

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

Tel. No. (415) 703-1691



March 1, 2006

Advice Letter 3596

Mr. Sid Newsom  
Regulatory Tariff Administration  
Southern California Gas Company – GT14D6  
555 West Fifth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011



Subject: Additional hazardous substance site – Ventura/Olive Street station

Dear Mr. Newsom:

Advice Letter 3596 is effective March 19, 2006. A copy of the advice letter is returned herewith for your records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sean H. Gallagher".

Sean H. Gallagher, Director  
Energy Division



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

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February 17, 2005

Advice No. 3596  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Additional Hazardous Substance Site – Ventura/Olive Street Station**

**Purpose**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby requests Commission approval to include the former underground storage tank area located at 1555 N. Olive Street in Ventura, California (Site) in the Hazardous Substance Cost Recovery Account as referenced within SoCalGas' Preliminary Statement Part V.C, in compliance with Decision No. (D.) 94-05-020.

**Background**

D.94-05-020 requires California utilities to file an advice letter in order to include additional sites as part of the Hazardous Substance Mechanism. For each site the advice letter shall list: 1) the name of the site, 2) the location of the site; 3) the source, nature and approximate date of the contamination; 4) utility operations (historical and current) at the site, if any; and 5) environmental agency and oversight regarding the site, if any.

In addition, D.96-07-016 requires utilities to demonstrate that: 1) clean-up costs for which recovery is being sought are not being recovered through base rates or through any other recovery procedure; and 2) all of the costs for which recovery is being sought are hazardous waste clean-up costs (including insurance costs) found appropriate for recovery in the Collaborative Report.

SoCalGas owns and operates the property located at 1555 N. Olive Street in Ventura, California.

**Required Information**

The relevant information for the Site is as follows:

**Site Name:** Southern California Gas Company Ventura Maintenance Yard former Underground Storage Tank Area

**Location:** 1555 N. Olive Street, Ventura, California

### **Utility Operations (Historical and Current) at the Site**

The Site is located within SoCalGas' maintenance yard located at 1555 North Olive Street in the City of Ventura, Ventura County, California. The Site is owned and operated by SoCalGas. The primary function of this facility was to service and maintain fleet vehicles that provide natural gas services for the city of Ventura. Former gasoline and diesel underground storage tanks (USTs) at this facility were used to refuel the maintenance vehicles.

### **Source, Nature, and Approximate Date of Contamination**

The Site contained gasoline and diesel underground storage tanks used for refueling the maintenance vehicles. In January 2001, in order to re-pipe the tanks, the top of the tanks, product piping, and dispenser were exposed. Soil impacted with petroleum hydrocarbons was noted to be present beneath the former dispenser. Approximately 55 tons of gasoline-impacted soil was excavated from beneath the dispenser and transported off site for disposal.

On December 8, 2004 the USTs and their associated piping and the dispenser were excavated and removed off-site for disposal/recycling. During the removal soil samples were collected and analyzed. A review of the analytical results indicated the presence of petroleum hydrocarbons beneath the former gasoline underground storage tank.

Based on the available information, it appears that the source of contamination was the former gasoline underground storage tank and its associated piping and the time of release appears to be sometime prior to January 2001.

### **Environmental Agency Actions and Oversight**

The Ventura County Environmental Health Division (EDH) is the oversight regulatory agency with jurisdiction over the site. EDH in their April 25, 2005 letter to SoCalGas indicated that EDH had reviewed the UST closure report and had several comments. The EDH requested that the SoCalGas conduct an additional investigation at the UST site to determine the extent of the gasoline-related contamination previously identified. EDH also required additional lead analytical data from soils in the gasoline UST and fuel dispenser areas of the site. In addition, the pertinent electronic data were required to be uploaded to the State of California Water Resource Control Board database (Geo Tracker).

To discuss the scope of work required to achieve "no further action" status for the site, a meeting between representatives of SoCalGas and EDH was held on July 18, 2005. The scope of work discussed and agreed during the July 18, 2005 meeting was developed to meet EDH's requirements to achieve "no further action" or, if deemed necessary, to undertake further action for the site.

### **Nature of Costs**

The soil and groundwater investigation cleanup costs that SoCalGas is seeking to recover through the procedure are not being recovered through base rates or through any other recovery procedure. All investigation/cleanup costs included by SoCalGas in the procedure will be hazardous waste investigation/cleanup costs found appropriate for recovery in the Hazardous Substance Cleanup Cost Recovery Collaborative Report, dated November 19, 1993.

**Protest**

Anyone may protest this Advice Letter to the 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 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 Honesto Gatchalian ([jnj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jnj@cpuc.ca.gov)) of the Energy Division. A copy of the protest shall 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**

In accordance with D.94-05-020, this advice letter shall be treated as a compliance filing under General Order 96-A for Commission approval within 30 days after the filing, which is March 19, 2006, if no protests are received. If protests are received, the Commission will either issue a resolution, or require the utility to file an application seeking inclusion of specified costs in the Hazardous Substance Mechanism.

**Notice**

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to the parties listed on Attachment A, which includes the parties in Application No. 91-04-044 (Hazardous Waste Reasonableness).

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J. STEVE RAHON  
Director  
Tariffs and Regulatory Accounts

Attachments

# CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY/ U 904 G**

Utility type:

ELC     GAS  
 PLC     HEAT     WATER

Contact Person: Sid Newsom

Phone #: (213) 244-2846

E-mail: snewsom@semprautilities.com

### EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric      GAS = Gas  
PLC = Pipeline      HEAT = Heat    WATER = Water

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 3596

Subject of AL: Additional Hazardous Substance Site - Ventura/Olive Street Station

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Balancing Account, Hazardous Waste

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other \_\_\_\_\_

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:

Decision No. 94-05-020

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL N/A

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Requested effective date: 3/19/06      No. of tariff sheets: 0

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): Negligible

Estimated system average rate effect (%): Negligible

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected: none

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: N/A

**Protests and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:**

**CPUC, Energy Division**

**Attention: Tariff Unit**

**505 Van Ness Avenue**

**San Francisco, CA 94102**

**jjr@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov**

**Southern California Gas Company**

**Attention: Sid Newsom**

**555 West Fifth Street, ML GT14D6**

**Los Angeles, CA 90013-4957**

**snewsom@semprautilities.com**

<sup>1</sup> Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Advice No. 3596**

**(See Attached Service Lists)**

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