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August 3, 2006

Advice No. 3649 (U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Revisions to Tariff Rule No. 19 Regarding Changing Rate Schedules

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for approval by the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) revisions to its tariff schedules, applicable throughout its service territory, as shown on Attachment B.

Purpose

This filing revises SoCalGas Tariff Rule No. 19, Rates and Optional Rates to modify the standard limitation on changing rate schedules to allow the customer to make one rate schedule change in any twelve-month period.

Background

SoCalGas Tariff Rule No. 19 currently states that customers may not transfer from one rate schedule to another except after twelve months of service under the schedule, unless otherwise provided for in the rate schedule. This limitation, as stated, poses a potential problem for new customers who may be forced to initially take service under a standard tariff service until optional rates may be analyzed or until necessary contracts for optional rates may be reviewed and executed. In such cases, SoCalGas does not wish to prevent the customer from being placed on their desired optional rate schedule at the earliest opportunity. Modifying the limitation on rate schedule changes to allow one change every twelve months will allow these new customers to immediately switch to the desired optional rate schedule once the implications of the optional rates are fully understood and the necessary contracts have been completed.

SoCalGas also observes that Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) has a similar provision in their Tariff Rule No. 12, Rates and Optional Rates. PG&E's Rule No. 12 states "... a Customer may request only one rate schedule change in any twelve-month period ..." which is consistent with the change proposed by SoCalGas herein.

Tariff Changes

Rule 19, D. Change of Rate Schedule currently states in part:

"Except as provided otherwise in the schedule or contract required thereby, a customer may not transfer from one schedule to another or change the contract in effect for the purpose of obtaining preferential rates, priority of service, or avoiding minimum charges except after 12 months' service under the schedule:" The proposed language would state:

"Except as provided otherwise in the rate schedule or contract required thereby, a customer may request only one rate schedule change or change the contract in effect for the purpose of obtaining preferential rates, priority of service, or avoiding minimum charges in any twelvemonth period;"

This language change will not create any deviations from SoCalGas' tariffs, cause withdrawal of service from any present customer, or impose any more restrictive conditions.

Effective Date

SoCalGas believes that this filing is subject to Energy Division disposition and therefore respectfully requests that this advice letter become effective September 2, 2006, which is not less than thirty (30) calendar days after the date filed.

<u>Protest</u>

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:

CPUC Energy Division Attention: Tariff Unit 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Copies of the protest should also be sent via e-mail to the attention of both Jerry Royer (ijr@cpuc.ca.gov) and Honesto Gatchalian (inj@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

Notice

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to the parties listed on Attachment A.

J. STEVE RAHON
Director
Tariffs and Regulatory Accounts

Attachments

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLI	ETED BY UTILITY (At	tach additional pages as needed)			
Company name/CPUC Utility No. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY/ U 904 G					
Utility type:	Contact Person: C	onnie Christensen			
☐ ELC ☐ GAS	Phone #: (213) 2	44-3837			
PLC HEAT WATER	E-mail: cchristensen@semprautilities.com				
EXPLANATION OF UTILITY T	YPE	(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)			
ELC = Electric GAS = Gas PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat	WATER = Water				
Advice Letter (AL) #: 3649					
Subject of AL: Revision of Rule 19, I	Rates and Optional	Rates			
Keywords (choose from CPUC listing	g): <u>Rules</u>				
AL filing type: \square Monthly \square Quarte	erly 🗌 Annual 🛛 C	One-Time 🗌 Other			
If AL filed in compliance with a Com	nmission order, indi	cate relevant Decision/Resolution #:			
Does AL replace a withdrawn or reje	ected AL? If so, idea	ntify the prior AL			
Summarize differences between the	AL and the prior w	ithdrawn or rejected AL¹:			
Resolution Required? \square Yes \boxtimes No					
Requested effective date: <u>09/02/06</u>		No. of tariff sheets: <u>3</u>			
Estimated system annual revenue e	ffect: (%):				
Estimated system average rate effec	t (%):				
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: Rules, TOCs					
Service affected and changes proposed ¹ :					
Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets:					
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		outhern California Gas Company			
Attention: Tariff Unit 505 Van Ness Avenue		ttention: Sid Newsom			
San Francisco, CA 94102		55 West Fifth Street, ML GT14D6 os Angeles, CA 90013-4957			
jjr@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov		newsom@semprautilities.com			

