

Ronald van der Leeden Director Rates, Revenues & Tariffs

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February 10, 2010

Advice No. 4060-A (U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

# <u>Subject</u>: Partial Supplement: Modification of Noncore Fixed Cost Account (NFCA) for Recovery of Assembly Bill (AB) 32 Administrative Fees

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for approval with the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) revisions to its Preliminary Statement Part V, Balancing Accounts, applicable throughout its service territory, as shown on Attachment B.

# Purpose

This partial supplement responds to the protests filed by Indicated Producers (IP) and Southern California Generation Coalition (SCGC) and revises the NCFA as shown below.

# **Background**

On January 15, 2010, SoCalGas filed Advice No. (AL) 4060 seeking approval to modify its Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA) and NFCA to record AB 32 administrative fees paid to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) for cost recovery in future gas transportation rates. On February 4, 2010, IP and SCGC filed their protest to AL 4060. Both protests expressed concern over the language omitted in the NFCA which would ensure that double billing does not occur for certain customers. Specifically, they want the NFCA revised to include details on how credit adjustments are calculated and applied to wholesale, electric generation or other customer classes that will be directly billed by the ARB in order to prevent double billing.

On February 11, 2010, SoCalGas will file its reply to the protests, acknowledging that the NFCA will be revised accordingly.

## **Modification to the NFCA**

In response to both IP and SCGC's concern, SoCalGas hereby proposes to further revise the NFCA as shown below (for reference only, the added language is shown below as bolded):

e. A credit entry equal to the noncore revenues, which reflects the credit surcharge adjustment provided to wholesale, electric generation or other customer classes that will be directly billed by the ARB in order to prevent double billing, to recover the costs associated with this subaccount;

# Protests

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. Because of the limited nature of this partial supplement, the Energy Division is shortening the protest period to ten days after it is filed. The protest must be made in writing. 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 (<u>mas@cpuc.ca.gov</u>) and to Honesto Gatchalian (<u>inj@cpuc.ca.gov</u>) of the Energy Division. A copy of the protest should also be sent via both e-mail <u>and</u> 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: <u>snewsom@SempraUtilities.com</u>

# 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 G 96-B. This filing is consistent with Resolution 09-36 on ARB Rulemaking on Administration Fees Regulation and the Energy Division's agreement that these costs should be recoverable from ratepayers and therefore, given the shortened protest period, SoCalGas respectfully requests that this filing be approved March 2, 2010, which is twenty (20) calendar days after the date filed or earlier at the discretion of the Energy Division.

# <u>Notice</u>

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to all parties listed on Attachment A, which includes the parties on the service lists in A.06-12-010, TY 2008 GRC and A.08-02-001, 2008 BCAP.

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. SC	UTHERN CALIFO	RNIA GAS COMPANY (U 904G)		
Utility type:	Contact Person: <u>Sid Newsom</u>			
$\Box$ ELC $\boxtimes$ GAS	Phone #: (213) <u>24</u>	4-2846		
PLC HEAT WATER	E-mail: SNewsom	@semprautilities.com		
EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TY	PE	(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)		
ELC = Electric GAS = Gas				
PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat V	VATER = Water			
Advice Letter (AL) #: 4060-A				
Subject of AL: <u>Partial Supplement:</u>	Modification of NF	CA for Recovery of AB 32 Administrative Fees		
Keywords (choose from CPUC listing)	: Balancing Acco	ount		
AL filing type: 🗌 Monthly 🗌 Quarter	rly 🗌 Annual 🔀 C	Dne-Time 🗌 Other		
If AL filed in compliance with a Com	mission order, indi	cate relevant Decision/Resolution #:		
Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejection	cted AL? If so, idea	ntify the prior AL <u>No</u>		
Summarize differences between the A	AL and the prior w	ithdrawn or rejected AL1: <u>N/A</u>		
Does AL request confidential treatme	ent? If so, provide e	explanation: <u>No</u>		
Resolution Required? $\Box$ Yes $\boxtimes$ No		Tier Designation: $\Box$ 1 $\boxtimes$ 2 $\Box$ 3		
Requested effective date: 3/2/10		No. of tariff sheets: <u>3</u>		
Estimated system annual revenue ef	fect: (%):			
Estimated system average rate effect	(%):			
• •		L showing average rate effects on customer		
classes (residential, small commercia		8 8		
Tariff schedules affected: <u>Schedule R</u>	Nos. G-BSS, G-LTS	, G-TBS, Rule No. 32 and TOCs		
Service affected and changes propose	ed1: <u>NA</u>			
Pending advice letters that revise the	e same tariff sheets	s: <u>None</u>		
		are due no later than 20 days after the date of		
this filing, unless otherwise authorize	v			
CPUC, Energy Division Attention: Tariff Unit		Southern California Gas Company Attention: Sid Newsom		
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San Francisco, CA 94102	I	Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011		
mas@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov	y S	SNewsom@semprautilities.com		

 $<sup>^{\</sup>scriptscriptstyle 1}$  Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

ATTACHMENT A

Advice No. 4060-A

(See Attached Service Lists)

