

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 17, 2013

Advice Letter 4408

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

**Subject: Request to Rescind Relevant Portions of Resolution E-4251
Approving Advice No. 3963**

Dear Ms. Prince:

Advice Letter 4408 is effective March 21, 2013 per Resolution E-4557.

Sincerely,

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

Edward F. Randolph, Director
Energy Division



Rasha Prince
Director
Regulatory Affairs

555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011
Tel: 213.244.2009
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September 28, 2012

Advice No. 4408
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Request to Rescind Relevant Portions of Resolution E-4251 Approving Advice No. 3963

Purpose

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is filing this advice letter pursuant to Section 4.7 of General Order 96-B which states that a utility may file an advice letter requesting a change to a Commission resolution addressing a prior advice letter of the utility.

SoCalGas hereby requests the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) issue a new resolution rescinding the portions of Resolution E-4251 that approved its Advice No. (AL) 3963 as adopted on September 10, 2009.

Information

On February 20, 2009, SoCalGas filed AL 3963 requesting the Commission to increase the funds then available in its Gas Assistance Fund (GAF) to provide temporary relief to customers in need of bill payment assistance. The GAF, administered by the United Way of Greater Los Angeles, is funded by donations from customers, shareholders and employees of SoCalGas to provide monetary assistance on a customer's bill. It is open to qualified customers who are experiencing temporary financial hardships and are not eligible for state or federal assistance. SoCalGas initially proposed a transfer of \$3 million from its Self Generation Program Memorandum Account (SGPMA) which was over-collected at the time.

A similar request for Commission authorization to transfer funds from an over-collected balancing account was also filed on February 20, 2009 by San Diego Gas & Electric in AL 2065-E/1842-G. Resolution E-4251, adopted on September 10, 2009, simultaneously approved the advice letters filed on behalf of both utilities

The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) subsequently filed A.09-10-023, Application for Rehearing of Resolution E-4251 on October 12, 2009, challenging SoCalGas' transfer of SGPMA funds to the GAF program to be in violation of the Public Utilities Code and Commission precedent. As a result of discussions among SoCalGas, DRA and The Utility Reform Network (TURN), it was agreed that the requested funds not be transferred from the SGPMA. Parties instead agreed to

use \$3 million from the Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA) and the Noncore Fixed Cost Account (NFCA) to fund the GAF.

AL 4168 was filed on November 15, 2010, to collect the \$3 million to fund the GAF from the CFCA and NFCA. AL 4168 was approved by the Commission on February 7, 2011 with a retroactive effective date of December 15, 2010. Concurrently, on November 15, 2010, SoCalGas mailed its letter to the Energy Division requesting to withdraw its approved AL 3963.

As a result of the agreement that the requested funds not be transferred from the SGPMA and the approval of AL 4168 to collect the \$3 million to fund the GAF from the CFCA and NFCA, DRA withdrew the above mentioned Application for Rehearing on May 9, 2012.¹

Requested Modification to Resolution E-4251

SoCalGas requests that the Commission issue a resolution to rescind only the portion of Resolution E-4251 that approved AL 3963, as further illustrated below. SoCalGas is requesting this action because AL 3963 was never implemented and instead, was superseded by AL 4168. The new resolution should include an ordering paragraph allowing SoCalGas to withdraw AL 3963 and rescind only the relevant portions of Resolution E-4251 that refer to and approve AL 3963. The remaining portions of Resolution E-4251 that approved AL 2065-E/1842-G filed by SDG&E shall remain in place.

The proposed revisions to Resolution E-4251 are described below:

Page 2:

“This resolution approves ~~the Joint Utilities’~~ **SDG&E’s** requests to transfer funds and also adopts the reporting requirements recommended by The Utility Reform Network (TURN).”

Ordering Paragraphs:

1. ~~The SoCalGas’ advice letter 3963 requesting authorization to transfer \$3 million from its Self Generation Program Memorandum Account to make additional funds available for its GAF program is approved. SoCalGas may transfer up to \$3 million from its Self Generation Program Memorandum Account, with the actual amount transferred depending on the level of shareholder funds provided as described here. We strongly encourage SoCalGas to match the ratepayer funding approved herein with shareholder contributions of at least twenty cents for every dollar provided by ratepayers from the Self Generation Program Memorandum Account. When met, this matching rate would result in SoCalGas shareholders providing a total of \$600,000 in matching funds. We note that nothing precludes SoCalGas shareholder from contributing more than this amount and we encourage them to do so. **SoCalGas’ request to withdraw AL 3963 is granted.**~~
4. ~~The Joint Utilities are~~ **SDG&E is** to continue the same ratemaking treatment of the funds transferred in these advice filings as was previously accorded to the funds transferred and adopted in the commission resolution E-4030.
5. ~~The Joint Utilities~~ **SDG&E** shall use the shareholder and other previously authorized funds prior to using any ratepayer funds authorized under this resolution.
6. ~~The Joint Utilities~~ **SDG&E** shall give appropriate credit to the ratepayers’ funding in all its marketing and promotional materials related to these programs.

¹ D.12-05-020, dated 5/18/12, approved the DRA letter withdrawing its Application for Rehearing.

7. We require ~~the Joint Utilities~~ **SDG&E** to submit the following information in a separate report to be filed alongside ~~their~~ **its** annual CARE/LIEE reports:

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, which is October 18, 2012. 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 the Energy Division Tariff Unit (EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov). 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

Effective Date

SoCalGas believes that this Advice Letter should be classified as Tier 3 and, as such, requires a resolution to be issued by the Commission. SoCalGas respectfully requests this advice letter be approved on the November 29, 2012 Commission meeting, or on such later date the Commission may direct by resolution.

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 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) #: 4408

Subject of AL: Request to Rescind Relevant Portions of Resolution E-4251 Approving Advice No. 3963

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): _____

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

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

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: 11/29/12

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 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
EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Southern California Gas Company
Attention: Sid Newsom
555 West 5th Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011
SNewsom@semprautilities.com
tariffs@socalgas.com

¹ Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

ATTACHMENT A

Advice No. 4408

(See Attached Service List)