 $^{^{\}mbox{\tiny 1}}$ Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

ATTACHMENT A

Advice No. 3649

(See Attached Service List)

Aglet Consumer Alliance
James Weil

jweil@aglet.org

Ancillary Services Coalition

Jo Maxwell

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

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Terry Rich

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CPUC - DRA Jacqueline Greig jnm@cpuc.ca.gov

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City of Los Angeles City Attorney 200 North Main Street, 800 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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CPUC

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California Energy Market Lulu Weinzimer Iuluw@newsdata.com

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ATTACHMENT B Advice No. 3649

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No. Title of Sheet		Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	
Revised 40825-G	Rule No. 19, RATES AND OPTIONAL RATES, Sheet 1	Revised 36016-G	
Revised 40826-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 40463-G	
Revised 40827-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 40822-G	

Revised Revised

CAL. P.U.C. SHEET NO. CAL. P.U.C. SHEET NO.

40825-G 36016-G

Rule No. 19 RATES AND OPTIONAL RATES

Sheet 1

A. Effective Rates

The rates to be charged by the Utility for gas service shall be the rates legally in effect and on file with the California Public Utilities Commission. Complete copies of all rate schedules legally in effect for any district shall be available for public inspection at all times in the Utility's local offices for that district. Such tariffs may be maintained on a website, and printed copies of such tariffs shall be made available to customers upon request.

Where negotiable rate options are available to the customer, the Utility shall not be obligated to provide the customer with any recommendation or comparison of options.

B. Establishing Rate Schedules for New Customers

At the time of application for service, the Utility shall, based on information provided by the applicant, ensure that the applicant is placed on an applicable rate schedule approved by the Commission.

C. New or Optional Rates

In the event of the adoption by the Utility of new or optional rates, the Utility shall take such measures as may be practicable to advise the customers who may be affected that such new or optional rates are effective.

D. Change of Rate Schedule

Except as provided otherwise in the rate schedule or contract required thereby, a customer may request only one rate schedule change or change the contract in effect for the purpose of obtaining preferential rates, priority of service, or avoiding minimum charges in any twelve-month period; however, if the customer's fuel requirements are permanently increased or decreased due to changed conditions of operation, the customer may, by application, request service under another schedule for which the customer can properly qualify. A customer changing rate schedules shall not avoid any Use-or-Pay charges that would otherwise apply from prior rate schedule under which the customer was served. In the event that a customer desires to take service under a different schedule than that under which the customer is being served and qualifies for service thereunder, the change shall become effective for service rendered after the next regular meter reading following the date of notice to the Utility, based on the availability of metering and billing requirements.

It is the customer's responsibility to request another rate schedule or service option if the customer's connected load, hours of operation, type of business or type of service have changed. Where the customer changes equipment or operation without notifying the Utility, the Utility assumes no responsibility for advising the customer of other rate options available to the customer as a result of the customer's equipment/operation changes. See Rule No. 29, Change of Consumer's Apparatus or Equipment.

T | T

Regulatory Affairs

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)} \\ \text{DATE FILED} & \underline{Aug~3,2006} \\ \text{EFFECTIVE} & \underline{Sep~2,2006} \\ \text{RESOLUTION NO.} \end{array}$

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(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY) 3649 ADVICE LETTER NO. DECISION NO.

ISSUED BY Lee Schavrien Vice President Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC) Aug 3, 2006 DATE FILED Sep 2, 2006 **EFFECTIVE** RESOLUTION NO.

T

GENERAL

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.

T

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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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(Continued)

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)} \\ \mbox{ADVICE LETTER NO.} & 3649 \\ \mbox{DECISION NO.} \end{array}$

ISSUED BY
Lee Schavrien
Vice President

Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)

DATE FILED Aug 3, 2006

EFFECTIVE Sep 2, 2006

RESOLUTION NO.