

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
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December 28, 2011

**Advice Letter 4284**

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

**Subject: Monthly Minimum Charge for a Bypass Customer Under  
Schedule No. GT-TLS**

Dear Ms. Prince:

Advice Letter 4284 is effective December 1, 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward F. Randolph".

Edward F. Randolph, Director  
Energy Division



**Rasha Prince**  
Director  
Regulatory Affairs

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October 7, 2011

Advice No. 4284  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Monthly Minimum Charge for a Bypass Customer under Schedule No. GT-TLS**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits the customer-specific Monthly Minimum Charge, as shown in Attachment B, for approval by the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission).

**Purpose**

In compliance with the requirements for Bypass customers under Schedule No. GT-TLS (GT-TLS), Intrastate Transportation Service for Transmission Level Customers, SoCalGas has determined the Monthly Minimum Charge for a Bypass customer and hereby requests Commission approval of the resulting Monthly Minimum Charge.<sup>1</sup>

**Background**

On November 20, 2009, the Commission issued Decision (D.) 09-11-006 approving and adopting, with certain modifications, the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement in Phase 2 of the Biennial Cost Allocation Proceeding for SoCalGas (Settlement).<sup>2</sup>

Among other things, the Settlement proposed a new Intrastate Transportation Service for Transmission Level Customers (TLS) which requires the Utility to calculate a Monthly Minimum Charge for each Bypass customer taking service under GT-TLS and to seek approval of these charges by Advice Letter.<sup>3</sup> Bypass customers are customers who take

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<sup>1</sup> The customer's name is being provided confidentially to the Commission under the provisions of General Order 66-C and Section 583 of the Public Utilities Code.

<sup>2</sup> See Application (A.) 08-02-001, which was filed jointly with San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E).

<sup>3</sup> Schedule No. GT-TLS specifies, "The Monthly Minimum Charge shall apply to a Bypass customer only. The Monthly Minimum Charge shall recover the Utility's actual Customer-related service costs. Customer-related service costs shall be limited to actual operations and maintenance costs of the metering equipment and other related facilities at the Customer's meter(s) that are owned and operated by the Utility necessary to deliver gas in accordance with the Utility's rules and procedures, good industry practice, and governmental regulations. The

service from both SoCalGas and an alternate gas transportation service provider, i.e., customers who partially bypass utility service. SoCalGas currently has three customers with Commission-approved Monthly Minimum Charges.<sup>4</sup>

### **Monthly Minimum Charge Requested**

SoCalGas and the customer recently completed a review of operating changes at the customer's facility. The review revealed that the customer was taking partial gas service from another gas transportation service provider; therefore, effective September 1, 2011, SoCalGas placed the customer on the bypass service provision provided in SoCalGas Tariff Schedule GT-TLS. SoCalGas' analysis and determination of the Minimum Monthly Charge for this customer's gas meter is provided in Attachment B. Attachment B is being submitted under the provisions of General Order 66-C and Section 583 of the Public Utilities Code.

According to the Settlement, the purpose of the Monthly Minimum Charge is "to recover customer specific service costs (e.g., metering, regulation, billing, etc.)."<sup>5</sup> These charges are to be based on actual operations and maintenance costs of the metering equipment and other related facilities at each individual customer's meter(s) that are owned and operated by SoCalGas. The charges cover activities that are necessary to deliver gas in accordance with SoCalGas' rules and procedures, good industry practice, and governmental regulations.

The Monthly Minimum Charge does not include replacement of major components of SoCalGas' measurement and regulation equipment. In the event that such replacement is required in the future in order to continue to provide gas service, SoCalGas shall install the necessary equipment at the customer's expense, or, if requested by the customer, discontinue service.<sup>6</sup>

SoCalGas will file for approval updates to this Monthly Minimum Charge as necessary to recover actual costs as they may increase from time to time.

### **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, which is October 27, 2011. There is no

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Utility shall determine actual Customer related service costs for each eligible Customer not later than 30 days following a request by the Customer and shall seek CPUC approval of the resulting Monthly Minimum Charge by Advice Letter. The approved Monthly Minimum Charge for each Customer shall apply only when the charge exceeds the total reservation and volumetric transportation charges for GT-TLS service and shall be applied in lieu of the total reservation and volumetric transportation charges."

<sup>4</sup> See Advice Nos. 4062 and 4136, approved on March 3, 2010 and August 20, 2010, respectively.

<sup>5</sup> A.08-02-001, Settlement, Attachment 1, TLS Customer Class Rate Design, Section 4.e., p. 3.

<sup>6</sup> A.08-02-001, Settlement, Attachment 2, Uncontested Proposals, Section 33 states, "Adopt SDG&E/SoCalGas' proposal that, to the extent a bypass customer requests a new service line or meter from SDG&E or SoCalGas for standby service, SDG&E or SoCalGas will install the service line or meter at the customer's expense, and the customer will be subject to the previously described 24-month usage evaluation."

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  
Regulatory 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 2 (effective after staff approval) pursuant to G.O. 96-B, and therefore respectfully requests that this filing become effective for service on and after December 1, 2011, which is more than 30 days after the date filed.

### **Notice**

A copy of this Advice Letter is being sent to the parties shown on Attachment A, which includes the service list for A.08-02-001.

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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 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) #: 4284

Subject of AL: Monthly Minimum Charge for a Bypass Customer under Schedule No. GT TLS

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Contracts

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other

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

D09-11-006

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: Yes. Attachment B is confidential.

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Tier Designation:  1  2  3

Requested effective date: December 1, 2011

No. of tariff sheets: 0

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: None

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

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. 4284**

**(See Attached Service List)**

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**ATTACHMENT B**

**Advice No. 4284**

**MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGE FOR A BYPASS  
CUSTOMER UNDER SCHEDULE NO. GT-TLS**

**Adopted by D.09-11-006**

**(Provided to the Commission under the Confidentiality Provisions of  
General Order 66-C and Section 583 of the Public Utilities Code)**

**Monthly Minimum Charge for a Southern California  
Gas Company Bypass Customer Tables 1 and 2**

**Table 1:** Monthly Minimum Charge for a Southern California Gas Company Bypass  
Customer – Summary

**Table 2:** Monthly Minimum Charge for a Southern California Gas Company Bypass  
Customer – Details