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March 17, 2003

Advice No. 3246  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Daily Balancing Standby Rates for March 8-14, 2003**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for filing revisions to its tariff schedules, applicable throughout its service territory, as shown on Attachment B.

**Purpose**

This routine filing updates the Daily Balancing Standby Rates for the period of March 8, 2003 through March 14, 2003 in Schedule No. G-IMB, Transportation Imbalance Service, as authorized by the Commission's approval of SoCalGas' Advice Nos. 2651, 2651-A and 2651-B on December 26, 1997, which were filed in compliance with Decision (D.) 97-11-070, dated November 19, 1997, which modified Capacity Brokering Decision D.90-09-089 by adopting modifications to SoCalGas' balancing rules.

**Background**

As authorized in Schedule No. G-IMB, customers will be subject to balancing rules during the winter operating period. From November through March, customers will be required to deliver (using a combination of flowing supply and firm storage withdrawal) at least 50% of burn over a five day period. As the Utility's total inventory in storage declines to the peak day minimum + 20 Bcf, customers will be required to deliver (using a combination of flowing supply and firm storage withdrawal) at least 70% of burn daily. As the Utility's total inventory in storage declines to the peak day minimum + 5 Bcf, customers will be required to deliver (using a combination of flowing supply and firm storage withdrawal) at least 90% of burn daily. Volumes not in compliance with the minimum delivery requirements will be purchased at the daily balancing standby rates described below. Imbalance trading and as-available withdrawal may not be used to offset the minimum delivery requirements. A complete description of the winter minimum delivery requirements is specified in Rule No. 30, Transportation of Customer-Owned Gas.

The Daily Balancing Standby Rates are calculated as follows:

1. During November through March customers are required to deliver (flowing supply and firm storage withdrawal) at a minimum of 50% of burn during a five-day period. Volumes not in compliance with the 50% five-day minimum delivery requirement are purchased at the daily balancing standby rate. The daily balancing standby rate is calculated as 150% of the highest Southern California Border price during the five-day period as published in "NGI's *Daily Gas Price Index*" including authorized franchise fees and, for retail customers, uncollectible expenses (F&U), and an authorized brokerage fee.
2. When the Utility's total inventory in storage declines to the "peak day minimum + 20 Bcf trigger", the minimum daily delivery requirement increases to 70%. The five-day period no longer applies. The daily balancing standby rate is 150% of the highest Southern California Border price per NGI's *Daily Gas Price Index* for the day (including F&U and brokerage fee) and is applied to each day's deliveries which are less than the 70% delivery requirement.
3. When the Utility's total inventory in storage declines to the "peak day minimum + 5 Bcf trigger", the minimum delivery requirement increases to 90% daily. Similar to the 70% regime, the five-day period no longer applies. The daily balancing standby rate is 150% of the highest Southern California Border price per NGI's *Daily Gas Price Index* for the day (including F&U and brokerage fee) and is applied to each day's deliveries which are less than the 90% delivery requirement.

As further authorized in Schedule No. G-IMB, by the Commission's approval of SoCalGas' Advice No. 3018 on June 6, 2001, the Daily Balancing Standby Rates may be filed weekly to become effective immediately. In any event, the Daily Balancing Standby Rates shall be filed on or before the fifth business day of each month.

### **Requested Rate Revision**

The new rates are reflected in the attached Schedule No. G-IMB tariff sheets. The note at the end of the Daily Balancing Standby Rates section is revised to state that for the days of March 1-14, 2003 the Utility's total inventory in storage continued above the "peak day minimum + 20 Bcf trigger" and therefore the five-day period applies. The workpaper showing the calculation of these rates is incorporated herein as Attachment C.

### **Protest**

Anyone may protest this Advice Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be submitted expeditiously. The protest must be made in writing and must be received within 20 days of the date of this Advice Letter. There is no restriction on who may file a protest. The address for mailing or delivering a protest to the Commission is:

Energy Division - IMC Branch  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Copies of the protest should also be sent via e-mail to the attention of both Jerry Royer ([jjr@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jjr@cpuc.ca.gov)) and to Honesto Gatchalian ([jnj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jnj@cpuc.ca.gov)) of the Energy Division. A copy of the protest should also be sent via both e-mail and facsimile to the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission.

Attn: Sid Newsom  
Tariff Manager - GT14D6  
555 West Fifth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011  
Facsimile No. (213) 244-4957  
E-mail: [snewsom@SempraUtilities.com](mailto:snewsom@SempraUtilities.com)

### **Effective Date**

As authorized in Schedule No. G-IMB, the tariff sheets filed herein are to be effective for service on and after March 17, 2003, which is the date filed, and are to be applicable to the period of March 8, 2003 through March 14, 2003.

### **Notice**

In accordance with Section III.G of General Order No. 96-A, a copy of this advice letter is being sent to the parties listed on Attachment A.

