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July 25, 2007

Advice No. 3762
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Rule Integration: Rule Numbers 12, Payment of Bills, 14, Meter Reading and 17, Readings of Separate Meters Not Combined

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for approval by the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) revisions to its Rule Numbers (Nos.) 12, Payment of Bills; 14, Meter Reading; and 17, Readings of Separate Meters Not Combined (the Rules) as shown in Attachment B.

Purpose

In this filing, SoCalGas proposes to bring the Rules into conformance with San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E's) gas and electric Rule 9, Rendering and Payment of Bills. This filing responds to the Commission's expressed desire for consistency in utility tariffs by aligning SDG&E's tariffs to SoCalGas' tariffs to the greatest extent possible. The proposed revisions promote tariff simplicity, respond to customer needs, and provide ease in administering the tariff.

Information

The herein proposed Rule Nos. 12 and 14 set forth the conditions associated with rendering bills, payments of the bills and meter reading. The Rules are being conformed to SDG&E's gas and electric Rule 9 in order to present the information more clearly and to make the rules more understandable. As a result of the review of both Utilities' rules, it has become apparent that SoCalGas' Rule No. 12 could be made more complete and explicit with the addition of certain provisions from SDG&E's rule as described below. Moreover, headings have been added for ease of reference. The proposed revisions do not result in any changes in utility practices.

Proposed Revisions

The following proposed changes to Rule No. 12 are being made:

- Rule name changed from Payment of Bills to Rendering and Payment of Bills.

- Current section A. changed to A. Rendering of Bills with three subsections titled Regular Bills, Electronic Bills and Summary Billing.
 - Proposed A.1. Regular Bills contains language from the current section A, modified for clarity.
 - Proposed A.2. was current section E.
 - Proposed A.3. Summary Billing was added to be consistent with SDG&E's current gas Rule 9, E., 1. and 2., with language modified for clarity.
- Current section B. changed to B., Payment of Bills, with six subsections titled Bills Due on Presentation, Closing Bills Payable on Presentation, Bills for Connection or Reconnection of Service and Deposits, Payment Options, Dishonored Payment, and Refunds.
 - Proposed B.1. is language from current section A and B with minor text changes for clarity.
 - Proposed B.2. and B.3. are the current section B.
 - Proposed B.4. is the current section A., second paragraph, with minor text changes for clarity.
 - Proposed B.5. incorporates current section C. into text as found in SDG&E's Rule 9, B.4 and D.3., second paragraph.
 - Proposed B.6. is text from SDG&E's current gas Rule 9 D.4. with language added for clarity that pertains to recently added payment options.
- Current section D. changed to C. LevelPay Payment Option, with text from SDG&E's current gas Rule 9 C. for clarity.
- Current section F. changed to D.

The following proposed changes to Rule No. 14 are being made:

- Current Rule No. 17 language is moved to Rule No. 14 B. and as a result, Rule No. 17, Readings of Separate Meters Not Combined, is removed from SoCalGas' tariff book as shown in the Table of Contents for Rules as contained in Attachment B.
- Current section D. is changed to section C. with text changes in paragraph one and an added paragraph two for clarity.
- Current sections B. and C. are combined and changed to section D. with text changes for clarity.

This filing will not result in an increase or decrease in any rate or charge, conflict with any rate schedules or any other rules, cause the withdrawal of service or result in any changes in Utility practices.

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:

CPUC Energy Division
Attn: 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 Maria Salinas (mas@cpuc.ca.gov) and Honesto Gatchalian (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

Effective Date

SoCalGas believes this Advice Letter is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 2 (effective after staff approval) pursuant to GO 96-B and respectfully requests that this filing become effective August 24, 2007, which is 30 calendar days after the date filed.

Notice

A copy of this Advice Letter is being sent to the parties listed on Attachment A.

