

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 16, 2010

**Advice Letter 4161**

Rasha Prince, Director  
Regulatory Affairs  
Southern California Gas  
555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011

**Subject: October 2010 Buy-Back Rates**

Dear Ms. Prince:

Advice Letter 4161 is effective October 31, 2010.

Sincerely,

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

Julie A. Fitch, Director  
Energy Division



**Rasha Prince**  
Director  
Regulatory Affairs

555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6  
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October 29, 2010

Advice No. 4161  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: October 2010 Buy-Back Rates**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for filing revisions to its tariff schedules, applicable throughout its service territory, as shown on Attachment B.

**Purpose**

This routine monthly filing updates the Buy-Back Rates in Schedule No. G-IMB for October 2010.

**Background**

As authorized in Schedule No. G-IMB - Transportation Imbalance Service, the Buy-Back Rates are established effective the last day of each month.

The Buy-Back Rates will be the lower of 1) the lowest incremental cost of gas purchased by Utility during the month the imbalance was incurred; or 2) 50% of the applicable Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, set forth in Schedule No. G-CP, during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

**Information**

During the month of October, 50% of the Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, is lower than the lowest incremental cost of gas. Therefore, the Buy-Back Rates for October 2010 are being set accordingly. The work paper showing details of the calculation of these rates is incorporated herein as Attachment C.

The new rates are reflected in the attached Schedule No. G-IMB tariff sheets.

Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the October 2010 Standby Procurement Charges will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to November 25, 2010.

**Protest**

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. The protest must be made in writing and must be received within 20 days of the date this Advice Letter, which is November 18, 2010. 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 to Honesto Gatchalian ([jnj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jnj@cpuc.ca.gov)) of the Energy Division. A copy of the protest should 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 this Advice Letter is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 1 (effective pending disposition) pursuant to GO 96-B and therefore respectfully requests that the tariff sheets filed herein be made effective October 31, 2010, to coincide with SoCalGas' Adjusted Core Procurement Charge filing in Advice No. 4152, dated September 30, 2010.

**Notice**

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

---

Rasha Prince  
Director – Regulatory Affairs

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) #: 4161

Subject of AL: October 2010 Buy-Back Rates

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Preliminary Statement, Core, Compliance

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other

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

D89-11-060 and D90-09-089, et al.

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: October 30, 2010

No. of tariff sheets: 6

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): None

Estimated system average rate effect (%): None

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 II; Schedule G-IMB; and TOCs

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: 4125, 4149, and 4151

**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**

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

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Advice No. 4161**

**(See Attached Service List)**

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ATTACHMENT B  
Advice No. 4161

| Cal. P.U.C.<br>Sheet No. | Title of Sheet  | Cancelling Cal.<br>P.U.C. Sheet No. |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Revised 46490-G          | PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, PART II,<br>SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES, Sheet<br>6 | Revised 46483-G                     |
| Revised 46491-G          | PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, PART II,<br>SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES, Sheet<br>7 | Revised 46430-G                     |
| Revised 46492-G          | Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION<br>IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 2            | Revised 46484-G                     |
| Revised 46493-G          | Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION<br>IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 3            | Revised 46421-G                     |
| Revised 46494-G          | TABLE OF CONTENTS   | Revised 46485-G                     |
| Revised 46495-G          | TABLE OF CONTENTS   | Revised 46486-G                     |

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT  
PART II  
SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES

Sheet 6

(Continued)

WHOLESALE (Continued)

Schedule GT-TLS (ECOGAS)

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| GT-12CA, Class-Average Volumetric Rate Option                   |        |
| Volumetric Charge .....   | 2.199¢ |
| GT-12RS, Reservation Rate Option                                |        |
| Reservation Rate, per therm per day .....                       | 1.314¢ |
| Usage Charge, per therm .....                                   | 0.303¢ |
| Volumetric Transportation Charge for Non-Bypass Customers ..... | 2.639¢ |
| Volumetric Transportation Charge for Bypass Customers .....     | 2.968¢ |

PROCUREMENT CHARGE

Schedule G-CP

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Non-Residential Core Procurement Charge, per therm ..... | 39.942¢ |
| Non-Residential Cross-Over Rate, per therm .....         | 39.942¢ |
| Residential Core Procurement Charge, per therm .....     | 39.942¢ |
| Residential Cross-Over Rate, per therm .....             | 39.942¢ |
| Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, per therm .....        | 39.791¢ |

IMBALANCE SERVICE

Standby Procurement Charge

Core Retail Standby (SP-CR)

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010 .....    | 67.395¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 60.761¢ | T |
| October 2010 .....   | TBD*    | T |

Noncore Retail Standby (SP-NR)

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010 .....    | 67.510¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 60.876¢ | T |
| October 2010 .....   | TBD*    | T |

