21st C. Electric System in Minnesota, March 20, 2018.

"The Natural Gas/Electricity Nexus," Keystone Energy Board meeting, Keystone CO, February 9, 2018.

"Critical Aspects of Transitioning to Competitive Energy Markets from a Wholesale and Retail Perspective & Renewable Energy Procurement in Restructured Markets," Committee on Energy Choice, State of Nevada, Las Vegas, November 7, 2017.

"Firm With Trump Cabinet Ties Scores \$300M Puerto Rico Power Contract," On Point radio show on restoration of Puerto Rico's electric grid, WBUR/NPR, October 25, 2017.

"Beyond Baseload? Electricity Markets and Reliability," Keystone Energy Board meeting, Washington, D.C., October 24, 2017.

"The Future of Baseload in the West," Committee on Regional Electric Power Cooperation (CREPC), Reno, October 17, 2017.

"Regulatory Paths Forward for a Clean Grid," Harvard Law School, Cambridge, October 13, 2017.

"This Thing about Coal and Nukes," Grid Geeks Podcast, October 6, 2017.

"What Do Americans Think about the Direction of Energy and Climate Policy?" EPIC, University of Chicago, October 4, 2017.

"Preparing for the Future: Challenges and Opportunities of Modernizing the Grid," NextGrid Illinois conference, Chicago, September 28, 2017.

"Designing America's Energy Future," National Renewable Energy Laboratory's 40th Anniversary meeting on energy innovation, Golden, CO, September 20, 2017.

"The Future of Power Markets in a Low Marginal Cost World: Electricity Sector Overview," Resources for the Future, September 14, 2017.

"The National Academy of Sciences Report on Electric System Resiliency: Natural Gas and Electric System Interdependencies," NAESB, September 7, 2017.

"Valuing Distributed Energy Resources," Aspen Energy Policy Forum, July 2017.

"The Road from Paris: A Conversation with the Former Secretary of Energy Ernie Moniz," Aspen Ideas Festival, July 2017.

"How Policy Choices Today Will Impact the Future of Electric Power," Edison Electric Institute, Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, June 12, 2016.

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"Navigating the Energy and Environmental Policy Landscape," Nicholas School for the Environment, Duke University, Washington, D.C, February 15, 2017.

"What is Next for the EPA's Carbon Regulations for Existing Power Plants?" NARUC Electricity Committee and the Energy Resources and the Environment Committee, Washington, D.C., February 14, 2017.

"Carbon: A risk or an opportunity?" NARUC Energy Resources and the Environment Committee, Washington, D.C., February 14, 2017.

"Managing the Energy Transition: Exploring Pathways to Deep Decarbonization," Bipartisan Policy Center, Washington, D.C., December 8, 2016.

"The Clean Power Plan and Beyond: What to Expect in 2017..." NYU School of Law – Institute for Policy Integrity, New York, NY, November 15, 2016.

"Location, Location, Location, and the Value of Distributed Energy Resources," NARUC Annual Meeting, La Quinta, CA, November 14, 2016.

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"State Electric Industry Policies and Organized Wholesale Electricity Markets," Presentation to the NYISO Environmental Advisory Council, Albany, NY, November 4, 2016.

"Existing nuclear units and potential policy solutions: Approaches in other states beyond Illinois," Chicago, IL, October 18, 2016.

"Existing Nuclear Units – and New York's Clean Energy Standard," presentation to the NARUC Energy Resources and the Environment Committee – Monthly Conference Call, September 16, 2016.

"Understanding the Evolving Trends in the Eastern Interconnect: Implications for Environmental Policies & Investments," Duke Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions/Great Plains Institute/Bipartisan Policy Center, I, Atlanta, September 13, 2016.

"What does the U.S. need to do to meet its climate goals? Why Nuclear? How Much and How Fast?" Aspen Institute Forum on the Future of Nuclear Energy, Aspen, August 10, 2016.

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"How does New Jersey Achieve a Low-Carbon Future?" New Jersey Spotlight conference, Trenton, NJ, June 3, 2016.

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"New England's Electricity 'Restructuring:' Successes, disappointments, and what's next," 150th meeting of the New England Electricity Restructuring Roundtable, Boston, MA, May 18, 2016.

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"Affordability, Cost Containment, and Economic Development: Complying with the Clean Power Plan," 3-N meeting (NARUC, NASEO, NACAA) on How State Agencies Are Working Together, Washington D.C., February 11, 2016.

"Evaluating Clean Power Plan Pathways in a Dynamic Electricity Sector," Conference on Navigating the EPA's Clean Power Plan: Charting a Course for the Southeast, sponsored by Duke University Nicholas Institute for the Environment, Orlando, January 28, 2016.

NASEO/DOE/EIA, "2015 – 2016 Winter Energy Outlook Conference," National Press Club, Washington, D.C., October 6, 2015.

"Outlook for Energy," Clinton Foundation Global Initiative, New York, NY, September 28, 2015.

"Reactions to the Clean Power Plan," NARUC Electricity Committee, Arlington, VA, August 14, 2015.

"Trends in national climate policy," Institute for Sustainable Cities, June 18, 2015.

"EPA's Clean Power Plan and its potential effects on system reliability," Mid-American Regulatory Commissioners (MARC) Conference, Milwaukee, June 8, 2015.

"Proposed Reliability Mechanisms for the Clean Power Plan," Bipartisan Policy Center Workshop, National Press Club, Washington D.C., May 9, 2015.

"EPA's Proposed Clean Power Plan: Testing the tires, looking under the hood... How far does it take us toward a clean, modern electric system?" Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, November 2014.

"Readying States for New Greenhouse Gas Rules in the Electricity Sector," National Governors Association – Workshop for Governors' Energy Advisors, Washington, D.C., September 22, 2014,

"Natural Gas and Renewable Energy Synergies: Challenges and Opportunities," North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB), Board Meeting, Houston, September 10, 2014.

"America's Electricity Evolution: New Policies, Regulations, and Technologies Converging to Change the Future of Power Production and Use," 2014 NASEO Annual Meeting, Savannah, September 2014.

"Implications for Energy, Economy, and Environment Under the Proposal," Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), Washington D.C., July 31, 2014.

"Regional Options and Strategic Choices," NARUC Workshop on Regional Compliance Options for Sec. 111d, Washington D.C., July 28, 2014.

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### SERVICE ON BOARDS OF DIRECTORS (PUBLIC COMPANIES, PRIVATE COMPANIES, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS)

<u>Chair, National Academies' Board on Energy and Environmental Systems (2023-Present); Member of the Board (2022-Present).</u>

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Member, Keystone Center Board of Trustees (2016–2019)

Member, Alliance to Save Energy Board of Directors (2011–2018)

Member, EnerNOC, Inc. Board of Directors (February 2010-May 2013)

Member, Evergreen Solar, Inc. Board of Directors, 2008–2011)

Member, Ze-gen Inc. Board of Directors, 2009–2011)

Member, Renegy Holdings Board of Directors, 2007–2009)

Member, Clean Air Task Force Board of Directors, 2008–2013)

Member, Catalytica Energy Systems Inc. Board of Directors (2001–2007)

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Member, Climate Policy Center Board of Directors (2001–2007)

Member, NorthEast States Center for a Clean Air Future, Board of Directors (1998–2010)

Chair, Clean Air-Cool Planet / Climate Policy Center Board of Directors (2004–2009); Director (1999–2014)

Member, ACORE (American Council on Renewable Energy) Board of Directors (2006–2007)

Member, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Board of Directors (1998–2003, 2005–2006)

Chair, Electricity Innovations Institute, Board of Directors, (2002–2004); Director (2001–2002)

Director, The Randers Group (subsidiary of Thermo TERRATEK) Board of Directors (1997–2000)

Director, Thermo ECOTEK Corporation Board of Directors (1996–1999)

#### OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member, Committee on Accelerating Decarbonization in the United States: Technology, Policy and Social Dimensions, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine (2020-2023)

Member, Climate Crossroads Advisory Committee, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine (2022-present)

Member, Committee on Net Metering, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine (2021-2023)

Member, Committee on the Modernization of the Electric Grid, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine, Climate Communications Initiative (2019-2021)

Member, Advisory Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine, Climate Communications Initiative (2018-2023)

<u>Co-chair, National American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) Gas-Electric Harmonization Committee</u> (2012, 2014, 2022-present)

Chair, External Advisory Council, National Renewables Energy Laboratory (2009–present)

Member, Columbia University, Center for Global Energy Policy (2014–2018, 2020-2023)

Member, Institute for Policy Integrity, New York University School of Law (2017-Present)

Member, New York Independent System Operator, Environmental/Advisory Council (2004–Present)

Member, Technical Review Panels at National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Member, Energy Systems Integration TRP (2021-2023); Chair, Computational Sciences and Energy Analysis TRP (2018-2021); Chair, Energy Analysis TRP (2009-2018).