Ken Deremer
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) #: 3762

Subject of AL: Rule Integration: Rule Nos. 12, Payment of Bills, 14, Meter Reading and 17, Readings of Separate Meters Not Combined

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Rules, Meters, Billings

AL filing type: Monthly Quarterly Annual One-Time Other _____

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:
None

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL No

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL¹: N/A

Does AL request confidential treatment? If so, provide explanation: No

Resolution Required? Yes No

Tier Designation: 1 2 3

Requested effective date: 8/24/07

No. of tariff sheets: 8

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

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: Rule 12, 14, 17 and TOCs

Service affected and changes proposed¹: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: None

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 Ave.

San Francisco, CA 94102

mas@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov

Southern California Gas Company

Attention: Sid Newsom

555 West Fifth Street, GT14D6

Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011

snewsom@semprautilities.com

¹ Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

ATTACHMENT A

Advice No. 3762

(See Attached Service List)

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ATTACHMENT B
Advice No. 3762

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 42086-G	Rule No. 12, RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS, Sheet 1	Revised 39474-G*
Revised 42087-G	Rule No. 12, RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS, Sheet 2	Revised 39814-G Revised 39474-G*
Original 42088-G	Rule No. 12, RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS, Sheet 3	Revised 39814-G Revised 39474-G*
Original 42089-G	Rule No. 12, RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS, Sheet 4	Revised 39814-G Revised 39474-G 36921-G
Revised 42090-G	Rule No. 14, METER READING, Sheet 1	Revised 24620-G Revised 24626-G
Original 42091-G	Rule No. 14, METER READING, Sheet 2	
Revised 42092-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 41758-G
Revised 42093-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 42085-G

Rule No. 12
RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

Sheet 1

A. Rendering of Bills

1. Regular Bills. Bills for gas service will be rendered monthly, or as may otherwise be provided under applicable tariff schedules, and will be based on the measured quantity of gas delivered to the customer, except as provided in Section C below and as noted in Rule No. 14, Meter Reading, Section C.

2. Electronic Bills. At the mutual option of the customer and the Utility, the customer may elect to receive, view and pay regular bills for service electronically and no longer receive the paper bills. All legal and mandated notices and all charges that would have appeared on the paper bill will be provided with the electronic bill transmittal. Even if the Utility allows bill payment using a bill aggregator or by credit/debit card, responsibility for handling complaints about the bill still resides with the Utility. All notices for termination of service for non-payment will be delivered by a Utility visit or by U.S. Mail. Either party may discontinue electronic billing upon 30 days' notice. The Utility will not release confidential information, including financial information, to a third party without the customer's consent. The customer's consent shall be provided to the Utility either in writing or electronically.

3. Summary Billing. Summary Billing presents bills for customers with multiple accounts in a summarized bill. A customer will receive one bill each month for such a group of accounts. This option is available to both Residential and Non-residential customers.

Customers requesting Summary Billing must have a minimum of ten accounts. In addition, customers must have demonstrated an acceptable payment record (no more than two late payments in the past 12 months on any account), their accounts must be current at the time they begin Summary Billing, and they must not have been involuntarily terminated from Summary Billing within the past 12 months.

Once a customer has been placed on Summary Billing, the customer must maintain the minimum number of accounts required and an acceptable payment record as described above in order to remain eligible for Summary Billing.

B. Payment of Bills

1. Bills Due On Presentation. Bills are due and payable upon presentation. Such bills are the first notice to the customer that the amount shown is due and payable and when not timely paid, will become past due as provided for in Rule No. 9, Discontinuance of Service. Payment must be received at the office of the Utility or, at the Utility's option, by duly authorized collectors of the Utility.

2. Closing Bills Payable on Presentation. Special bills, bills rendered on vacation of premises, or bills rendered to persons discontinuing the service shall be paid on presentation.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3762
 DECISION NO.

ISSUED BY
Lee Schavrien
 Vice President
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)
 DATE FILED Jul 25, 2007
 EFFECTIVE Aug 24, 2007
 RESOLUTION NO. _____

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Rule No. 12
RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

Sheet 2

(Continued)

B. Payment of Bills (Continued)

3. Bills for Connection or Reconnection of Service and Deposits. Bills for connection or reconnection of service and payments of deposits or for reinstatement of deposits as required under the rules of the Utility must be paid before service will be connected or reconnected.