#### Advice Letter Distribution List - Advice 4060-A

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#### Proceeding A.08-02-001 - Advice 4060-A

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# ATTACHMENT B Advice No. 4060-A

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 45746-G	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V -	Revised 45594-G Revised 45275-G
Revised 45747-G	BALANCING ACCOUNTS, NONCORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (NFCA), Sheet 1 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V -	Revised 45595-G
	BALANCING ACCOUNTS, NONCORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (NFCA), Sheet 2	Original 45276-G
Revised 45748-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 45745-G

## PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V - BALANCING ACCOUNTS NONCORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (NFCA)

Sheet 1

## 1. Purpose

The NFCA is an interest-bearing <u>balancing</u> account recorded on SoCalGas' financial statements. The purpose of this account is to balance the difference between the authorized margin (excluding the transmission revenue requirement and firm access rights (FAR) revenue requirement) and other non-gas costs as detailed below associated with the noncore market, including administrative costs and uncollectible deferred billings associated with the payment deferral plan pursuant to Resolution E-4065 and Assembly Bill (AB) 32 administrative fees paid to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) pursuant to Advice No. 4060-A with noncore revenues intended to recover these costs. The noncore market excludes the Unbundled Storage Program. Pursuant to the BCAP Decision 09-11-006, the Commission authorized the NFCA 100% balancing account treatment (i.e., balancing of 100% of noncore costs and revenues).

The NFCA shall be divided into two subaccounts: a) authorized base margin and b) non-base margin costs and revenues.

2. Applicability

The NFCA shall apply to all noncore gas customers excluding EOR.

3. Rates

The projected year-end NFCA balance will be applied to noncore gas transportation rates.

### 4. Accounting Procedures - Authorized Base Margin Subaccount

SoCalGas shall maintain this subaccount by recording entries at the end of each month, net of FF&U, as follows:

- a. A debit entry equal to the seasonalized monthly amount of the authorized margin;
- b. A credit entry equal to the noncore revenues to recover the authorized margin excluding revenues from (1) future non-tariff contracts with Sempra Energy affiliates not subject to competitive bidding and (2) Competitive Load Growth Opportunities for noncore Rule No. 38 and Red Team incentive revenues;
- c. An entry to amortize the previous year's balance; and
- d. An entry equal to interest on the average balance in the subaccount during the month, calculated in the manner described in Preliminary Statement, Part I, J.

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY) ADVICE LETTER NO. 4060-A DECISION NO. (Continued)

ISSUED BY Lee Schavrien Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs (TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC) DATE FILED Feb 10, 2010 EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION NO. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA CANCELING

	Original 45276-G	
	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V - BALANCING ACCOUNTS Sheet 2 NONCORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (NFCA)	
	(Continued)	
5.	Accounting Procedures - Non-Base Margin Costs and Revenues Subaccount	
	SoCalGas shall maintain this subaccount by recording entries at the end of each month, net of FF&U, as follows:	
	<ul><li>a. A debit entry equal to the recorded cost for the noncore portion of company-use fuel (excluding transmission and load balancing company-use fuel);</li><li>b. A debit entry equal to the recorded cost for the noncore portion of unaccounted for gas;</li><li>c. A debit entry equal to the recorded cost for the noncore portion of well incidents and surface leader.</li></ul>	
	leaks; d. A debit entry equal to incremental administrative costs and any amounts written off as	
	uncollectible associated with the payment deferral plan related to noncore customers;	N
	e. A credit entry equal to the noncore revenues, which reflects the credit surcharge adjustment provided to wholesale, electric generation or other customer classes that will be directly billed by the ARB in order to prevent double billing, to recover the costs associated with this	   N
	<ul> <li>subaccount;</li> <li>f. A debit entry equal to noncore's allocation of AB 32 administrative fees paid to the ARB;</li> <li>g. A credit entry equal to 100% of the net revenues associated with the Utility System Operator providing transportation imbalance services under Schedule No. G-IMB to the Utility Gas Acquisition Department;</li> </ul>	N T
	<ul><li>h. An entry to amortize the previous year's balance; and</li><li>i. An entry equal to interest on the average balance in the subaccount during the month, calculated in the manner described in Preliminary Statement, Part I, J.</li></ul>	T T
6.	Disposition	
	In each annual October regulatory account balance update filing, SoCalGas will amortize the projected year-end balance effective January 1 of the following year. For the first year subsequent to the BCAP decision, both the Authorized Base Margin Subaccount and Non-Base Margin Costs and Revenues Subaccount will be allocated on an Equal Cents Per Therm (ECPT) basis. Starting in the second year subsequent to the BCAP decision, the Authorized Base Margin Subaccount will be allocated on an Equal Percent of Authorized Margin (EPAM) basis. The Non-Base Margin Costs and Revenues Subaccount will continue to be allocated on an ECPT basis.	
(T		

ISSUED BY Lee Schavrien Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC) DATE FILED Feb 10, 2010 EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION NO.

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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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	1

(Continued)

ISSUED BY Lee Schavrien Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs (TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC) DATE FILED Feb 10, 2010 EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION NO.