Visiting Fellow in Policy Practice at the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (2017–2018)

Chair and Member, Electricity Advisory Committee (Department of Energy) (2015–2017)

Member, National Academy of Sciences Committee on Enhancing the Resiliency of the Nation's Electric Power Transmission and Distribution System (2015–2017)

Chair, Aspen Institute Energy Policy Forum (2015)

Member, Innovation Review Panel, "51st State" Initiative of the Solar Electric Power Association (2015)

Chair, External Review Panel for the Clean Energy Ministerial (2015)

Chair, Aspen Institute Energy Policy Forum (2014)

<u>Participant in studies of the Colorado State University's Center for Clean Energy Economy ("Powering Forward: Presidential and Executive Agency Actions to Drive Clean Energy in America") (January 2014)</u>

Co-Lead Convening Author, Energy Supply and Use Chapter, National Climate Assessment (2012–2014)

Member, Committee on Risk Management and Government Issues in Shale Gas Development, of the National Academy of Sciences, Board on Environmental Change and Society (of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education) (2013–2014)

Co-chair, Bipartisan Policy Center's Cyber-security and the Electric Grid project (2013–2014)

Alliance Commission on National Energy Efficiency Policy (2012–2013): Report "Energy 2030: Doubling Energy Productivity by 2030" (February 2013)

<u>Bipartisan Policy Center – Energy Project (2011–Present): Report ("America's Energy Resurgence: Sustaining Success, Confronting Challenges" (February 2013)</u>

<u>U.S. Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (July 2010–May 2013). Member of the Natural Gas Subcommittee examining shale gas development. (2011–2013)</u>

Chair, Policy Subgroup of the National Petroleum Council's study on North American Gas and Oil Resource Development (2010–2011)

<u>Visiting Professor, Department of Urban Studies & Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Spring 2010)</u>

Massachusetts Clean Energy Grand Prize Judge (2010)

World Resources Institute: Chair of Presidential Search Committee (2011)

Co-Lead, Department of Energy Agency Review Team, Obama/Biden Presidential Transition Team, Washington D.C., while on full-time leave for four months from Analysis Group (2008–2009)

Chair, Massachusetts Ocean Advisory Commission (2008–2010)

Member, Blue Ribbon Commission on Cost-Allocation Issues for Transmission Investment, WIRES (2007)

Member, National Academy of Sciences Committee on Enhancing the Robustness and Resilience of Electrical Transmission and Distribution in the United States to Terrorist Attack (2005–2008)

Member, National Commission on Energy Policy, Member (2002–2011); Co-chair (2009–2011)

Member, Advisory Committee, Carnegie Mellon Electricity Industry Center (2001–2009)

Member, Policy Advisory Committee, China Sustainable Energy Project—A Joint Project of The Packard Foundation and The Energy Foundation (1999–2014)

Co-Chair, Energy/Environment Working Group, Governor Deval Patrick Transition Team (2006–2007)

<u>Presenter, Economic Issues, National LNG Forums, U.S. Department of Energy, Boston Massachusetts;</u> <u>Astoria, Oregon (2006)</u>

Chair of the Technical Review Panel, Critical Infrastructure Protection Decision Support Systems (CIP-DSS), Argonne, Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories (2006)

Advisory Council member, New England Energy Alliance (2005–2006)

<u>Chair of the Laboratory Direction's Division Review Panel for the Environmental Energy Technologies</u> <u>Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (2005)</u>

Chair, Ocean Management Task Force, Commonwealth of Massachusetts (2003–2004)

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Co-Chair, RTO Futures: Regional Power Working Group (2001–2002)

Member, Florida Energy 2020 Study Commission, Environmental Technical Advisory Committee (2001)

Technical Advisor, Mid-Atlantic Area Council/PJM, Dispute Resolution Procedure (1998–2008)

Member, "ISO-New England" (Independent System Operator) Advisory Committee (1998–2003)

Member, United States Department of Energy, Electricity Reliability Task Force (1996–1998)

Member, Harvard Electricity Policy Group (1993–2005)

#### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

<u>Lifetime National Associate of the National Research Council of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (January 2020)</u>

Mary Kilmarx Award for lifetime work on good government, clean energy and the environment, presented by NARUC's Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment (November 2015)

<u>Lifetime Achievement Award, U.S. Department of Energy/MIT/Clean Energy Ministerial C3E (CleanEnergy Education & Empowerment) Initiative (2014)</u>

Champions Award, Charles River Watershed Association (2013)

<u>Leadership Award, New England Women in Energy and the Environment (2013) Clean</u> Energy Hall of Fame, New England Clean Energy Council (2012)

DOE Women in Clean Energy Initiative, C3 Ambassador (2012)

Climate Champion Award, Clean Air – Cool Planet (2009)

Distinguished Alumna Award, Scripps College, Claremont, CA (1998)

Award for Individual Leadership in Public Service, The Energy Daily (1995)

Special Recognition Award, Outstanding Contribution to the Industry, Assn of Energy Engineers (1994)

Leadership Award, National Association of State Energy Officials (1994)

Commencement Speaker and Honorary Doctorate of Laws, Regis College, Weston, MA (1992)

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY CHAPTER 9 UTILITY FINANCING PRINCIPLES

#### Application No. 24-03-009

# DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JENNIFER E. NELSON ON BEHALF OF PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC

**January 31, 2025** 

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#### WITNESS IDENTIFICATION & PURPOSE

2 Please state your name, affiliation, and business address.

1

3 My name is Jennifer E. Nelson. I am a Vice President at Concentric Energy Advisors 4 ("Concentric"). Concentric is a management consulting and economic advisory firm that 5 specializes in the North American energy and water industries. Based in Marlborough, 6 Massachusetts and Washington, D.C., Concentric specializes in regulatory and litigation 7 support, financial advisory services, energy market strategies, market assessments, energy 8 commodity contracting and procurement, economic feasibility studies, and capital market 9 analyses. My business address is 293 Boston Post Road West, Suite 500, Marlborough, 10 Massachusetts, 01752. On whose behalf are you submitting this testimony? **20**.

#### 11

I am submitting this direct testimony (Direct Testimony) to the California Public Utilities 12 Commission (CPUC or Commission) on behalf of Pacific Gas and Electric Company 13 14 (PG&E or the Company).

#### Please describe your professional experience and educational background. 15 **30**.

16 I have more than fifteen years of experience in the energy industry, having served as a 17 consultant and energy/regulatory economist for state government agencies. Since 2013, I have provided consulting services on a range of financial and regulatory issues including 18 19 the cost of capital, ratemaking policy, and regulatory strategy issues. Prior to consulting, 20 I was a staff economist at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and a petroleum economist for the State of Alaska. I completed utility regulatory training offered 21 22 by New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities and have earned the Certified

1		Rate of Return Analyst designation from the Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial
2		Analysts. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Business Economics from Bentley University and
3		a Master's degree in Resource and Applied Economics from the University of Alaska. A
4		summary of my professional and educational background, including a list of my testimony
5		filed before regulatory commissions, is included in my Statement of Qualifications.
6	<u>4Q.</u>	Have you previously submitted testimony to the Commission?
7	<u>4A.</u>	No, I have not. I have filed expert testimony before regulatory commissions in Arkansas,
8		Delaware, Florida, Kentucky, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North
9		Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, and
10		Wyoming.
11	<u>5Q.</u>	What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony?
12	<u>5A.</u>	The purpose of my Direct Testimony is to explain why PG&E's application to lease
13		entitlements to certain of its transmission projects to Citizens Energy Corporation
14		(Citizens) <sup>1</sup> subject to the terms and conditions in the Development, Coordination, and
15		Option Agreement (DCOA) (the Investment Program) is a reasonable and prudent option
16		for raising financial capital. My testimony provides a background on utility financing

I understand that Citizens expects to enter into the Entitlement Leases through an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary, Citizens Pacific Transmission LLC. For the purpose of my testimony, I use the term "Citizens" collectively. I refer to Citizens and PG&E collectively as the Parties.

principles and explains how customers benefit from PG&E having access to a variety of
 financial tools to access financial capital on efficient terms.

What is your conclusion regarding PG&E's proposal to lease entitlements to its

transmission projects to Citizens as a means of raising financial capital?<sup>2</sup>

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In my opinion, the proposed Investment Program is a reasonable and prudent method for PG&E to raise financial capital. Financial flexibility is critical for a utility like PG&E to meet its obligation to serve customers. Utilities are among the most capital-intensive sectors and, unlike unregulated companies, cannot defer capital expenditure requirements when economic or market conditions are unfavorable. As such, utilities require continuous access to diverse sources of financial capital. Restricting certain types of funding sources would result in PG&E – and its customers – becoming over-reliant on fewer sources of financial capital that may become constrained, uneconomic, or unavailable at any given time. Ultimately, this would raise PG&E's cost of capital, which would result in increased customer rates. PG&E has substantial planned capital expenditures that will require more financial capital than it can generate internally and raise through traditional debt and equity offerings without harming its credit metrics. Therefore, it is essential that PG&E has a variety of financing tools at its disposal to finance its capital expenditures to meet customers' needs and California's policy objectives. It is in customers' best interest that the Commission enable PG&E to access financial capital efficiently, as this is essential for PG&E to continue providing safe and reliable electric service at fair and reasonable rates. consistent with the regulatory compact to serve its customers each and every day. In the

The term "capital" refers to an asset used for a firm's operations. Financial capital refers to financial assets

(i.e., money) available to a firm to finance operations. Capital can also refer to a firm's physical assets, such as buildings, infrastructure, real estate, land, machinery, inventory, etc.

end, customers benefit from PG&E having access to a variety of sources of financial capital and will be harmed if reasonable and prudent options such as the Investment Program are foreclosed.

Moreover, the proposed Investment Program is substantially similar to two lease agreements between San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) and Citizens that the Commission approved. As such, the benefits to customers that the Commission identified in the SDG&E transactions similarly apply to the Investment Program. Further, the Investment Program delivers enhanced benefits to customers beyond those included in the approved SDG&E transactions, including escalating charitable contributions for direct bill-paying assistance to support PG&E customers in need. The benefits of the Investment Program are described more fully in PG&E's and Citizens' testimonies served with PG&E's amended application.

Based on my review of PG&E's proposal, and the filings, amended testimony, and Commission orders approving the SDG&E lease agreements with Citizens, it is my opinion that the proposed Investment Program provides customer benefits and protections beyond those provided in the SDG&E transactions. My review and analysis of these materials support the proposed Investment Program as being in the public interest.