4. Payment Options. Payments for gas service may be made using the following options: cash, check, money order, auto debit, debit card, credit card, pay-by-phone, or electronically, as defined in Rule No. 1.

The Utility is not responsible for any transfer or transaction fee by a third party vendor for their services over and above the Utility bill charged to the customer. Customers choosing to use an alternative payment method, such as a bill aggregator or financial institution, may be charged a fee by the third party.

5. Dishonored Payment. If all or any portion of the amount to be paid is not honored, the Utility may bill the unpaid amount to the applicant's subsequent service or to the customer's present service. Such applicant or customer shall be deemed to have consented to such billing. Nonpayment of the amount so billed shall constitute nonpayment of the service or billing and will be subject to the provision for discontinuance of service as set forth in Rule No. 9.

A bill paid with a check that is subsequently dishonored will be subject to a \$7.50 Returned Check Service Charge. This charge will be added to the customer's bill for each occurrence. However, if a customer's check covers payment for other utility services in addition to payment for gas service, only one Returned Check Service Charge will be added to the customer's bill for each occurrence.

The Returned Check Service Charge shall also apply to all other forms of payment that are subsequently dishonored. This charge will be added to the customer's bill for each occurrence.

6. Refunds. If all or any portion of an amount paid must be refunded by the Utility, such refund may be made at the Utility's option by check or draft, or as credit on the customer's monthly Utility bill. The Utility will not refund electronic check, debit card, or credit card, payments made through a third party.

C. Level Pay Plan

Individually metered residential customers, residential master-metered customers, and core commercial and industrial customers using less than 3,000 therms per year who wish to minimize seasonal variations in monthly bills may elect to participate in the Level Pay Plan (LPP) under the following conditions:

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)

ADVICE LETTER NO. 3762
 DECISION NO.

2H40

ISSUED BY

Lee Schavrien
 Vice President
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)

DATE FILED Jul 25, 2007
 EFFECTIVE Aug 24, 2007

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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Rule No. 12
RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

Sheet 3

(Continued)

C. Level Pay Plan (Continued)

1. Participation is subject to approval by the Utility. T
2. The LPP year begins when the first LPP billing is rendered and extends for 11 subsequent months. Eligible customers may join the LPP in any month. T
3. Participants must have maintained a satisfactory payment record or shall have otherwise qualified for credit to the satisfaction of the Utility. N
4. Participants must have no outstanding arrears on their account at the time their LPP starts, or agree to amortize their arrears amount. T
5. Participants may voluntarily withdraw from the LPP at any time upon notice to the Utility. However, any amounts due for usage over and above the LPP amounts already paid are then due and payable in accordance with the Utility's approved tariffs. Any credit for the LPP amounts paid in excess of actual charges will be applied to the customer's next regular monthly bill or will be refunded by check if so requested by the customer. T
6. Participants are expected to pay the LPP amount shown due each month. Participants may be removed from the LPP if a bill containing a prior unpaid amount becomes past due as defined in Rule No. 9, Discontinuance of Service. Re-entry into the LPP will be contingent upon all past due amounts being paid. N
7. The LPP amount will be one-twelfth of the annual bill, as estimated by the Utility, based on the customer's most recent 12 months billing history, or, if such billing information is not available, the available billing information for the premises will be used. T
8. Participants' accounts are periodically reviewed and adjusted in order to reduce the likelihood of a large imbalance between actual charges and LPP charges. T

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3762
 DECISION NO.
 3H35

ISSUED BY
Lee Schavrien
 Vice President
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)
 DATE FILED Jul 25, 2007
 EFFECTIVE Aug 24, 2007
 RESOLUTION NO. _____

Rule No. 12

Sheet 4

RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

(Continued)

D. Late Payment Charges

A monthly late payment charge, equal to SoCalGas' authorized return on rate base divided by 12 and rounded to the nearest one-tenth of one percent, may be assessed on non-residential accounts with billing in arrears if not received by the Utility, or by a duly authorized agent of the Utility, by the "late charge date" as shown on the bill. The "late charge date" will be at least 19 days from the date mailed as indicated on the bill.