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J. STEVE RAHON  
Director  
Tariffs and Regulatory Accounts

Attachments

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Advice No. 3246**

**(See Attached Service List)**

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ATTACHMENT B  
Advice No. 3246

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 36401-G	Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 4	Revised 36397-G
Revised 36402-G	Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 5	Revised 36398-G
Revised 36403-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 36399-G
Revised 36404-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 36400-G



Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 4

(Continued)

RATES (Continued)

Daily Balancing Standby Rates (Continued)

Daily Balancing Standby Rate, per therm

March 2003 Day	Core Retail DB-CR	Noncore Retail DB-NR	Wholesale DB-W
1	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
2	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
3	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
4	\$1.27958	\$1.28023	\$1.27401
5	\$1.27958	\$1.28023	\$1.27401
Period 1 High	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
6	\$1.24285	\$1.24350	\$1.23747
7	\$1.25662	\$1.25727	\$1.25117
8	\$1.09597	\$1.09662	\$1.09130
9	\$1.09597	\$1.09662	\$1.09130
10	\$1.09597	\$1.09662	\$1.09130
Period 2 High	\$1.25662	\$1.25727	\$1.25117
11	\$1.11127	\$1.11192	\$1.10653
12	\$1.01947	\$1.02012	\$1.01517
13	\$0.93532	\$0.93597	\$0.93143
14	\$0.90472	\$0.90537	\$0.90098
15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Period 3 High	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	N/A	N/A	N/A
17	N/A	N/A	N/A
18	N/A	N/A	N/A
19	N/A	N/A	N/A
20	N/A	N/A	N/A
Period 4 High	N/A	N/A	N/A

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3246  
 DECISION NO. 97-11-070

ISSUED BY  
**Lee Schavrien**  
 Vice President  
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Mar 17, 2003  
 EFFECTIVE Mar 17, 2003  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 5

(Continued)

RATES (Continued)

Daily Balancing Standby Rates (Continued)

Daily Balancing Standby Rate, per therm (Continued)

March 2003 Day	Core Retail DB-CR	Noncore Retail DB-NR	Wholesale DB-W
21	N/A	N/A	N/A
22	N/A	N/A	N/A
23	N/A	N/A	N/A
24	N/A	N/A	N/A
25	N/A	N/A	N/A
Period 5 High	N/A	N/A	N/A
26	N/A	N/A	N/A
27	N/A	N/A	N/A
28	N/A	N/A	N/A
29	N/A	N/A	N/A
30	N/A	N/A	N/A
31	N/A	N/A	N/A
Period 6 High	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: For the days of March 1-14, 2003 the Utility's total inventory in storage continued above the "peak day minimum + 20 Bcf trigger" and therefore the five-day period applies.

Revision of Rates

The Standby Procurement Charge and the Buy-Back Rate shall be established effective the last day of each month. The Daily Balancing Standby Rate shall be established on NGI's *Daily Gas Price Index*. Utility may file the Daily Balancing Standby Rate weekly to become effective immediately. In any event, the Daily Balancing Standby Rate shall be filed on or before the fifth business day of each month.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Definitions of the principal terms used in this rate schedule are contained in Rule No. 1.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
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ISSUED BY  
**Lee Schavrien**  
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GW-SWG	Wholesale Natural Gas Service .....	36388-G,35887-G,32689-G 32690-G,35960-G
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G-AUC	Auction Storage Service .....	32708-G,32709-G,32710-G,32711-G 32712-G,32713-G,32714-G,32715-G
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 EFFECTIVE Mar 17, 2003  
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(Continued)

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**ATTACHMENT C  
ADVICE NO. 3246  
RATE CALCULATION WORKPAPER  
DAILY BALANCING STANDBY RATE FILING  
EFFECTIVE MARCH 1-14, 2003**

**Daily Balancing Standby Rate = 150% x (NGI's Price Index + F&U Charge) + Brokerage Fee**

**F&U Charge is 2.0012% of NGI's Price Index for Retail and 1.5051% for Wholesale**

**Brokerage Fee is 0.201 cents for Core Retail; 0.266 cents for Noncore Retail/Wholesale**

**(All rates are per therm)**

<u>March Day</u>	<u>NGI's Price Index</u>	<u>Daily Balancing Standby Rates</u>		
		<u>Core Retail</u>	<u>Noncore Retail</u>	<u>Wholesale</u>
1	\$0.99000	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
2	\$0.99000	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
3	\$0.99000	\$1.51673	\$1.51738	\$1.51001
4	\$0.83500	\$1.27958	\$1.28023	\$1.27401
5	\$0.83500	\$1.27958	\$1.28023	\$1.27401
6	\$0.81100	\$1.24285	\$1.24350	\$1.23747
7	\$0.82000	\$1.25662	\$1.25727	\$1.25117
8	\$0.71500	\$1.09597	\$1.09662	\$1.09130
9	\$0.71500	\$1.09597	\$1.09662	\$1.09130
10	\$0.71500	\$1.09597	\$1.09662	\$1.09130
11	\$0.72500	\$1.11127	\$1.11192	\$1.10653
12	\$0.66500	\$1.01947	\$1.02012	\$1.01517
13	\$0.61000	\$0.93532	\$0.93597	\$0.93143
14	\$0.59000	\$0.90472	\$0.90537	\$0.90098