#### THE NATURE OF REGULATION AND THE OBLIGATION

#### 2 TO SERVE

3 7Q. For context, please summarize the nature of utility regulation and the regulatory

4 <u>compact.</u>

From an economic perspective, because utilities provide essential services with declining cost structures, utility services are thought to be more efficiently provided by one company that is regulated by the government, rather than by multiple companies. The regulatory compact is fundamental to utility ratemaking principles. In exchange for being granted an exclusive franchise to provide essential utility services in a specific geographic area, utilities have an obligation to serve all customers safely, reliably, and fairly and agree to be subject to regulation that allows the utility a reasonable opportunity to recover its prudently incurred costs and earn a regulated return it pays to the investors that supply the capital. As shown in Figure below, for a utility to provide safe, reliable, and essential utility service to customers, it needs investors to supply financial capital. Without investors to supply external financial capital, there is no utility service. From that perspective, customers and investors have a common interest in ensuring safe, reliable and prudent utility service.



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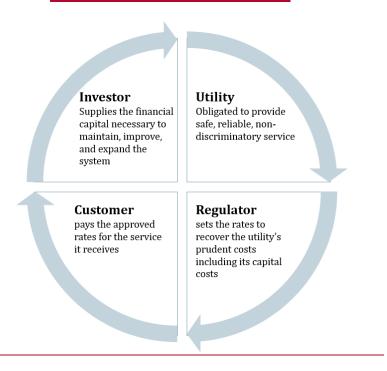
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8A.



Under the regulatory compact, an electric utility like PG&E is obligated to connect

any customer in its territory that requests service and must meet the energy demands of its

customers each and every day, regardless of economic or market conditions. In other

words, a regulated utility cannot decide to whom it provides utility service in its footprint,

how much utility service it delivers, nor when it provides utility service. As explained in

more detail below, the regulatory obligation to serve distinguishes regulated utilities from

unregulated firms and is a principal driver of utility financing practices.

#### 8Q. Please explain how the obligation to serve drives utility financing practices.

Companies – including utilities – secure financing based on the specific risks and funding requirements associated with their unique individual operations. As such, utility financing practices reflect the nature of regulation, and the investments made under the regulatory compact. In many respects, the regulatory compact is what induces investors to invest

substantial amounts of financial capital into large, essentially irreversible, assets that are recovered over decades.

Unlike unregulated businesses, utilities have an obligation to serve customers and that obligation to serve must be fulfilled regardless of prevailing economic and capital market conditions. As such, utilities must ensure they have access to external financial capital on efficient terms not only during times when markets are well-behaving, but also when markets are volatile or constrained (e.g., during periods of high inflation and interest rates, global pandemics, changes in government, and economic recessions). It is therefore critical that utilities have the financial flexibility to access both long-term capital and short-term liquidity in all market environments. As Moody's Investors Services (Moody's) explains:

Liquidity and access to financing are of particular importance in this sector. Utility assets can often have a very long useful life – 30, 40 or even 60 years is not uncommon, as well as high price tags.... Utilities are among the largest debt issuers in the corporate universe and typically require consistent access to the capital markets to assure adequate sources of funding and to maintain financial flexibility.<sup>3</sup>

The requirement to access external financial capital in all market environments contrasts with the financial needs of other entities without the regulatory obligation to serve. Unregulated firms may adjust the timing and amount of major capital expenditures to align with economic cycles and can defer decisions and investments to better match market conditions. Unregulated firms can also decide to cease service to unprofitable customer bases or geographies. Utilities have limited options to do so. Therefore, it is critical that a utility maintain financial flexibility through a diverse set of financing tools

Moody's Investor Service, Rating Methodology: Regulated Electric and Gas Utilities, at 25 (June 23, 2017).

to ensure that it can access financial capital efficiently and on reasonable terms for customers' benefit in all market environments.

#### 9Q. What does "financial flexibility" mean?

9A. Financial flexibility refers to a company's capacity to respond to unexpected changes in its cash flows that may affect its ability to fund operations and investments in a timely manner. In other words, it describes the ability of a company to avoid financial distress if an adverse event beyond its control affects its cash flow. Having access to multiple sources of internal and external capital enables financial flexibility because it means a company has multiple options to fund its operations when unanticipated events threaten cash flows or constrain one or more sources of capital.

#### 10Q. Why do utilities require continuous access to external capital?

10A. Utilities are among the most capital-intensive sectors and require substantial amounts of capital to meet the obligation to serve. To fund the significant capital expenditures needed to maintain, expand, and modernize existing infrastructure, utilities require sufficient internally generated cash flow and ongoing access to external financial capital.

The amount of financial capital that utilities require to meet the obligation to serve often exceeds the amount of funds they can generate internally through regulated rates charged to customers. As such, cash flow received from operations is often insufficient to fund cash spent on plant. When a utility does not generate sufficient financial capital internally through rates to fund the investments required to meet its obligation to serve, it must seek funds from external sources. The substantial amount of capital that utilities require magnifies the importance of always having access to multiple sources of financial capital to fund the investments needed to meet the obligation to serve.

#### 11Q. What factors determine a utility's ability to access financial capital?

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2 11A. A utility's ability to access capital is driven by its risk profile and the supply and demand 3 for the various capital sources. Financial capital is finite, and utilities must compete for 4 capital among other utilities and investment options. Investors will provide funds only if 5 the return that they expect is equal to, or greater than, the return that they require to accept 6 the risk of investing capital in the firm. A utility's risk profile is influenced by its specific 7 operating, regulatory, and financial risks. As a utility's risk increases, so do the costs of 8 both debt and equity, both of which are ultimately reflected in the rates that customers pay. 9 Further, a riskier utility with a weaker financial profile will have fewer options to source 10 external capital, likely at higher prices and/or less advantageous terms. As a utility with a 11 below-investment grade credit rating, PG&E is at a disadvantage relative to the vast 12 majority of other utilities with which it competes for financial capital today. Because customers ultimately bear the cost of raising and retaining financial capital, customers' 13 interests are best served by ensuring utilities have a sound financial profile with sufficient 14 15 financial flexibility that is facilitated by access to diverse capital funding options.

#### III. UTILITY CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

17 <u>12Q. Please summarize utilities' capital investment requirements in the near term.</u>

18 12A. Utilities' capital investment requirements have increased significantly in the last few years
19 to decarbonize and prepare for the energy transition, to replace aging infrastructure, and to
20 harden and strengthen the system in response to increasing physical risks (e.g., storms,
21 wildfires, and cybersecurity threats). According to Regulatory Research Associates
22 (RRA), U.S. utilities anticipate nearly \$620 billion in capital expenditures in just the next

1		three years (2025-2027). <sup>4</sup> Ensuring utilities can meet customers' future energy needs and
2		state regulatory goals and objectives will require a multitude of capital financing options.
3	<u>13Q.</u>	How do PG&E's and the other California utilities' planned capital expenditures
4		compare to the nearly \$620 billion in capital expenditures for the U.S. utility
5		industry?
6	<u>13A.</u>	RRA reports \$38.4 billion in planned capital expenditures for PG&E Corp. from 2025 –
7		2027, which is the third largest of the 45 utilities covered in the report and more than 6
8		percent of the \$620 billion total. <sup>5</sup> RRA Reports planned capital expenditures of \$23.8
9		billion for Edison International (parent of Southern California Edison Company) and \$28.8
10		billion for Sempra Energy (parent of SDG&E). Combined, the three California-based
11		utilities account for nearly 15 percent of the \$620 billion in planned capital expenditures
12		between 2025-2027.
13	<u>IV.                                    </u>	HOW UTILITIES RAISE CAPITAL
14	<u>14Q.</u>	Please describe the sources of financial capital available to a company to finance its
15		operations.
16	<u>14A.</u>	To finance operations, companies can use internal financial capital in the form of retained
17		earnings, which are funds a firm retains after it pays all its costs. When a firm cannot
18		generate sufficient funds internally to finance its operations, it must seek financial capital
19		from external sources. External capital sources include debt and equity from investors as

S&P Global Regulatory Research Associates, RRA Financial Focus, Energy Utility Capex Projected to Eclipse \$790B from 2025 Through 2028 (Dec. 30, 2024).
 S&P Global Regulatory Research Associates, Utility capital expenditures final update for H2 2024: 2013-28f, as of December 23, 2024 databook.

well as other sources of cash, including but not limited to asset and minority interest sales, lease transactions, grants, federal funds, and crowdfunding. Figure 2 below provides a high-level illustration of the common sources of financial capital available to a firm.

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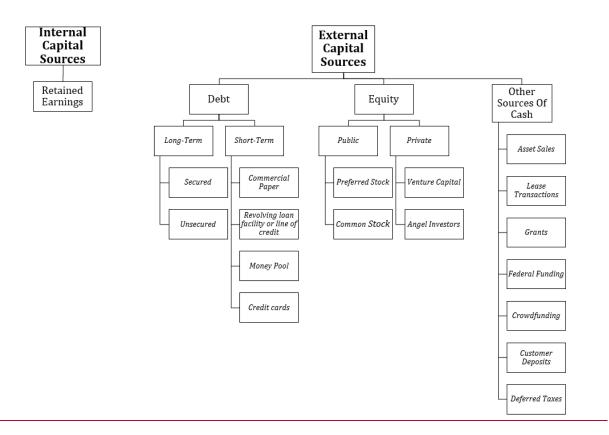
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Figure 2: Sources of Financial Capital<sup>6</sup>



Debt capital is money that is borrowed through a bank loan or corporate bond and requires the borrower to repay the principal of the debt plus interest. Debt can be short-term (debt securities that mature in less than one year) or long-term (debt securities with terms of a year or longer). Raising equity capital involves selling an ownership stake, or shares, in the firm through public or private offerings.

