



**J. Steve Rahon**  
**Director**  
**Tariffs & Regulatory Accounts**

8330 Century Park Ct.  
San Diego, CA 92123-1548  
Tel: 858.654.1773  
Fax 858.654.1788  
srahon@SempraUtilities.com

October 31, 2003

Advice No. 3305  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: October 2003 Buy-Back Rates**

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 monthly filing updates the Buy-Back Rates in Schedule No. G-IMB for October 2003.

**Background**

As authorized in Schedule No. G-IMB - Transportation Imbalance Service, the Buy-Back Rates are established effective the last day of each month.

The Buy-Back Rates will be the lower of 1) the lowest incremental cost of gas purchased by Utility during the month the imbalance was incurred; or 2) 50% of the applicable core subscription procurement charge during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

**Information**

During the month of October 2003, 50% of the core subscription procurement charge is lower than the lowest incremental cost of gas. Therefore, the Buy-Back Rates for October 2003 are being set accordingly. The workpaper showing details of the calculation of these rates is incorporated herein as Attachment C.

The new rates are reflected in the attached Schedule No. G-IMB tariff sheets.

Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the October 2003 Standby Procurement Charges will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to November 25, 2003.

**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 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**

It is requested that the tariff sheets filed herein be made effective October 31, 2003 to coincide with SoCalGas' Core Subscription Procurement Rate filing in Advice No. 3297, dated September 30, 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. 3305**

**(See Attached Service List)**

ACN Energy  
Gary Morrow  
GMorrow@acninc.com

ACN Energy  
Hans Herzog  
hans.herzog@acnenergy.com

ACN Energy  
Mark Warno  
mark.warno@acnenergy.com

ACN Energy  
Tony Cusati  
tony.cusati@acnenergy.com

ACN Inc.  
Glenn Kinser  
gkinser@acninc.com

Aglet Consumer Alliance  
James Weil  
jweil@aglet.org

Alcantar & Kahl  
Elizabeth Westby  
egw@a-klaw.com

Alcantar & Kahl  
Kari Harteloo  
klc@a-klaw.com

AFRPA/DD McClellan Attn: L. Baustian  
3411 Olson Street, Room 105  
McClellan, CA 95652-1003

BP Amoco, Reg. Affairs  
Marianne Jones  
501 West Lake Park Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77079

BP EnergyCo.  
J. M. Zaiontz  
Zaiontj@bp.com

Barkovich & Yap  
Catherine E. Yap  
ceyap@earthlink.net

Berliner, Camdon & Jimison  
John Jimison  
johnj@bcjlaw.com

Beta Consulting  
John Burkholder  
burkee@cts.com

CPUC  
Consumer Affairs Branch  
505 Van Ness Ave., #2003  
San Francisco, CA 94102

CPUC  
Energy Rate Design & Econ.  
505 Van Ness Ave., Rm. 4002  
San Francisco, CA 94102

CPUC  
R. Mark Pocta  
rmp@cpuc.ca.gov

California Energy Market  
Lulu Weinzimer  
luluw@newsdata.com

Calpine Corp  
Avis Clark  
aclark@calpine.com

City of Anaheim  
Ben Nakayama  
Public Utilities Dept.  
P. O. Box 3222  
Anaheim, CA 92803

City of Azusa  
Light & Power Dept.  
215 E. Foothill Blvd.  
Azusa, CA 91702

City of Banning  
Paul Toor  
P. O. Box 998  
Banning, CA 92220

City of Burbank  
Fred Fletcher/Ronald Davis  
164 West Magnolia Blvd., Box 631  
Burbank, CA 91503-0631

City of Colton  
Thomas K. Clarke  
650 N. La Cadena Drive  
Colton, CA 92324

City of Glendale  
Larry Silva  
lsilva@ci.glendale.ca.us

City of Lompoc  
H. Paul Jones  
100 Civic Center Plaza  
Lompoc, CA 93438

City of Long Beach, Gas Dept.  
Chris Garner  
2400 East Spring Street  
Long Beach, CA 90806-2385

City of Los Angeles  
City Attorney  
1700 City Hall East  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

City of Pasadena  
Manuel A. Robledo  
150 S. Los Robles Ave., #200  
Pasadena, CA 91101

City of Riverside  
Stephen Aronson  
saronson@ci.riverside.ca.us

City of Vernon  
Kenneth J. DeDario  
kdedario@ci.vernon.ca.us

Coral Energy  
Walter Cinibulk  
wcinibulk@coral-energy.com

County of Los Angeles  
Stephen Crouch  
1100 N. Eastern Ave., Room 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Crossborder Energy  
Tom Beach  
tomb@crossborderenergy.com

Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP  
Christopher Hilen  
chrishilen@dwt.com

Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP  
Edward W. O'Neill  
One Embarcadero Center, #600  
San Francisco, CA 94111-3834

