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January 31, 2005

Advice No. 3459  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: January 2005 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 January 2005.

**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 Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, set forth in Schedule No. G-CP, during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

**Information**

During the month of January 2005, 50% of the Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, is lower than the lowest incremental cost of gas. Therefore, the Buy-Back Rates for January 2005 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 January 2005 Standby Procurement Charges will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to February 23, 2005.

**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 ([ijnj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ijnj@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  
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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 January 31, 2005 to coincide with SoCalGas' Adjusted Core Procurement Charge filing in Advice No. 3448, dated December 30, 2004.

**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. 3459**

**(See Attached Service List)**

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ATTACHMENT B  
Advice No. 3459

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 38784-G	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, PART II, SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES, Sheet 6	Revised 38776-G
Revised 38785-G	Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 2	Revised 38777-G
Revised 38786-G	Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 3	Revised 38619-G
Revised 38787-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 38782-G
Revised 38788-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 38783-G

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT  
 PART II  
SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES

Sheet 6

(Continued)

IMBALANCE SERVICE

Standby Procurement Charge

Core Retail Standby (SP-CR)

November, 2004 .....	110.226¢
December, 2004 .....	106.664¢
January, 2005 .....	TBD*

Noncore Retail Standby (SP-NR)

November, 2004 .....	110.291¢
December, 2004 .....	106.729¢
January, 2005 .....	TBD*

Wholesale Standby (SP-W)

November, 2004 .....	110.291¢
December, 2004 .....	106.729¢
January, 2005 .....	TBD*

Buy-Back Rate

Core and Noncore Retail (BR-R)

November, 2004 .....	36.760¢
December, 2004 .....	31.784¢
January, 2005 .....	29.967¢

Wholesale (BR-W)

November, 2004 .....	36.582¢
December, 2004 .....	31.630¢
January, 2005 .....	29.821¢

\*To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the January 2005 Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to February 23, 2005.

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3459  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 6H7 et al.

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Jan 31, 2005  
 EFFECTIVE Jan 31, 2005  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_



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:

Core Retail Standby (SP-CR)

November, 2004 .....	110.226¢	D
December, 2004 .....	106.664¢	
January, 2005 .....	TBD*	T

Noncore Retail Service:

SP-NR Standby Rate, per therm

November, 2004 .....	110.291¢	D
December, 2004 .....	106.729¢	
January, 2005 .....	TBD*	T

Wholesale Service:

SP-W Standby Rate per therm

November, 2004 .....	110.291¢	D
December, 2004 .....	106.729¢	
January, 2005 .....	TBD*	T

\*To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the January 2005 Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to February 23, 2005.

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 Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, set forth in Schedule No. G-CP, during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

(Continued)

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

November, 2004 .....	36.760¢
December, 2004 .....	31.784¢
January, 2005 .....	29.967¢

D  
R

Wholesale Service:

BR-W Buy-Back Rate, per therm

November, 2004 .....	36.582¢
December, 2004 .....	31.630¢
January, 2005 .....	29.821¢

D  
R

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.

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
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 347 et al.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

(Continued)