Please note that this figure is illustrative and not meant to be exhaustive.

#### 2 operations? 3 15A. Investor-owned utilities, like PG&E, primarily use retained earnings and long-term sources 4 of external financial capital (i.e., common stock, preferred stock, and long-term debt) to 5 finance their permanent rate base because the duration of these long-term sources of capital matches the long lives of utility assets.<sup>7</sup> Short-term debt is generally used to finance 6 7 working capital requirements and construction work in progress. As shown in Figure 2 8 above, other external sources of financial capital include non-investor supplied capital 9 sources such as customer deposits, deferred income taxes, tax credits, and grants. As noted 10 earlier, utilities also sell assets or enter into lease transactions. 11 16Q. Are there benefits and costs inherent in each source of financial capital? 12 16A. Yes. The benefits and costs associated with each source of financial capital vary at any given time due to the prevailing market environment and risk profile of the company. For 13 14 example, one benefit of debt is its lower cost relative to equity. However, taking on additional debt increases the risk that a company may not be able to repay its debts. This 15 16 increases a company's financial risk, which adversely affects its credit profile and increases the firm's cost of obtaining financial capital. Equity, on the other hand, involves no 17 18 repayment obligation (and therefore does not increase the company's financial risk) but is more expensive than debt. This is because returns to equity owners are not guaranteed and 19 20 are available only after a company's fixed obligations (e.g., debt and other contractual

15Q. What sources of financial capital do investor-owned utilities use to finance their

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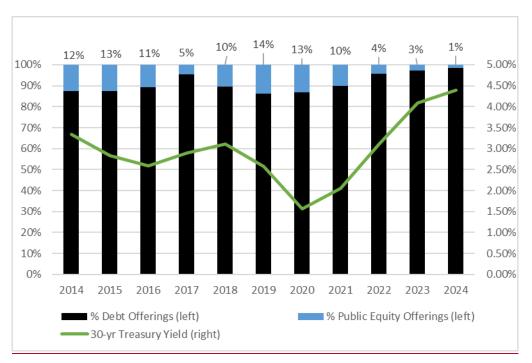
obligations) are paid. Therefore, equity ownership entails greater risk than debt investment

See, e.g., Amended Testimony of Divya Raman (Amended Chapter 3), Section C (explaining that PG&E's long-term debt is issued for a term of 30 years).

1		because debt investors have a priority claim on earnings. Because equity ownership is
2		riskier, equity investors require a higher return to compensate them for taking on additional
3		<u>risk.</u>
4	<u>17Q.</u>	For regulated utilities, who bears the cost associated with acquiring and retaining
5		financial capital?
6	<u>17A.</u>	Customers receive the benefit of utility service and thus bear the cost of raising and
7		retaining financial capital. Under the regulatory compact, a utility is entitled to revenues
8		sufficient to recover its cost to serve <sup>8</sup> customers through its regulated rates, including the
9		cost of capital. Therefore, the rates that customers pay include the utility's cost of capital,
10		including the costs of both debt and equity.
11	<u>18Q.</u>	To what extent do utilities rely on public equity issuances (i.e., common stock
12		offerings) versus long-term debt to meet capital needs?
13	<u>18A.</u>	As I explained above, equity is more expensive than debt; therefore, it is logical that
14		utilities rely more heavily on long-term debt offerings (e.g., corporate bonds or first
15		mortgage bonds) than common stock issuances to meet external capital needs. As shown
16		in Figure 3 Error! Reference source not found.below, over the last ten years, utility
17		public common equity offerings account for less than 15 percent of utility capital offerings
18		relative to long-term debt.

The cost of service is also referred to as the revenue requirement. The revenue requirement is calculated as the sum of (1) operating and maintenance expenses, (2) taxes, (3) return of investment in capital assets through depreciation expense, and (4) the return on capital investment through the regulated return on rate base. The return on capital is calculated as the weighted average cost of capital multiplied by the rate base.





Notably, as **Error! Reference source not found.** shows, the proportion of utility common equity issuances generally tracks the interest rate environment. As the cost of capital declines, common equity issuances tend to increase, and vice versa.

#### 19Q. Why would utilities issue less common stock as interest rates rise?

It is important to remember that the cost of equity is a cost to the utility and its customers just like any other component of the revenue requirement, as it reflects the cost of raising and retaining equity capital. As interest rates increase, utilities must offer a comparatively higher equity return to attract an equity investment. As equity capital becomes more expensive, equity issuances become a less desirable capital option. Equity investors require a premium over the return they can earn on safer bonds. Thus, as bond yields rise, so does investors' required return on equity (though not on a one-to-one basis).

<sup>9</sup> Source: S&P Capital IQ.

#### 1 How does PG&E compare to other utilities in the amount of common stock it has 2 issued in the last ten years? 3 PG&E has issued a greater proportion of common stock in the last ten years than other 4 utilities have. As shown in Figure 4, between 2014 and 2024, nearly 22 percent of PG&E's 5 long-term capital offerings have been public common stock offerings, compared to only 8 6 percent for the utility sector in aggregate. This figure includes the Company's \$1.2 billion common stock offering in December 2024. The bulk of the \$11.4 billion in common stock 7 offerings occurred in June and July 2020 when PG&E Corp. issued \$8.9 billion in common 8 9 equity to fund its emergence from bankruptcy.

Figure 4: Proportion of Common Stock Offerings (2014-2024)<sup>10</sup>

	PG&E (\$000)	All Other Utilities (\$000)
Common Stock Offerings	<u>\$11,438,984</u>	<u>\$84,913,885</u>
<u>Total Debt + Common Stock Offerings</u>	\$52,183,984	\$1,050,063,354
% Common Stock Offering	<u>21.92%</u>	<u>8.09%</u>

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21Q. In addition to public stock offerings, what alternatives have utilities used to raise
 external financial capital and avoid over-leveraging the balance sheet with debt?
 21A. As debt and equity have become more expensive in recent years and the capital needs of
 utilities have grown, utilities have been pursuing other options to raise funds for capital
 investment and to deleverage balance sheets that have pressured utility credit profiles.
 Those alternatives include asset sales (including sales of minority stakes in operating
 subsidiaries), joint ventures, and lease transactions like those approved by the Commission

Source: S&P Capital IQ. Includes long-term debt and common stock issued by PG&E Corp. and long-term debt issued by Pacific Gas & Electric Company. "All Other Utilities" data excludes offerings by PG&E Corp. and Pacific Gas & Electric Company.

2 investment without harming credit metrics. 3 Recent examples of utility asset and minority stake sales include Dominion 4 Energy's (Dominion) sale of three natural gas LDCs<sup>11</sup> to Enbridge Inc., Duke Energy's sale of a 19.9 percent minority interest in Duke Energy Indiana to EPSOM Investment Pte. 5 Ltd., <sup>12</sup> NiSource, Inc.'s sale of a 19.9 percent minority interest in Northern Indiana Public 6 Service Company to Blackstone Infrastructure Partners<sup>13</sup>, and FirstEnergy's sale of a 49.9 7 percent minority stake in FirstEnergy Transmission to Brookfield Infrastructure Partners. 14 8 9 Additionally, Dominion sold a 50 percent non-controlling interest in its Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Project to Stonepeak Partners in October 2024. 15 In the case of Dominion, 10 the sale of three of its LDCs and a 50 percent interest in its offshore wind project raised 11 12 \$16.6 billion, which allowed Dominion to improve its financial profile by reducing debt, strengthen its credit metrics, and pursue important clean energy investment projects like its 13 offshore wind project. 14

between SDG&E and Citizens. These options provide the utility with cash to fund capital

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<sup>11</sup> LDC = Local Distribution Company.

Duke Energy Partners with GIC to Secure Minority Investment in Duke Energy Indiana, Increases Long-Term EPS Growth Rate, Duke Energy (Jan. 28, 2021), https://news.duke-energy.com/releases/duke-energy-partners-with-gic-to-secure-minority-investment-in-duke-energy-indiana-increases-long-term-eps-growth-rate. EPSOM Investment is an affiliate of Government of Singapore Sovereign Wealth Fund ("GIC").

<sup>13</sup> NiSource Inc. Completes NIPSCO Minority Equity Interest Transaction, NIPSCO (Jan. 2, 2024), https://www.nipsco.com/our-company/news-room/news-article/nisource-inc.-completes-nipsco-minority-equity-interest-transaction#:~:text=(NYSE%3A%20NI)%20(%E2%80%9C,the%20dedicated%20 infrastructure%20group%20of.

FirstEnergy sold a 19.9% interest to Brookfield in 2022 and a subsequent 30% interest in March 2024. Press Release, FirstEnergy, FirstEnergy Closes on \$3.5 Billion FirstEnergy Transmission, LLC 30% Interest Sale (Mar. 25, 2024) https://www.firstenergycorp.com/newsroom/news\_articles/fe-closes-on-fe-transmission-interest-sale.html.

Press Release, Dominion Energy, Dominion Energy, Stonepeak Announce Closing of Sale of Noncontrolling Equity Interest In Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Commercial Project (Oct. 22, 2024), https://investors.dominionenergy.com/news/press-release-details/2024/Dominion-Energy-Stonepeak-Announce-Closing-of-Sale-of-Noncontrolling-Equity-Interest-In-Coastal-Virginia-Offshore-Wind-Commercial-Project/default.aspx.