Davis, Wright, Tremaine  
Judy Pau  
judypau@dwt.com

Dept. of General Services  
Celia Torres  
celia.torres@dgs.ca.gov

Dan Douglass  
douglass@energyattorney.com

Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer  
Ann Trowbridge  
atrowbridge@dbsr.com

Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer  
Phil Stohr  
pstohr@dbsr.com

Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer  
Dan Carroll  
dcarroll@dbsr.com

Dynegy  
Joseph M. Paul  
jmpa@dynegy.com

Deniese Earley  
deniese.earley@dgs.ca.gov

Edson & Modisette  
1015 K Street,, #200  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Energy Law Group, LLP  
Andrew Skaff  
askaff@energy-law-group.com

Energy Law Group, LLP  
Diane Fellman  
difellman@energy-law-group.com

Enserch Gas Marketing, Inc.  
Cathy Hawes  
353 Sacramento, St., Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Gas Purchasing  
BC Gas Utility Ltd.  
16705 Fraser Highway  
Surrey, British Columbia, V3S 2X7

General Services Administration  
Facilities Management (9PM-FT)  
450 Golden Gate Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3611

Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Ritchie &  
Day, LLP  
J. H. Patrick  
hpatrick@gmssr.com

Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Ritchie &  
Day, LLP  
James D. Squeri  
jsqueri@gmssr.com

Hanna & Morton  
Norman A. Pedersen, Esq.  
npedersen@hanmor.com

David Huard  
dhuard@manatt.com

Imperial Irrigation District  
K. S. Noller  
P. O. Box 937  
Imperial, CA 92251

JBS Energy  
Jeff Nahigian  
jeff@jbsenergy.com

Jeffer, Mangels, Butler & Marmaro  
2 Embarcaero Center, 5th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111

LADWP  
Nevenka Ubavich  
nubavi@ladwp.com

LADWP  
Randy Howard  
P. O. Box 51111, Rm. 956  
Los Angeles, CA 90051-0100

Law Offices of William H. Booth  
William Booth  
wbooth@booth-law.com

Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps  
John Leslie  
jleslie@luce.com

MRW & Associates  
Robert Weisenmiller  
mrw@mrwassoc.com

Matthew Brady & Associates  
Matthew Brady  
matt@bradylawus.com

National Utility Service, Inc.  
Jim Boyle  
One Maynard Drive, P. O. Box 712  
Park Ridge, NJ 07656-0712

PG&E National Energy Group  
Eric Eisenman  
eric.eisenman@neg.pge.com

Pacific Gas & Electric Co.  
John Clarke  
Regulatory R77 Beale, B30A B10C  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Praxair Inc  
Rick Noger  
rick\_noger@praxair.com

Questar Southern Trails  
Lenard Wright  
Lenard.Wright@Questar.com

Ramesh Ramchandani  
rxr@cpuc.ca.gov

Regulatory & Cogen Services, Inc.  
Donald W. Schoenbeck  
900 Washington Street, #780  
Vancouver, WA 98660

Richard Hairston & Co.  
Richard Hairston  
hairstonco@aol.com

Southern California Edison Co  
Fileroom Supervisor  
2244 Walnut Grove Ave., Room 290,  
GO1  
Rosemead, CA 91770

Southern California Edison Co  
Karyn Gansecki  
601 Van Ness Ave., #2040  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Southern California Edison Co.  
Colin E. Cushnie  
cushnice@sce.com

Southern California Edison Co.  
Kevin Cini  
cinikr@sce.com

Southern California Edison Co.  
John Quinlan  
john.quinlan@sce.com

Southwest Gas Corp.  
Edward Zub  
P. O. Box 98510  
Las Vegas, NV 89193-8510

Suburban Water System  
Bob Kelly  
1211 E. Center Court Drive  
Covina, CA 91724

Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan  
Keith McCrea  
kmccrea@sablaw.com

TURN  
Marcel Hawiger  
marcel@turn.org

TURN  
Mike Florio  
mflorio@turn.org

Transwestern Pipeline Co.  
Kelly Allen  
kelly.allen@enron.com

Vandenberg AFB  
Ken Padilla  
ken.padilla@vandenberg.af.mil

White & Case  
Regulatory Affairs  
regaffairs@sf.whitecase.com

ATTACHMENT B  
Advice No. 3305

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 37028-G	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, PART II, SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES, Sheet 6	Revised 37020-G
Revised 37029-G	Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 2	Revised 37021-G
Revised 37030-G	Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 3	Revised 36934-G
Revised 37031-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 37022-G
Revised 37032-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 37023-G

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT  
 PART II  
SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES

Sheet 6

(Continued)

PROCUREMENT CHARGE (Continued)

Schedule GW-LB, GW-SD, GW-SWG and GW-VRN

Core Subscription Procurement Charge, per therm ..... 42.695¢

CORE SUBSCRIPTION RESERVATION CHARGE

Schedule G-CS, GW-LB, GW-SD, GW-SWG and GW-VRN

Rate, per therm ..... 3.382¢

IMBALANCE SERVICE

Standby Procurement Charge

Core Retail Standby (SP-CR)