Wholesale Standby (SP-W)

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010 .....    | 67.510¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 60.876¢ | T |
| October 2010 .....   | TBD*    | T |

\*To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the October Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by a separate advice letter one day prior to November 25.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 4161  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 646 et al

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Oct 29, 2010  
 EFFECTIVE Oct 31, 2010  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT  
PART II  
SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES

Sheet 7

(Continued)

IMBALANCE SERVICE (Continued)

Buy-Back Rate

Core and Noncore Retail (BR-R)

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010.....     | 23.286¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 17.613¢ | I |
| October 2010 .....   | 19.896¢ |   |

Wholesale (BR-W)

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010.....     | 23.230¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 17.571¢ | I |
| October 2010 .....   | 19.848¢ |   |

STORAGE SERVICE

Schedule G-BSS (Basic Storage Service)

Reservation Charges

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Annual Inventory, per decatherm reserved .....      | 21.400¢/year  |
| Annual Withdrawal, per decatherm/day reserved ..... | \$11.584/year |
| Daily Injection, per decatherm/day reserved .....   | 9.425¢/day    |

In-Kind Energy Charge for quantity delivered for injection during the year

|                               |        |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Rate, percent reduction ..... | 2.400% |
|-------------------------------|--------|

The In-Kind Energy Charge shall be adjusted as necessary on the basis of a three-year rolling average of actual fuel use.

Schedule G-AUC (Auction Storage Service)

Reservation Charges

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Annual Inventory, per decatherm reserved .....      | (1) |
| Annual Withdrawal, per decatherm/day reserved ..... | (1) |
| Daily Injection, per decatherm/day reserved .....   | (1) |

(1) Charge shall be equal to the awarded price bid by the customer.

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 4161  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 et al  
 746

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Oct 29, 2010  
 EFFECTIVE Oct 31, 2010  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 2

(Continued)

RATES

Imbalance quantities remaining at the end of the designated imbalance trading period and which are outside of the 10% tolerance band will be billed at the Standby Procurement Charge or purchased by the Utility at the Buy-Back Rate. Any Standby Procurement Charge or purchases at the Buy-Back Rate of core imbalances created by the Utility Gas Procurement Department will be managed within the Utility System Operator's Operational Hub Services. Such core imbalances will be disposed of, with the net revenues from the core imbalance charges flowing back through the Noncore Fixed Cost Account (NFCA).

Standby Procurement Charge

This charge is applied to customer's cumulative negative transportation imbalance (confirmed transportation deliveries less actual usage) exceeding the 10 percent tolerance band. The Standby Procurement Charge is posted at least one day in advance of each corresponding imbalance trading period for noncore/wholesale and core transport agents (CTAs). It is calculated at 150% of the highest daily border price index at the Southern California border beginning on the first day of the month that the imbalance is created to five days prior to the start of each corresponding imbalance trading period plus a Brokerage Fee of 0.266¢ per therm for noncore retail service and all wholesale service, and 0.151¢ per therm for core retail service. The highest daily border price index is an average of the highest prices from "NGI's Daily Gas Price Index – Southern California Border Average" and "ICE Daily Indices – SoCal Border."

Core Retail Service:

SP-CR Standby Rate, per therm

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010 .....    | 67.395¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 60.761¢ | T |
| October 2010 .....   | TBD*    |   |

Noncore Retail Service:

SP-NR Standby Rate, per therm

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010 .....    | 67.510¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 60.876¢ | T |
| October 2010 .....   | TBD*    |   |

Wholesale Service:

SP-W Standby Rate per therm

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010 .....    | 67.510¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 60.876¢ | T |
| October 2010 .....   | TBD*    |   |

\*To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the October Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by a separate advice letter one day prior to November 25.

(Continued)

Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 3

(Continued)

RATES (Continued)

Buy-Back Rate

This rate is applied to customer's cumulative positive transportation imbalance (confirmed transportation deliveries less actual usage) exceeding the 10 percent tolerance band. The Buy-Back Rate is established effective the last day of each month and will be the lower of 1) the lowest incremental cost of gas purchased by the Utility during the month the excess imbalance was incurred; or 2) 50% of the applicable Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, set forth in Schedule No. G-CP, during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

Retail Service:

BR-R Buy-Back Rate, per therm

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010.....     | 23.286¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 17.613¢ | I |
| October 2010 .....   | 19.896¢ |   |

Wholesale Service:

BR-W Buy-Back Rate, per therm

|                      |         |   |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| August 2010.....     | 23.230¢ | D |
| September 2010 ..... | 17.571¢ |   |
| October 2010 .....   | 19.848¢ | I |

If the incremental cost of gas is the basis for the Standby or Buy-Back Rates, the Utility will provide CPUC the necessary work papers for such cost. Such documentation will be provided under confidentiality pursuant to General Order 66-C and Section 583 of the Public Utilities Code.