#### V. THE BENEFITS OF DIVERSE CAPITAL SOURCES

2 22Q. Is it prudent for companies, including utilities, to have a diverse set of capital sources

#### available to fund operations?

Yes, very much so. The capital financing process is dynamic and complex as it must satisfy multiple objectives subject to multiple constraints that can vary widely due to the market environment at any given time, as well as the specific risks and funding requirements associated with the firm's unique individual operations. As explained earlier, the benefits and costs of each source of capital depend on the risk profile of the firm and the prevailing market environment. At any given time, a source of funding could be unavailable, constrained, and/or uneconomic. Markets are unpredictable and often beyond a firm's control. By having diverse funding sources, the firm is more flexible and resilient to exogenous events that may adversely affect the availability, pricing, and terms of one or more sources of capital. Further, different funding sources can offer different terms and conditions. Ultimately, having financial flexibility with diverse capital funding sources mitigates the risk that the firm is unable to access capital when it needs to and enables a lower overall cost of funds.

#### 23Q. How do utility customers benefit from a utility with financial flexibility?

23A. For customers to receive safe and reliable electric service, utilities must continuously invest in their systems (e.g., to meet customer demand, replace aging infrastructure, and improve reliability and resiliency), which requires ongoing access to external sources of financial capital. The ease with which a utility can access financial capital is driven by its risk profile and the supply and demand for various capital sources. Since utilities require significant amounts of external capital, they need a large supply of potential funding sources. Markets

are unpredictable, and at any given time, a specific source of funding could be unavailable, constrained, and/or uneconomic. Therefore, having access to multiple sources of financial capital minimizes the risk to customers that the utility will be forced to rely on less economic sources of capital that may have more onerous terms. Ultimately, having diverse funding sources (1) mitigates the risk that the utility is unable to access financial capital at reasonable terms for customers' benefit when it needs to; (2) enhances the utility's resiliency to exogenous events that may adversely affect the availability, pricing, and terms of one or more sources of capital; and (3) enables a lower overall cost of funds that ultimately benefits customers.

#### 10 VI. THE IMPACT AND MERIT OF THE INVESTMENT

#### 11 PROGRAM

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12 24Q. Would approval of the proposed Investment Program mean that PG&E would not

need to access other sources of financial capital, including equity?

14 24A. No. As discussed in Section III, PG&E has substantial capital expenditure needs to meet
15 its obligation to serve and achieve California's ambitious climate goals. This will require
16 access to a variety of funding sources. PG&E thus has been raising capital in a variety of
17 ways and will need to continue to do so. In a November 2024 Investor Presentation, PG&E
18 Corporation reported that it anticipated issuing \$3 billion of common stock over the 202419 2028 timeframe. As anticipated, PG&E Corporation (PG&E Corp.) issued \$2.4 billion
20 in common and preferred equity in December 2024 (\$2.7 billion including over-allotment

PG&E Corporation, 2024 Third Quarter Earnings Investor Presentation at 11 (Nov. 7, 2024), https://s1.q4cdn.com/880135780/files/doc\_financials/2024/q3/Q3-24-Earnings-Presentation.pdf.

1		to the underwriters). <sup>17</sup> Additionally, the U.S. Department of Energy recently approved a
2		\$15 billion loan guarantee to PG&E to fund infrastructure projects that support clean
3		energy. <sup>18</sup> The proposed Investment Program is one of several financing tools that enhance
4		the Company's financial flexibility for the benefit of customers and address its capital
5		needs.
6	<u>25Q.</u>	Would the proposed Investment Program adversely affect PG&E's financial profile?
7	<u>25A.</u>	No. Customers ultimately bear the cost of PG&E's financial profile in two primary ways:
8		(1) PG&E's cost of debt and equity that customers pay in rates depends in part on the
9		strength of PG&E's financial profile, and (2) PG&E's financial profile affects the ease and
10		terms on which PG&E can access the financial capital needed to serve customers on a
11		continuous basis. Therefore, having access to financial capital that does not further stress
12		PG&E's financial profile benefits customers, and these benefits should be recognized,
13		particularly with PG&E's recent emergence from bankruptcy.
14		Unlike issuing debt, the proposed Investment Program would provide PG&E with
15		a source of financial capital that does not adversely affect its financial profile and credit
16		metrics. Taking on more debt increases a utility's fixed obligations (i.e., interest expense),
17		which increases its financial risk and the costs of both debt and equity to customers'

Specifically, PG&E issued \$1.2 billion of shares of common stock and \$1.2 billion in convertible preferred stock. Press Release, PG&E Corp., PG&E Corporation Announces Launch of Concurrent Offerings of Common Stock and Mandatory Convertible Preferred Stock, (Dec. 2, 2024), https://investor.pgecorp.com/news-events/press-releases/press-release-details/2024/PGE-Corporation-Announces-Launch-of-Concurrent-Offerings-of-Common-Stock-and-Mandatory-Convertible-Preferred-Stock/default.aspx

See PG&E Corp., PG&E Federal Loan Guarantee Approved (Jan. 17, 2025), https://www.pge.com/en/newsroom/currents/energy-savings/pg-e-federal-loan-guarantee-approved.html and U.S. Dep't of Energy, Loan Programs Office, DOE Announces \$15 Billion Loan Guarantee to Pacific Gas & Electric Company to Expand Hydropower Generation, Battery Energy Storage, and Transmission (Jan. 17, 2025), https://www.energy.gov/lpo/articles/doe-announces-15-billion-loan-guarantee-pacific-gas-electric-company-expand-hydropower.

1 detriment. Approving the proposed Investment Program would not increase PG&E's debt 2 leverage and the corresponding cost of capital borne by customers. 3 26Q. Under the Investment Program, Citizens would finance its prepaid rent payment with 4 debt that includes a coupon rate that is fixed for 30 years. Do utilities also issue long-5 term debt at a rate that is fixed over the term of the debt? 6 26A. Yes, they do. Utility long-term debt rates are also fixed, and they are generally not able to 7 refinance long-term bonds prior to maturity if interest rates decline. PG&E witness Divya 8 Raman explains that PG&E would issue long-term debt in connection with the 9 development of the long-life transmission projects included in the Investment Program and 10 that debt would also include a coupon rate that is fixed over the term of the debt. In other 11 words, both Citizens and PG&E would issue long-term debt to fund the transmission 12 investments covered under the proposed Investment Program and the debt would have coupon rates that are fixed for the term of the debt security. Accordingly, Citizens' 13 financing practice is consistent with standard utility financing practices and customers are 14 15 not disadvantaged by Citizens' long-term fixed rate financing relative to PG&E's debt 16 financing. Further, Citizens would seek debt financing at the time of each Entitlements Lease 17 18 and the coupon rate would reflect the interest rate environment at the time of financing. To 19 the extent that interest rates decline between financings, the lower interest rates will be 20 reflected in each subsequent debt financing, thus capturing the benefit of lower interest 21 rates for customers. In other words, the interest rate for each of Citizens' debt financings 22 would reflect the prevailing market rate at the time of each financing. As the Commission concluded in SDG&E's lease proceedings, fixed interest rates provide certainty and rate stability that benefit customers. 19

#### 27Q. What is your conclusion regarding the proposed Investment Program?

27A.

The proposed Investment Program is a reasonable option for PG&E to raise financial capital. PG&E has substantial planned capital expenditures that will require more financial capital than can be raised internally and through traditional debt and equity offerings.

Because it relies heavily on external financial capital, PG&E must have access to a diverse set of capital financing tools so that it can meet its obligation to serve customers. PG&E has already issued a greater proportion of common stock relative to long-term debt than is standard for other utilities. Financial capital diversity is critical to enabling financing flexibility which ensures PG&E can access capital on reasonable terms to serve customers reliably. Restricting PG&E's access to a source of external financial capital would harm customers by (1) reducing its financial flexibility, (2) reducing its resiliency to adverse exogenous market events, and (3) increasing PG&E customers exposure to the risk of capital market constraints and the associated cost premium.

Additionally, the Investment Program provides many benefits to customers as explained by PG&E's and Citizens' witnesses. Since transmission projects like those that will be subject to the Entitlements Leases would be financed with debt by either Citizens or PG&E regardless of the prevailing interest rate environment, and PG&E's long term debt rate would also be fixed without the ability to refinance, customers are not disadvantaged by Citizens' long-term debt that would be fixed over the term of the lease.

See, D.19-03-024 at 16, 19, 24 (Sycamore Section 851 Decision), 2019 Cal. PUC Lexis 154, at \*22, \*27-28,
 \*33-34 (Cal. P.U.C. 2019).

- 1 28Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?
- 2 <u>28A.</u> Yes, it does.

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY APPENDIX A STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF BARRY J. BENTLEY

3	Q 1	Please state your name and business address.			
4	A 1	My name is Barry J. Bentley, and my business address is Pacific Gas and			
5		Electric Company (PG&E), 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, California.			
6	Q 2	Briefly describe your responsibilities at PG&E.			
7	A 2	I am the Senior Vice President (VP) of Electric Engineering leading electr			
8		engineering, electric process safety, electric design engineering and			
9		instrumentation and control. I am accountable for program planning,			
10		financial budgeting, and project delivery of all electric engineering projects.			
11	Q 3	Please summarize your educational and professional background.			
12	A 3	I graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science degree in			
13		electrical engineering and have completed executive education courses at			
14		Georgetown University, the University of Virginia and the University of			
15		Michigan.			
16		I joined PG&E as Senior VP of Electric Engineering in 2021. Previously			
17		I have served as the Senior VP, United States (U.S) Utility Operations for			
18		AES Corporation. During this 30-year career with AES and its subsidiaries,			
19		I held leadership roles of increasing responsibility and span of control			
20		including:			
21		<u>AES</u>			
22		<ul> <li>VP, Asset Management, U.S. Utility Operations.</li> </ul>			
23		Indianapolis Power & Light Company			
24		<ul> <li>Senior VP, Customer Operations;</li> </ul>			
25		<ul> <li>VP, Power Delivery; and</li> </ul>			
26		<ul> <li>VP, Fuel and Energy Supply.</li> </ul>			
27	Q 4	What is the purpose of your testimony?			
28	A 4	I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's			
29		Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease			
30		Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation:			
31		<ul> <li>Amended Chapter 1, "Overview and Policy."</li> </ul>			
32	Q 5	Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?			
33	A 5	Yes, it does.			

# PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF JAMES L. HIGHAM, JR

3	Q 1	Please state your name and business address.
4	A 1	My name is James L. Higham, Jr, and my business address is Pacific Gas
5		and Electric Company (PG&E), 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, California.
6	Q 2	Briefly describe your responsibilities at PG&E.
7	A 2	I am a Tax Senior Manager in the Tax Department within the Controller's
8		organization at PG&E. In this position, I am responsible for overseeing the
9		management of PG&E's federal and state income tax audits, as well as
10		providing tax research and planning support on a variety of transactions,
11		including the tax implications of the credits contained in the Inflation
12		Reduction Act.
13	Q 3	Please summarize your educational and professional background.
14	A 3	I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Fine Arts (Art History) from the
15		College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. I received a Juris
16		Doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law, Oxford, Mississippi
17		I received a Master's in Law (Taxation) from New York University School of
18		Law, New York, New York. Since joining PG&E in April 1998, I have
19		experienced increasing responsibilities within the Tax Department. Prior to
20		my employment with PG&E, I was a Tax Manager at the accounting firm of
21		KPMG Peat Marwick LLP in Los Angeles, California.
22	Q 4	What is the purpose of your testimony?
23	A 4	I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's
24		Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease
25		Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation:
26		Amended Chapter 4, "Tax."
27	Q 5	Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?
28	A 5	Yes, it does.

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF RONALD E. KENNEDY III

3	Q 1	Please state your name and business address.
4	A 1	My name is Joseph P. Kennedy III, and my business address is 2 Seaport
5		Lane, Suite 5C, Boston, Massachusetts, 02210.
6	Q 2	Briefly describe your responsibilities at Citizens Energy Corporation.
7	A 2	I am the President of Citizens Energy Corporation. In this role my primary
8		responsibility is to advance commercial and policy initiatives that align with
9		the company's mission of service to our community.
10	Q 3	Please summarize your professional background.
11	A 3	Prior to my work at Citizens, I served for four terms as a member of the U.S.
12		House of Representatives for the Fourth District to Massachusetts. I was a
13		member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and a member of
14		the Sub-Committee on Energy for several years.
15		Before being elected to Congress, I served as an Assistant District
16		Attorney, a legal aid volunteer, and a volunteer with the Peace Corps.
17		I have also founded the non-profit social justice organization known as
18		Groundwork Project. The Groundwork Project focuses on Appalachia, the
19		Deep South, and the Plains, and is the sole national pro-democracy and
20		social justice organization singularly focused on supporting frontline
21		organizers on the most crucial fronts to expand civil rights, equality, and
22		democracy.
23		In addition, I served President Biden as his Special Envoy to Northern
24		Ireland for Economic Affairs. In that role, I focused my work on leveraging
25		business partnerships and investments to help spread the "peace dividend"
26		of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement of 1998.
27	Q 4	What is the purpose of your testimony?
28	A 4	I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's
29		Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease
30		Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation:
31		<ul> <li>Amended Chapter 7, "Citizens Energy – Citizens' Charitable Giving."</li> </ul>
32	Q 5	Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?
33	A 5	Yes, it does.

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF RONALD E. KENNEDY

3 Q 1 Please state your name and business address. A 1 4 My name is Ronald E. Kennedy, and my business address is MCR Performance Solutions (MCR), 155 N. Pfingsten Road, Suite 155, Deerfield, 5 6 Illinois. Q 2 Briefly describe your responsibilities at MCR. 7 A 2 I am a Vice President in the Transmission Strategy Practice at MCR where 8 my responsibilities include managing projects for MCR clients in various 9 Regional Transmission Organizations (RTO) including the California 10 11 Independent System Operator (CAISO), the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), the New York Independent System Operator 12 (NYISO) and the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) as well as clients that are not 13 in an RTO. 14 Q 3 Please summarize your educational and professional background. 15 A 3 I graduated from the University of Michigan in 1992 with Bachelor of Arts 16 degrees in Economics and Political Science. I earned a Master of Business 17 Administration in Finance from Wayne State University in 1996. I manage 18 projects for MCR clients in various RTO including the CAISO, the MISO, the 19 NYISO and the SPP as well as clients that are not in an RTO. I have 20 developed or supported expert testimony, provided analytics, and assisted 21 our clients in intervention support for transmission rate filings at the Federal 22 23 Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) under the Federal Power Act Section 205. These filings have included requesting: (1) implementation of 24 transmission formula rates; (2) updating transmission revenue requirements 25 (TRR) (3) making variances to existing formula rates; (4) implementation of 26 27 transmission rate incentives; and (5) implementing forward-looking rates. 28 I have also led engagements, supported in-depth testimony, and developed 29 supporting analytics and transmission rate schedules for numerous requests 30 by public power and generation and transmission owners for transmission rate incentives under Order 679. I have managed over 150 preparations 31 32 and/or reviews of existing formula rate updates for transmission owners in

RTOs. I have also conducted several reviews of public power and

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- investor-owned utility accounting structures and cost reporting approaches 1 2 to ensure they are in conformance with the FERC's Uniform System of Account. I have supported the strategy and developed the economic 3 analysis for a competitive bid for a transmission project in the CAISO under 4 5 FERC Order 1000. Further, I have developed analytical financial tools and have led client projects to determine the cost allocation, economics, and 6 7 risks of proposed investments in major cost-shared transmission projects. 8 I have authored or co-authored many MCR white papers on topics such as transmission investment and rate impacts in RTOs, formula rate protocols, 9 and cost allocation methodologies. 10
- Have you testified as an expert witness regarding utility rates and tariffs?

  Yes, I have submitted direct testimony in Federal Power Act Section 205 filings in support of proposed annual TRRs, formula transmission rates and transmission rate incentives in the following FERC dockets:
  - EL08-32-000 on behalf of Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency.
  - ER15-277-000 on behalf of Rochester Public Utilities.

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- ER15-2028-000 on behalf of North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative
   Association Corn Belt Power Cooperative.
- ER17-428-000 on behalf of North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative
   Association Corn Belt Power Cooperative.
- ER17-1523-000 on behalf of North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative
   Association and Corn Belt Power Cooperative.
- ER15-2324-000 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services.
- ER19-1485-000 on behalf of North Iowa Municipal Electric Cooperative
   Association and Corn Belt Power Cooperative.
- ER24-118 and ER24-119 on behalf of Citizens Energy.
- ER24-149 and ER24-150 on behalf of Citizens Energy.

Additionally, I have supported direct testimony of my colleagues and clients and prepared accompanying analytics and exhibits in the following FERC dockets:

- ER06-586-000 on behalf of Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency.
- ER07-1415-000 on behalf of Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency.

ER11-2700-000, 001, 002 and 003 on behalf of Central Minnesota 1 2 Municipal Power Agency. EL11-45-000 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services. 3 EL12-67-000 on behalf of WPPI Energy. 4 5 ER12-351-000 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services. EL13-19-000 on behalf of Dairyland Power Cooperative. 6 ER13-2468 on behalf of Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency. 7 8 ER14-246 on behalf of Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency. ER15-1079-000 on behalf of South Mississippi Electric Power 9 Association. 10 11 ER15-1544-000 on behalf of WPPI Energy. ER15-689-000 on behalf of Dairyland Power Cooperative. 12 ER15-1777 on behalf of Heartland Consumers Power District. 13 14 ER15-1943 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services. • ER15-2291 on behalf of Harlan Municipal Utilities. 15 ER15-2324 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services. 16 ER17-1504 on behalf of WPPI Energy. 17 ER17-1515 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services. 18 19 ER18-193 on behalf of Dairyland Power Cooperative. 20 EL19-30 on behalf of LS Power Grid New York Corporation. 21 EC19-42-000, PL19-3-000, EC20-13-000, RM20-10-000 and ER20-3025-000 on behalf of Gridliance, LLC. 22 23 ER19-263 on behalf of AMP Transmission, LLC. ER22-1732-000 on behalf of Missouri River Energy Services. 24 ER22-411-000 on behalf of Lincoln Electric. 25 26 ER23-513-000 on behalf of Great River Energy. What is the purpose of your testimony? Q 5 27 A 5 I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's 28 29 Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease 30 Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation: Amended Chapter 6, "Citizens Energy – Citizens Rate Model"; 31 32 Chapter 6, Attachment 1, "PG&E Representative Rate Model With the Base Case Capital Cost Assumptions"; and 33

Chapter 6, Attachment 2, "Citizens Capped Rate."

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- 1 Q 6 Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?
- 2 A 6 Yes, it does.

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF MICHAEL MEDEIROS, JR.

3 Q 1 Please state your name and business address. My name is Michael Medeiros, Jr., and my business address is Pacific Gas A 1 4 and Electric Company (PG&E), 3400 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon, 5 6 California. Q 2 7 Briefly describe your responsibilities at PG&E. A 2 8 I am the Vice President of South Bay Delivery. Amongst a number of areas of responsibility, one is identifying new technology and funding opportunities 9 that can assist with the modernization of PG&E's electric grid. 10 Q 3 Please summarize your educational and professional background. 11 A 3 I graduated from Santa Clara University with a Bachelor of Science degree 12 in Economics in 1988. I received my Masters of Business Administration 13 degree from Golden Gate University in 1992. 14 15

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From 1990-1996, I worked for PG&E, first supporting large industrial and commercial customers on matters such as energy efficiency, cogeneration, and natural gas transportation issues, and then as a Senior Pricing and Rates Analysis focused on individual customer pricing negotiations and rate design for the large industrial and commercial rate class.

