

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 10, 2009

**Advice Letter 3993**

Ronald van der Leeden, Director  
Rates, Revenues and Tariffs  
8330 Century Park Court CP32C  
San Diego, CA 92123-1548

**Subject: GCIM Mid-Season Storage Target**

Dear Mr. van der Leeden:

Advice Letter 3993 is effective July 31, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie A. Fitch".

Julie A. Fitch, Director  
Energy Division



**Ronald van der Leeden**  
Director  
Rates, Revenues & Tariffs

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June 5, 2009

Advice No. 3993  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: GCIM Mid-Season Storage Target**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for approval by the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a revision to its Preliminary Statement, Part VIII, Gas Cost Incentive Mechanism (GCIM), as shown on Attachment B.

**Purpose**

Pursuant to Decision (D.) 06-10-029, SoCalGas is filing a revision to its Preliminary Statement, Part VIII, GCIM, to reflect a mid-season minimum core-purchased inventory target for GCIM Year 16.

**Information**

SoCalGas filed Application (A.)05-06-030 regarding Year 11 (2004-2005) of its GCIM on June 15, 2005. The Commission, in D.06-10-029, approved A.05-06-030 along with a Joint Recommendation as negotiated by the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), The Utility Reform Network (TURN), and SoCalGas to modify SoCalGas' management and use of gas storage capacity dedicated to core customers. As a part of this Joint Recommendation, SoCalGas must obtain agreement from DRA and TURN for mid-season core-purchased inventory targets which must be met unless otherwise agreed to by DRA and TURN. It was also ruled that each of these changes would be reflected in SoCalGas' GCIM tariff. The Commission approved the Joint Recommendation in Ordering Paragraph 3 of D.06-10-029.

D.06-10-029 established a minimum core-purchased inventory of 49 Bcf on July 31, 2006. For years beyond 2006, SoCalGas is required to "obtain agreement from DRA and TURN for mid-season core-purchased inventory targets which must be met unless otherwise agreed to by DRA and TURN. Each of these changes would be reflected in SoCalGas' GCIM tariff."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> D.06-10-029, p. 8.

SoCalGas has obtained agreement from DRA and TURN for a mid-season minimum storage target of 51 Bcf as of July 31, 2009. The following is reflected in the revised sentence in Section C.7 of Preliminary Statement, Part VIII, GCIM:

"SoCalGas has obtained agreement from DRA and TURN for a mid-season storage target of 51 Bcf as of July 31, 2009, which is a minimum storage level SoCalGas must meet unless otherwise agreed to by DRA and TURN."

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

### **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  
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 Maria Salinas ([mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)) and Honesto Gatchalian ([inj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto: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](mailto:snewsom@semprautilities.com)

### **Effective Date**

SoCalGas believes that this filing is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 2 (effective after staff approval) pursuant to GO-96-B. SoCalGas respectfully requests that this advice letter be approved July 5, 2009, which is 30 calendar days after the date filed. Additionally, SoCalGas respectfully requests that the tariff sheets as shown in Attachment B be effective for service on and after July 31, 2009, to be coincident with the date of the mid-season storage target set forth herein.

**Notice**

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to the parties listed on Attachment A, which includes the parties in A.08-06-016, SoCalGas Year 14 GCIM.

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Ronald van der Leeden  
Director  
Rates, Revenues & Tariffs

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 904G)**

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) #: 3993

Subject of AL: GCIM Mid Season Storage Target

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Storage

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other

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

D.06-10-029

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 AL<sup>1</sup>: N/A

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

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Tier Designation:  1  2  3

Requested effective date: 7/31/09

No. of tariff sheets: 3

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated system average rate effect (%): \_\_\_\_\_

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: Preliminary Statement Part VIII - GCIM and TOCs

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: 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 5<sup>th</sup> Street, GT14D6**

**Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011**

**SNewsom@semprautilities.com**

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

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Advice No. 3993**

**(See Attached Service Lists)**

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ATTACHMENT B  
Advice No. 3993

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 44758-G	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, PART VIII, GAS COST INCENTIVE MECHANISM, Sheet 5	Revised 43587-G
Revised 44759-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 44757-G
Revised 44760-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 44266-G*

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT  
PART VIII  
GAS COST INCENTIVE MECHANISM

Sheet 5

(Continued)