Daily Balancing Standby Rates

During November through March customers are required to deliver (flowing supply and storage withdrawal) at a minimum of 50% of burn during a five-day period. Volumes not in compliance with the 50% five-day minimum delivery requirement are purchased at the daily standby rate. The daily balancing standby rate is calculated as 150% of the highest Southern California Border price during the five-day period as published in "NGI's Daily Gas Price Index" including authorized franchise fees and, for retail customers, uncollectible expenses (F&U), and an authorized brokerage fee. Authorized F&U will not be added to any daily stand-by balancing charge for the Utility Gas Procurement Department to the extent it is collected elsewhere.

(Continued)

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| GT-F    | Firm Intrastate Transportation Service .....          | 45640-G,45641-G,45304-G,45305-G                 |
|         | for Distribution Level Customers                      | 45306-G,45307-G,45308-G,45309-G                 |
|         |   | 45310-G,45311-G,45312-G,45313-G                 |
| GT-I    | Interruptible Intrastate Transportation Service ..... | 45642-G,45643-G,45316-G                         |
|         | for Distribution Level Customers                      | 45317-G,45318-G,45319-G,45320-G                 |
| GT-TLS  | Intrastate Transportation Service for                 |   |
|         | Transmission Level Customers .....                    | 45321-G,45644-G,45645-G,45646-G,45325-G         |
|         |   | 45326-G,45327-G,45328-G,45329-G,45330-G         |
|         |   | 45331-G,45332-G,45333-G, 45334-G,45335-G        |
|         |   | 45336-G,45337-G,45338-G,45339-G                 |
| GT-SWGX | Wholesale Natural Gas Service .....                   | 45992-G,45341-G                                 |
| G-IMB   | Transportation Imbalance Service .....                | 43318-G,46492-G, 46493-G,45885-G                |
|         |   | 45946-G,45947-G,43324-G,43325-G,43326-G         |
| G-OSD   | Off-System Delivery Service .....                     | 42257-G,42258-G,42259-G                         |
| G-RPA   | Receipt Point Access .....                            | 45973-G,42261-G,45508-G,42263-G,42264-G,42265-G |
|         |   | 43327-G,43328-G,43329-G,43330-G,43331-G,43332-G |
|         |   | 43333-G,43334-G,43335-G,43336-G                 |
| G-POOL  | Pooling Service .....                                 | 42276-G,42277-G, 42278-G                        |
| G-BSS   | Basic Storage Service .....                           | 43337-G,45346-G,45767-G,45768-G                 |
|         |   | 45769-G,45770-G,43051-G                         |
| G-AUC   | Auction Storage Service .....                         | 43338-G,32709-G,32710-G,32711-G                 |
|         |   | 32712-G,32713-G,36314-G,32715-G                 |
| G-LTS   | Long-Term Storage Service .....                       | 32716-G,32717-G,45351-G,45771-G                 |
|         |   | 45772-G,45773-G,43055-G                         |
| G-TBS   | Transaction Based Storage Service .....               | 45355-G,43340-G,45774-G,45775-G                 |
|         |   | 45776-G,44933-G                                 |
| G-CBS   | UDC Consolidated Billing Service .....                | 34071-G,34072-G,34073-G,33095-G                 |
| G-SMT   | Secondary Market Transactions                         |   |
|         | of Storage Rights .....                               | 45359-G,45360-G,45361-G                         |

T

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 4161  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 et al

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Oct 29, 2010  
 EFFECTIVE Oct 31, 2010  
 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.

| <u>GENERAL</u>   | <u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>            |
|--|---|
| Title Page .....   | 40864-G                                 |
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(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 4161  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 et al

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

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED Oct 29, 2010  
 EFFECTIVE Oct 31, 2010  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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**ATTACHMENT C**

**ADVICE NO. 4161**

**RATE CALCULATION WORKPAPER  
BASED ON ADVICE NO. 4152  
ADJUSTED CORE PROCUREMENT CHARGE FILING  
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2010**

**Adjusted Core Procurement Charge:**

**Retail G-CPA: 39.791 ¢ per therm**  
( WACOG: 39.116 ¢ + Franchise and Uncollectibles:  
0.675 ¢ or [ 1.7262% \* 39.116 ¢ ] )

**Wholesale G-CPA: 39.696 ¢ per therm**  
( WACOG: 39.116 ¢ + Franchise:  
0.580 ¢ or [ 1.4837% \* 39.116 ¢ ] )

**GIMB Buy-Back Rates**

**BR-R = 50% of Retail G-CPA:**  
50% \* 39.791 cents/therm = **19.896** cents/therm

**BR-W = 50% of Wholesale G-CPA:**  
50% \* 39.696 cents/therm = **19.848** cents/therm