I left PG&E in 1996 and first went to work for New Energy Ventures as their Manager of Northern California Operations, focused on acquiring customers for their Direct Access program. From there I joined PG&E Energy Services as their Director of Commercial National Accounts; my priority was selling energy and energy-related services to large, multi-location commercial customers throughout the United States. I also spent a year working for Pacific Gas Transmission (PGT), working with wholesale customers interested in securing natural gas transportation capacity rights on PGT's interstate transportation system.

In 2002, I joined GWF Power Systems in Pittsburg, California, where for 10 years I served as their Manager—Power Markets and then Senior Development Manager. My main responsibility was the day-to-day asset management of our existing generation portfolio and the development of new natural gas-fired generation. In this role, I was responsible for

managing all development activities associated with interconnection, land rights, water rights, economic analysis, development of proposals, and the negotiation of contracts with California-based utilities. Upon the successful completion of the Power Purchase Agreements, I participated in the company's effort to secure third-party financing for the projects.

In 2012, I re-joined PG&E as Manager of Renewable Development, with a focus on its Compressed Air Energy Storage feasibility study. In 2016, I joined the Transmissions Operations organization focused on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 1,000 competitive transmission projects and energy storage development activities, which include the successful development and construction of PG&E's Elkhorn Energy Storage facility. In 2020, I became the Director of Project and Portfolio Management for PG&E's Transmission and Substation portfolio before assuming my current role in 2022.

- 15 Q 4 What is the purpose of your testimony?
- 16 A 4 I am sponsoring the following amended testimony. in PG&E's Application for
  17 Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease Entitlements to
  18 Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation:
  - Amended Chapter 2, "The Investment Program."
- 20 Q 5 Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?
- 21 A 5 Yes, it does.

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF JENNIFER E. NELSON

3 Q 1 Please state your name and business address. A 1 My name is Jennifer E. Nelson, and my business address is Concentric 4 Energy Advisors ("Concentric"), 293 Boston Post Road West, Suite 500, 5 6 Marlborough, Massachusetts, 01752. Q 2 7 Briefly describe your responsibilities at Concentric Energy Advisors. A 2 8 I am among Concentric's professionals that provide expert witness testimony on regulatory and corporate finance issues in utility regulatory 9 proceedings. Concentric is a management consulting and economic 10 advisory firm that specializes in the North American energy and water 11 12 industries. Concentric provides regulatory and litigation support, financial 13 advisory services, energy market strategies, market assessments, energy commodity contracting and procurement, economic feasibility studies, and 14 capital market analyses. In my role as Vice President and an officer at 15 16 Concentric, I am responsible for providing thought leadership on regulatory 17 and financial issues facing the utility industry, leading consulting engagements with our clients, and ensuring high quality service and work 18 product. 19 20 Q 3 Please summarize your educational and professional background. A 3 I have more than fifteen years of experience in the energy industry, having 21 served as a consultant and energy/regulatory economist for state 22 23 government agencies. Since 2013, I have provided consulting services on a range of financial and regulatory issues including the cost of capital, 24 ratemaking policy, and regulatory strategy issues. Prior to consulting, I was 25 26 a staff economist at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, and a 27 petroleum economist for the State of Alaska. I completed utility regulatory 28 training offered by New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities and have earned the Certified Rate of Return Analyst designation from the 29 30 Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Business Economics from Bentley University and a Master's 31 degree in Resource and Applied Economics from the University of Alaska. 32 A summary of my professional and educational background, including a list 33

- of my testimony filed before regulatory commissions, is provided as 1 Attachment A to my statement of qualifications. 2 What is the purpose of your testimony? Q 4 3 I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's A 4 4 Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease 5 Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation: 6 Chapter 9, "Utility Financing Principles." 7 Does this conclude your statement of qualifications? Q 5 8
- 9 A 5 Yes, it does.



#### **JENNIFER E. NELSON**

VICE PRESIDENT

Ms. Nelson is a Certified Rate of Return Analyst with more than fifteen years of experience in the energy industry. As an expert witness, she has testified to the cost of capital and alternative ratemaking proposals for electric, natural gas, and water utilities. In her time as a consultant, Ms. Nelson has provided consulting services on a variety of utility regulatory matters including ratemaking and regulatory policy, cost of service and revenue requirements, integrated resource planning, renewable power contracts, natural gas pipeline development, utility supply planning issues, and merger and acquisition transactions. Ms. Nelson has extensive experience performing statistical analyses, developing economic and financial models, and providing policy analyses and recommendations.

Prior to joining Concentric, Ms. Nelson was a Director at ScottMadden, Inc., and a managing consultant at Sussex Economic Advisors, LLC. Prior to consulting, she was a staff economist at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities and a petroleum economist for the State of Alaska. Ms. Nelson holds a Master of Science degree in Resource and Applied Economics from the University of Alaska and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Economics from Bentley University.

#### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

#### Cost of Capital

- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of electric utilities before regulatory commissions in Arkansas, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas regarding the cost of capital.
- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of natural gas utilities before regulatory commissions in Florida, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming regarding the cost of capital.
- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of a water utility before the Kentucky Public Service Commission regarding the appropriate capital structure and cost of debt.
- Supported expert testimony regarding the cost of capital before numerous state utility regulatory commissions and the FERC on behalf of electric and natural gas utilities through research, financial analysis and modeling, and testimony development.

#### Alternative Ratemaking Mechanisms

- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of electric utilities and a water utility before the Arkansas
   Public Service Commission regarding the utilities' proposed Formula Rate Plans.
- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of an electric utility before the Oklahoma Corporation Commission regarding the utility's proposed Formula Rate Plan.
- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of an electric and natural gas utility before the Delaware Public Service Commission regarding the utility's proposed performance-based rate plan.



- Submitted expert testimony on behalf of an electric and natural gas utility before the Montana Public Service Commission regarding the utility's proposed alternative rate mechanisms.
- Co-sponsored expert testimony on behalf of a natural gas utility before the Maine Public Utilities Commission regarding the utility's proposed capital investment cost recovery mechanism.
- Supported expert testimony and performed research and analysis on alternative ratemaking frameworks.

### Resource and Supply Planning

- Supported expert testimony on the reasonableness of utility resource supply portfolio decisions.
- Assisted in a benchmarking analysis on behalf of a Northeast U.S. natural gas utility regarding its supply planning standards and design day demand forecast process.
- Supported rebuttal testimony filed on behalf of an Alaska natural gas utility regarding the utility's gas supply planning standards.
- Supported the development of a New Hampshire electric utility's Integrated Resource Plan filed with the New Hampshire Public Utility Commission.
- Performed research and financial analysis to evaluate the benefits, costs, and policy options associated with natural gas expansion by Massachusetts natural gas utilities as part of a prepared report for the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.
- Developed a dynamic natural gas demand forecast model for in-state use for the State of Alaska, which included forecasting demand from both existing and anticipated natural gas utilities, power consumption, and large commercial operations.
- Conducted research and prepared analyses for a natural gas pipeline Open Season.

#### Other Regulatory Financial Issues

- Supported expert testimony on the appropriate level of remuneration associated with the Massachusetts electric utilities' long-term contracts for wind power through research, financial analysis and modeling, and testimony development.
- Provided research and analytical support estimating financial damages incurred as a result of construction delays for an electric transmission company.
- Prepared a Feasibility Study for an electric cooperative utility supporting a utility-owned solar project.

#### Mergers & Acquisitions

• Performed buy-side benchmarking and regulatory analysis for utility acquisitions.



#### RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

### **Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc. (2021-present)**

Vice President

Assistant Vice President

### ScottMadden, Inc. (2016-2021)

Director

Manager

#### Sussex Economic Advisors, LLC (2013-2016)

**Managing Consultant** 

### **Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (2011-2013)**

Economist, Electric Power Division

### State of Alaska Department of Revenue, Tax Division (2007-2010)

Petroleum Economist

### Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (2000-2002)

Research Assistant, Economic Research Department

#### EDUCATION AND RELEVANT COURSEWORK

### **University of Alaska**

Master of Science, Resource and Applied Economics

#### **Bentley University (formerly Bentley College)**

Bachelor of Science, Business Economics

Graduated magna cum laude

### **New Mexico State University**

Center for Public Utilities, Regulatory Basics

#### **ISO New England**

Wholesale Energy Markets (WEM-101)

#### **Colorado School of Mines**

Petroleum Engineering SuperSchool

#### **EUCI**

Course Instructor – Performance-Based Ratemaking

#### **DESIGNATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Certified Rate of Return Analyst, Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts Member, Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET	SUBJECT
Arkansas Public Se	rvice Co	mmission		
Oklahoma Gas & Electric	10/21	Oklahoma Gas & Electric	21-087-U	Formula Rate Plan
Liberty Utilities (Pine Bluff Water)	10/18	Liberty Utilities (Pine Bluff Water)	18-027-U	Formula Rate Plan and tariff
Entergy Arkansas, LLC	11/20	Entergy Arkansas, LLC	16-036-FR	Sponsored testimony evaluating the Return on Equity included in Rider FRP
Delaware Public Se	rvice Co	mmission		
Delmarva Power & Light Company	08/24	Delmarva Power & Light Company	24-0868	Alternative Ratemaking Proposal
Florida Public Serv	ice Com	mission		
Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Florida City Gas	05/22	Pivotal Utility Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Florida City Gas	20220069-GU	Cost of Capital
Kentucky Public Se	rvice Co	mmission	'	<u>'</u>
Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC	09/20	Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC	2020-290	Capital Structure and Cost of Long-Term Debt
Maine Public Utiliti	es Comr	nission		-1
Unitil Corporation	06/19	Northern Utilities, Inc.	19-00092	Co-sponsored testimony supporting a proposed CIRA capital tracking mechanism
Montana Public Uti	lities Co	mmission		
NorthWestern Corporation	08/22	NorthWestern Corporation	2022-7-78 (elect.) 2022-7-78 (gas)	Alternative Ratemaking Proposals
New Hampshire Pu	blic Util	ities Commission		
Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.	04/21	Unitil Energy Systems, Inc.	DE 21-030	Cost of Capital
New Mexico Public Regulation Commission				
El Paso Electric Company	07/20	El Paso Electric Company	20-00104-UT	Cost of Capital
North Carolina Util	ities Cor	nmission		
Virginia Electric & Power Co., d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina	03/24	Virginia Electric & Power Co., d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina	E-22, Sub 694	Cost of Capital