Effective January 1, 2006, the Late Payment Charge is 0.7% (seven-tenths of one percent).

If an account is served by or serves a State Agency and payment is not received within the time limits specified pursuant to the California Prompt Payment Act, Government Code Section 927 et seq., then a penalty for late payment shall be imposed upon the State in accordance with the provisions of the California Prompt Payment Act. For purposes of determining the applicability of this section, the phrase "is served by or serves a State Agency", shall include governmental entities where a portion of utility service is provided or arranged for by a State Agency and collection and payment of the particular utility bills is handled by that State Agency. It is the intent of this section not to exceed the requirements and limitations specified by the California Prompt Payment Act.

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)

ADVICE LETTER NO. 3762
DECISION NO.

4427

ISSUED BY

Lee Schavrien
Vice President
Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)

SUBMITTED Jul 25, 2007
EFFECTIVE Aug 24, 2007
RESOLUTION NO. _____

Rule No. 14
METER READING

Sheet 1

A. Meter Reading Schedule

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Meters shall be read as nearly as possible at regular intervals. The regular billing period for residential service shall be one month. The regular billing period for all other classes of service shall be one month unless credit relations or collection difficulties make shorter periods advisable. In such cases the billing period may be reduced to two weeks or to one week at the Utility's discretion.

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B. Reading of Separate Meters Not Combined

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For billing purposes, each meter upon the customer's premises will be considered separately and readings of two or more meters will not be combined except as follows:

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1. The combinations of meter readings are specifically provided for in rate schedules.
2. The maintenance of adequate service and/or the Utility's operating convenience requires the installation of two or more meters upon the customer's premises. (The applicability of this paragraph will depend upon the metering that would be utilized for new customers with similar service requirements.)

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C. Estimated Bills

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1. If, for reasons beyond the Utility's control, the meter serving the customer cannot be read on the scheduled reading date or accurate usage data are not available, the Utility will bill the customer for estimated consumption during the billing period, and make any necessary corrections when a reading is obtained. Estimated consumption for this purpose will be calculated considering the customer's prior usage, the Utility's experience with other customers of the same class in that area, and the general characteristics of the customer's operations. Adjustments for any under-estimate or over-estimate of a customer's consumption will be reflected on the first regularly scheduled bill rendered and based on an actual reading following the period of inaccessibility. Access to the meter, sufficient to permit the Utility to obtain an accurate read, shall be provided by the customer as a pre-requisite to the Utility making any adjustment of gas billed on an estimated basis.
2. If, for reasons within the Utility's control, the meter cannot be read or accurate usage data are not available, the Utility will bill the customer for estimated consumption during the billing period, and make any necessary corrections when a reading is obtained in accordance with Rule No. 16 C. Such estimated bills shall be considered "billing error" for the purpose of applying Rule No. 16. Estimated consumption for this purpose will be calculated as described above.

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3762
 DECISION NO.

ISSUED BY
Lee Schavrien
 Vice President
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)
 DATE FILED Jul 25, 2007
 EFFECTIVE Aug 24, 2007
 RESOLUTION NO. _____

Rule No. 14
METER READING

Sheet 2

(Continued)

D. Bills for Less Than 27 or More Than 33 Days

Except as otherwise provided in certain rate schedules and bills utilizing daily allowance billing, all bills, including opening and closing bills, for gas service rendered for a period of less than 27 days or more than 33 days will be computed in accordance with the applicable rate schedule and shall be prorated on the basis of the number of days service has been rendered to the number of days in an average month which shall be taken as 30 days. Proration will include the size of any rate blocks and recurring fixed monthly charges as stated in the rate schedule(s). Service establishment charges shall not be prorated.

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)

ADVICE LETTER NO. 3762
DECISION NO.

2H9

ISSUED BY

Lee Schavrien
Vice President
Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)

DATE FILED Jul 25, 2007
EFFECTIVE Aug 24, 2007
RESOLUTION NO. _____

TABLE OF CONTENTS

RULES

<u>Rule Number</u>	<u>Title of Sheet</u>	<u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>
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ISSUED BY
Lee Schavrien
 Vice President
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