GT-SD	Intrastate Transmission Service .....	38598-G,30593-G,30594-G,36311-G
GT-PS	Peaking Service .....	38599-G,38600-G,38601-G,38602-G 38603-G,38604-G,35955-G,35956-G,37942-G
GW-LB	Wholesale Natural Gas Service .....	38605-G,38061-G,38062-G 38063-G,38064-G
GW-SD	Wholesale Natural Gas Service .....	38606-G,37949-G,37950-G 37951-G
GW-SWG	Wholesale Natural Gas Service .....	38607-G,37953-G,37954-G,37955-G
GW-VRN	Wholesale Natural Gas Service .....	38608-G,37957-G,37958-G 37959-G,37960-G
G-IMB	Transportation Imbalance Service .....	36312-G,38785-G,38786-G,38780-G 38781-G,36313-G,33498-G
G-ITC	Interconnect Access Service .....	32698-G,32699-G
G-BSS	Basic Storage Service .....	32700-G,32701-G,32702-G,32703-G 37961-G,37962-G,37963-G,37964-G
G-AUC	Auction Storage Service .....	32708-G,32709-G,32710-G,32711-G 32712-G,32713-G,36314-G,32715-G
G-LTS	Long-Term Storage Service .....	32716-G,32717-G,32718-G,32719-G 32720-G,32721-G,37965-G,37966-G
G-TBS	Transaction Based Storage Service .....	32724-G,32725-G,27374-G,27375-G 31929-G,36315-G,27378-G
G-CBS	UDC Consolidated Billing Service .....	34071-G,34072-G,34073-G,33095-G
G-PPPS	Tax Surcharge to Fund Public Purpose Programs .....	38386-G,34262-G
G-SRF	Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account .....	38518-G
G-MHPS	Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission Master Metered Mobile Home Park Gas Safety Inspection and Enforcement Program .....	32828-G
G-MSUR	Transported Gas Municipal Surcharge .....	36621-G,25006-G
GIT	Interruptible Interutility Transportation .....	24567-G,24568-G
GLT	Long-Term Transportation of Customer-Owned Natural Gas .....	24569-G,24570-G,24571-G
GLT-1	Transportation of Customer-Owned Natural Gas .....	24572-G,24573-G,24574-G 24575-G,24576-G,24577-G
GLT-2	Transportation of Customer-Owned Natural Gas .....	24578-G,24579-G,24580-G 24581-G,24582-G,24583-G
G-LOAN	Hub Loaning .....	38609-G
G-PRK	Hub Parking .....	38610-G
G-WHL	Hub Wheeling .....	38611-G
G-FIG	Fiber Optic Cable in Gas Pipelines .....	37005-G,37006-G,37007-G,37008-G 37009-G,37010-G,37011-G,37012-G,37013-G

(Continued)

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ISSUED BY  
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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.

<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>
Title Page .....	21888-G
Table of Contents--General and Preliminary Statement .....	38788-G,38616-G
Table of Contents--Service Area Maps and Descriptions .....	28516-G
Table of Contents--Rate Schedules .....	38674-G,38675-G,38787-G
Table of Contents--List of Cities and Communities Served .....	37398-G
Table of Contents--List of Contracts and Deviations .....	37894-G
Table of Contents--Rules .....	38340-G,36627-G
Table of Contents--Sample Forms .....	37851-G,37017-G,38167-G,37486-G,36796-G

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Part I General Service Information .....	37917-G,24332-G,24333-G,24334-G,24749-G
Part II Summary of Rates and Charges .....	38656-G,38657-G,38658-G,38535-G,38659-G,38784-G 32491-G,32492-G,38517-G,38626-G,38627-G,38539-G,38540-G
Part III Cost Allocation and Revenue Requirement .....	27024-G,37920-G,27026-G,27027-G,38541-G
Part IV Income Tax Component of Contributions and Advances .....	36614-G,24354-G
Part V Description of Regulatory Accounts-Balancing .....	35874-G,34820-G,37156-G 37004-G,34822-G,36082-G,36083-G,36084-G,36085-G,36086-G,34682-G,35770-G,35874-G
Part VI Description of Regulatory Accounts-Memorandum .....	38003-G,34279-G,34280-G 34281-G,38004-G,38005-G,38006-G,38007-G,38008-G,38009-G 38010-G,38011-G,38012-G,38013-G,38014-G,38015-G,38016-G
Part VII Description of Regulatory Accounts-Tracking .....	38017-G,38018-G,38019-G 38020-G,38021-G,38022-G,38023-G
Part VIII Gas Cost Incentive Mechanism (GCIM) .....	37921-G,35877-G,37922-G,36869-G 36870-G,35881-G
Part IX Hazardous Substances Mechanism (HSM) .....	26199-G,26200-G,26201-G
Part X Global Settlement .....	32530-G,32531-G,32532-G,32533-G

(Continued)

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**ATTACHMENT C**

**ADVICE NO. 3459**

**RATE CALCULATION WORKPAPER  
BASED ON ADVICE NO. 3448  
ADJUSTED CORE PROCUREMENT CHARGE FILING  
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2005**

**Adjusted Core Procurement Charge:**

**Retail G-CPA: 59.933¢** per therm  
(WACOG: 58.757¢ + Franchise and Uncollectibles:  
1.176¢ or [2.0012% \* 58.757¢])

**Wholesale G-CPA: 59.641¢** per therm  
(WACOG: 58.757¢ + Franchise:  
0.884¢ or [1.5051% \* 58.757¢])

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

**BR-R = 50% of Retail G-CPA:**  
50% \* 59.933 cents/therm = **29.967** cents/therm

**BR-W = 50% of Wholesale G-CPA:**  
50% \* 59.641 cents/therm = **29.821** cents/therm