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET	SUBJECT		
Public Service Company of North Carolina d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina	04/21	Public Service Company of North Carolina d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina	G-5, Sub 632	Cost of Capital		
<b>Public Utilities Con</b>	lic Utilities Commission of Ohio					
The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio	11/23	The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio	23-0894-GA-AIR	Cost of Capital		
Oklahoma Corpora	tion Con	nmission				
Oklahoma Gas & Electric	12/21	Oklahoma Gas & Electric	PUD202100164	Formula Rate Plan		
<b>Public Utility Comn</b>	nission (	of Oregon				
Northwest Natural Gas Company dba NW Natural	12/23	Northwest Natural Gas Company dba NW Natural	UG 490	Cost of Capital		
Northwest Natural Gas Company dba NW Natural	12/24	Northwest Natural Gas Company dba NW Natural	UG 520	Cost of Capital		
<b>Public Utilities Con</b>	nmissior	of South Carolina				
Dominion Energy South Carolina	03/24	Dominion Energy South Carolina	2024-34-Е	Cost of Capital		
Dominion Energy South Carolina	04/23	Dominion Energy South Carolina	2023-70-G	Cost of Capital		
<b>Public Utilities Con</b>	nmissior	of Texas				
Wind Energy Transmission Texas, LLC dba WETT	12/24	Wind Energy Transmission Texas, LLC dba WETT	52799	Cost of Capital		
El Paso Electric Company	06/21	El Paso Electric Company	52195	Cost of Capital		
Sharyland Utilities L.L.C.	12/20	Sharyland Utilities L.L.C.	51611	Cost of Capital		
Utah Public Service Commission						
Dominion Energy Utah	05/22	Dominion Energy Utah	22-057-03	Cost of Capital		
Public Service Com	mission	of West Virginia				
Hope Gas, Inc. d/b/a Dominion Energy West Virginia	11/20	Hope Gas, Inc. d/b/a Dominion Energy West Virginia	20-0746-G-42T	Cost of Capital		
<b>Wyoming Public Se</b>	rvice Co	mmission				
Dominion Energy Wyoming	03/23	Dominion Energy Wyoming	30010-215-GR-23	Cost of Capital		

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF DIVYA RAMAN

3 Q 1 Please state your name and business address. A 1 4 My name is Divya Raman, and my business address is Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, California. 5 6 Q 2 Briefly describe your responsibilities at PG&E. A 2 7 I am a Manager in the Economic Analysis section of the Finance and Risk 8 Department, where I am responsible for producing and supervising the preparation of various economic analysis, development of financial 9 forecasting models and sponsoring related testimony. 10 Q 3 11 Please summarize your educational and professional background. A 3 I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Birla 12 Institute of Technology and Science, India in 2005. I also received my 13 Master of Science degree in Finance from London Business School in 2009. 14 I completed the three levels of Chartered Financial Analyst certification in 15 2008. 16

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I started my career at PG&E in 2012 as a Senior Analyst on the Capital Recovery and Analysis team and was promoted to Expert Analyst in 2013. My responsibilities included analysis and presentation of Depreciation Expense, Plant and Rate base in various rate cases. I was the Plant and Rate base, Depreciation Expense witness in PG&E's first formula rate Transmission Owner filing.

In 2018, I was promoted to Principal Analyst in the Financial Forecasting and Revenue Requirements team. My focus in this position included reviewing PG&E's revenue requirement in the 2019 Gas Transmission and Storage, 2020 General Rate Case (GRC), as well as PG&E's 2018 and 2019 Catastrophic Event Memorandum Account filings. In 2020, I was promoted to Manager of the Revenue Requirement and Regulatory Results of Operations team. My responsibilities in this position include production and supervision of revenue requirement calculations for regulatory filings and being the expert witness for revenue requirements including the 2023 GRC and various Wildfire Mitigation and Catastrophic Event applications. In 2022, I started my current role as the Manager of Economic Analysis team

where I focus on long term financial forecasting for the company and 1 performing economic analysis for specific projects and investments. 2 What is the purpose of your testimony? Q 4 3 I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's A 4 4 Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease 5 Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation: 6 Amended Chapter 3, "Investment Program Rate Implications." 7 Does this conclude your statement of qualifications? Q 5 8 Yes, it does. A 5 9

## PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF PETER F. SMITH

3	Q 1	Please state your name and business address.
4	A 1	My name is Peter F. Smith, and my business address is Citizens Energy
5		Corporation, 2 Seaport Lane, Suite #5C, Boston, Massachusetts.
6	Q 2	Briefly describe your responsibilities at Citizens Energy Corporation.
7	A 2	I am the Chief Executive Officer. In this role, I report directly to the
8		Chairman and Founder, Joseph P. Kennedy II, and am responsible for all
9		aspects of Citizens' business and charitable activities. I am currently
10		leading Citizens' efforts to develop high-voltage electricity transmission lines
11		in California to facilitate the delivery of energy, including renewable energy
12		sources. Additionally, I directly oversee Citizens' renewable energy
13		development division, which works to develop, construct, own, and operate
14		renewable energy generation projects in the United States (U.S.) and
15		Canada.
16	Q 3	Please summarize your educational and professional background.
17	A 3	Prior to joining Citizens, I was a Manager at the Boston Consulting Group,
18		an international strategy and general management consulting firm focused
19		on helping leading corporations create and sustain competitive advantage.
20		I also spent five years on active duty with the U.S. Coast Guard. I hold a
21		Bachelor of Science in Economics from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and
22		a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School.
23	Q 4	What is the purpose of your testimony?
24	A 4	I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's
25		Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease
26		Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation:
27		<ul> <li>Amended Chapter 5, "Citizens Energy – Introduction and Participation in</li> </ul>
28		Investment Program.
29	Q 5	Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?
RO.	Δ5	Yes it does

## 1 STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS OF SUSAN F. TIERNEY

2	Q 1	Please state your name and business address.
3	A 1	My name is Susan F. Tierney, and my business address is Analysis Group,
4		180 North Stetson Avenue, #2300, Chicago, Illinois 60601.
5	Q 2	Briefly describe your responsibilities at Analysis Group.
6	A 2	I am a Senior Advisor in the Chicago office of Analysis Group, an economics
7		consulting firm headquartered in Boston, where I worked for several
8		decades in state and federal government and as a consultant focused on
9		the electric industry.
10	Q 3	Please summarize your educational and professional background.
11	A 3	Formerly, I worked in Massachusetts state government in various roles on
12		matters related to the electric industry—including as economist for the
13		state's energy office, Executive Director of the Energy Facilities Siting
14		Council, Commissioner of the Department of Public Utilities, and Secretary
15		of Environmental Affairs. At the U.S. DOE, I served as Assistant Secretary
16		of Policy with responsibilities that included a range of matters related to the
17		nation's electric industry. I co-chaired the DOE transition team for the
18		Obama/Biden Administration, chaired DOE's Electricity Advisory
19		Commission, and chaired the External Advisory Council of DOE's National
20		Renewable Energy Laboratory.
21		For nearly three decades, I have consulted to energy companies,
22		consumers, government entities, grid operators, non-profit organizations,
23		charitable foundations, tribes, and others, and served as an advisor and
24		expert witness on electric industry economics, policy, regulation, and
25		ratemaking. I have previously testified before the Commission.
26		Among the many pro-bono activities I have undertaken since leaving
27		government are: serving as a member of several committees of the
28		National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine ("National
29		Academies"), including co-authoring the National Academies' studies on the
30		Future of Electric Power, on Net Metering, and on Decarbonizing the U.S.
31		Energy System; chairing the National Academies' Board on Energy and
32		Environmental Systems; and chairing or otherwise serving on the boards of

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directors of several non-profit organizations and foundations (including the

Energy Foundation, Sloan Foundation, Resources for the Future, and the 1 Coalition for Green Capital). 2 I was raised in Southern California, taught at the University of California 3 at Irvine, received a B.A. from Scripps College in Claremont, California, and 4 5 have a Ph.D. and a Master's degree in regional planning from Cornell University. 6 7 Q 4 What is the purpose of your testimony? 8 A 4 I am sponsoring the following amended testimony in support of PG&E's Application for Approval under Public Utilities Code Section 851 to Lease 9 Entitlements to Transmission Projects to Citizens Energy Corporation: 10 11 Chapter 8, "Citizens Energy – Public Interest Analysis"; Chapter 8, Attachment SFT-1, "Maps of California: Disadvantaged 12 Communities, Low-Income Communities, Electric Areas of Affordability 13 14 Concern, PG&E Service Territory, California Electric Climate Zones, Counties With a Majority of Hispanic Residents Composite Map"; and 15 Chapter 8, Attachment SFT-2, "CV of Susan F. Tierney." 16 Does this conclude your statement of qualifications? 17 Q 5 A 5 Yes, it does. 18