August, 2003 ..... \$0.77676  
 September, 2003 ..... \$0.73664  
 October, 2003 ..... TBD\*

Noncore Retail Standby (SP-NR)

August, 2003 ..... \$0.77741  
 September, 2003 ..... \$0.73729  
 October, 2003 ..... TBD\*

Wholesale Standby (SP-W)

August, 2003 ..... \$0.77741  
 September, 2003 ..... \$0.73729  
 October, 2003 ..... TBD\*

Buy-Back Rate

Core and Noncore Retail (BR-R)

August, 2003 ..... 22.441¢  
 September, 2003 ..... 24.481¢  
 October, 2003 ..... 21.319¢

Wholesale (BR-W)

August, 2003 ..... 22.331¢  
 September, 2003 ..... 24.361¢  
 October, 2003 ..... 21.215¢

\* To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the October 2003 Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to November 25, 2003.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3305  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 6H10 et al.

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Oct 31, 2003  
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Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 2

(Continued)

RATES (Continued)

Standby Procurement Charge

This charge is applied to customer's cumulative negative transportation imbalance (confirmed transportation deliveries less actual usage) exceeding the 10 percent tolerance band. The Standby Procurement Charge is posted at least one day in advance of each corresponding imbalance trading period for noncore/wholesale and core transport agents (CTAs). It is calculated at 150% of the highest daily border price index at the Southern California border beginning on the first day of the month that the imbalance is created to five days prior to the start of each corresponding imbalance trading period plus a Brokerage Fee of 0.266¢ per therm for noncore retail service and all wholesale service, and 0.201¢ per therm for core retail service. The highest daily border price index is an average of the highest prices from "NGI's Daily Gas Price Index – Southern California Border Average" and "Gas Daily's Daily Price Survey – SoCal gas, large pkgs Midpoint."

Core Retail Service:

SP-CR Standby Rate, per therm

August, 2003 .....	\$0.77676	D
September, 2003 .....	\$0.73664	
October, 2003 .....	TBD*	T

Noncore Retail Service:

SP-NR Standby Rate, per therm

August, 2003 .....	\$0.77741	D
September, 2003 .....	\$0.73729	
October, 2003 .....	TBD*	T

Wholesale Service:

SP-W Standby Rate per therm

August, 2003 .....	\$0.77741	D
September, 2003 .....	\$0.73729	
October, 2003 .....	TBD*	T

\* To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the October 2003 Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to November 25, 2003.

Buy-Back Rate

This rate is applied to customer's cumulative positive transportation imbalance (confirmed transportation deliveries less actual usage) exceeding the 10 percent tolerance band. The Buy-Back Rate is established effective the last day of each month and will be the lower of 1) the lowest incremental cost of gas purchased by Utility during the month the excess imbalance was incurred; or 2) 50% of the applicable core subscription procurement charge during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3305  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 et al.  
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Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 3

(Continued)

RATES (Continued)

Buy-Back Rate (Continued)

Retail Service:

BR-R Buy-Back Rate, per therm

August, 2003 .....	22.441¢
September, 2003 .....	24.481¢
October, 2003 .....	21.319¢

Wholesale Service:

BR-W Buy-Back Rate, per therm

August, 2003 .....	22.331¢
September, 2003 .....	24.361¢
October, 2003 .....	21.215¢

If the incremental cost of gas is the basis for the Standby or Buy-Back Rates, Utility will provide CPUC the necessary work papers for such cost. Such documentation will be provided under confidentiality pursuant to General Order 66-C and Section 583 of the Public Utilities Code.

Daily Balancing Standby Rates

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 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.

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.

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.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3305  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 349 et al.

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(Continued)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following listed sheets contain all effective Schedules of Rates and Rules affecting service and information relating thereto in effect on the date indicated thereon.

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3305  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
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**Lee Schavrien**  
 Vice President  
 Regulatory Affairs

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**ATTACHMENT C**

**ADVICE NO. 3305**

**RATE CALCULATION WORKPAPER  
BASED ON ADVICE NO. 3297  
CORE SUBSCRIPTION RATE FILING  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2003**

**Core Subscription Procurement Charge:**

**Retail CS:**                    **42.637¢** per therm  
(WACOG: 41.800¢ + Franchise and Uncollectibles:  
0.837¢ or [2.0012% \* 41.800¢])

**Wholesale CS:**                **42.429¢** per therm  
(WACOG: 41.800¢ + Franchise:  
0.629¢ or [1.5051% \* 41.800¢])

**G-IMB Buy-Back Rates:**

**BR-R** = 50% of Retail Core Subscription Procurement Charge:  
50% \* 42.637 cents/therm = **21.319** cents/therm

**BR-W** = 50% of Wholesale Core Subscription Procurement Charge:  
50% \* 42.429 cents/therm = **21.215** cents/therm