C. GAS COST INCENTIVE MECHANISM (GCIM) METHODOLOGY (Continued)

- k. Pursuant to Preliminary Statement, Part VI, Description of Regulatory Accounts - Memorandum, the Blythe Operational Flow Requirement Memorandum Account (BOFRMA) will record charges associated with the Utility Gas Procurement Department's purchasing and delivery of gas to sustain operational flows at Blythe. GCIM actual cost will be adjusted for charges or credits to the BOFRMA. Entries to this account, except for interest and amortization, along with related GCIM adjustments, will cease once the responsibility for managing minimum flow requirements for system reliability is transferred from the Utility Gas Procurement Department to the System Operator pursuant to D.07-12-019.
7. The Annual Storage Inventory target on November 1 is 79 Bcf of the physical gas supply, with an accepted variance of +5/-2 Bcf. This target does not include any park or net loan positions. If the November 1 target is not attained, deliveries must be made to insure that a minimum of 69 Bcf of actual physical gas in the core's inventory is reached by December 1. The January, February and March minimum month-end targets (equivalent to peak day minimums necessary for serving the core) must be met. Any deviation from these storage targets should be explained in SoCalGas' annual GCIM filing. SoCalGas has obtained agreement from DRA and TURN for a mid-season storage target of 51 Bcf as of July 31, 2009, which is a minimum storage level SoCalGas must meet unless otherwise agreed to by DRA and TURN. This target may include net loan positions.
8. Tolerance. To determine GCIM rewards or penalties, tolerance bands above or below the benchmark budget are used. Tolerance bands are calculated as a percentage of the monthly gas commodity portion of the benchmark budget and is added to or subtracted from the benchmark budget as "upper tolerance band" or "lower tolerance band" (sharing bands), respectively. The specific percentages are approved by the CPUC and may be redetermined in subsequent CPUC decisions (See Section 9).
9. Calculation of Rewards and Penalties Under GCIM
- a. On an annual basis, actual total purchased gas costs are compared to the annual benchmark budget to determine if a reward/savings or penalty applies.
- b. If actual total purchased gas costs for the incentive year are less than the annual benchmark budget, the difference constitutes a savings incentive to be shared between ratepayers and shareholders as defined by the Sharing Bands as follows:

Sharing Band	Ratepayer	Shareholder
0.0% -1.00%	100%	0%
1.00% - 5.00%	75%	25%
5.00% & Above	90%	10%

The shareholder reward will be capped at 1.5% of the actual annual gas commodity costs.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVISE LETTER NO. 3993  
 DECISION NO. 06-10-029

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Jun 5, 2009  
 EFFECTIVE Jul 31, 2009  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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.

GENERAL

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.

Title Page .....	40864-G
Table of Contents--General and Preliminary Statement .....	44759-G,44195-G,44760-G
Table of Contents--Service Area Maps and Descriptions .....	41970-G
Table of Contents--Rate Schedules .....	44755-G,44756-G,44724-G
Table of Contents--List of Cities and Communities Served .....	40149.1-G
Table of Contents--List of Contracts and Deviations .....	40149.1-G
Table of Contents--Rules .....	43402-G,43403-G
Table of Contents--Sample Forms .....	44440-G,44339-G,44340-G,44441-G,44442-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 .....	44726-G,44727-G,44728-G,44729-G,44220-G,44730-G 44721-G,43595-G,43596-G,44041-G,44731-G,44732-G,44224-G,44225-G
Part III Cost Allocation and Revenue Requirement .....	27024-G,37920-G,27026-G,27027-G,44226-G
Part IV Income Tax Component of Contributions and Advances .....	44448-G,24354-G
Part V Balancing Accounts	
Description and Listing of Balancing Accounts .....	43687-G
Purchased Gas Account (PGA) .....	44460-G
Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA) .....	42242-G
Noncore Fixed Cost Account (NFCA) .....	44461-G
Enhanced Oil Recovery Account (EORA) .....	42244-G
Noncore Storage Balancing Account (NSBA) .....	44191-G,44192-G
California Alternate Rates for Energy Account (CAREA) .....	40872-G,40873-G
Brokerage Fee Account (BFA) .....	40874-G
Hazardous Substance Cost Recovery Account (HSCRA) .....	40875-G, 40876-G,40877-G
Natural Gas Vehicle Account (NGVA) .....	43688-G,40879-G
El Paso Turned-Back Capacity Balancing Account (EPTCBA) .....	40880-G
Gas Cost Rewards and Penalties Account (GCRPA) .....	40881-G
Pension Balancing Account (PBA) .....	43689-G,43690-G

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3993  
 DECISION NO. 06-10-029

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

(Continued)

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT (Continued)

Part VII Tracking Accounts

Description and Listing of Tracking Accounts ..... 42597-G  
 Other Hazardous Substance Tracking Account (OHSTA) ..... 40921-G  
 Noncore Fixed Cost Tracking Account (NFCTA) ..... 40922-G  
 Noncore Interstate Transition Cost Surcharge Account (NITCSA) ..... 40923-G,40924-G  
 Core Interstate Transition Cost Surcharge Account (CITCSA) ..... 40925-G  
 Vernon Revenue Tracking Account (VRTA) ..... 40926-G  
 Montebello True-Up Tracking Account (MTTA) ..... 40927-G  
 Native Gas Tracking Account (NGTA) ..... 42598-G

Part VIII Gas Cost Incentive Mechanism (GCIM) ..... 43937-G,42773-G,42774-G,42775-G  
 44758-G,42777-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

Part XI Performance Based Regulation (PBR) ..... 43901-G,43902-G,43704-G,43705-G  
 43706-G,43903-G,43904-G,43905-G,43906-G,44227-G,43908-G  
 43909-G,43910-G,43911-G,43912-G,43913-G,43914-G,43915-G

Part XII Gain/Loss On Sale Mechanism ..... 42134-G,42135-G,42136-G,42137-G,42138.1-G

Part XIII Native Gas Program Mechanism (NGPM) .....42599-G, 42600-G, 42601-G, 42602-G  
 42603-G, 42604-G, 42605-G

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(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)

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**Lee Schavrien**  
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