

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 9, 2015

**Advice Letters: 4576-G
4576-G-A**

Southern California Gas Company
Attention: Sid Newsom
555 West Fifth Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011

SUBJECT: Curtailment of Standby Service on December 7, 2013

Dear Mr. Newsom:

Advice Letters 4576-G and 4576-G-A are effective as of December 6, 2013, per Resolution G-3493 Ordering Paragraphs.

Sincerely,

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

Edward Randolph
Director, Energy Division



Rasha Prince
Director
Regulatory Affairs

555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011
Tel: 213.244.5141
Fax: 213.244.4957
RPrince@semprautilities.com

March 16, 2015

Advice No. 4576-A
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Partial Supplement - Curtailment of Standby Service on December 7, 2013

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits this advice letter to notify the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) and affected parties of a curtailment event in its service territory.¹

Purpose

On February 12, 2015, the Commission adopted Resolution G-3493, which approved, with modifications, SoCalGas Advice No. (AL) 4576 dated December 6, 2013, which provided notification of a curtailment event in its service territory.

This filing complies with Ordering Paragraph 2 of Resolution G-3493 which directs that:

SoCalGas shall file within 30 days of this Decision, a supplemental Advice Letter 4576-A incorporating, as required by Decision 91-09-026, Ordering Paragraph 1, the facts underlying and the reasons for the December 7, 2013 curtailment, demonstrating that the type of curtailment being declared complies with SoCalGas' tariffs, and setting forth the efforts SoCalGas took to minimize or alleviate the curtailment.

Background

At approximately 12:25 P.M. on December 6, 2013, SoCalGas notified customers that it will be curtailing Standby Procurement Service beginning at 12 AM (midnight) on December 7, 2013, and continuing until further notice. This curtailment of Standby Procurement Service was necessitated by the inadequate quantities of gas being delivered into the SoCalGas system.

¹ SoCalGas is submitting this advice letter pursuant to D.91-09-026.

On December 6, 2013, SoCalGas and San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E) Gas Control determined that SoCalGas was close to exhausting its storage withdrawal capacity and that significant end-use curtailments were imminent absent a curtailment of standby procurement service (which allows customers to supply less than 90% of their usage) and absent customer efforts to bring more flowing supplies into the system to match their usage.

SoCalGas Rule No. 23, C1 states that “when in the judgment of the Utility, operating conditions require curtailment of service...such curtailment shall be effectuated in the order and manner described below.” The first step in that rule is the curtailment of all standby procurement service.

SoCalGas only has the authority to bring in supplies to meet the Southern System minimum, and has no ability, absent curtailment of standby service, to bring supplies into its northern receipt points. SoCalGas can and did bring supplies into the Southern System. In addition, SoCalGas worked with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) during this time period to understand the expected EG load, and despite SoCalGas’ and CAISO’s best efforts, the EG load was higher than anticipated, severely taxing the system at the same time the core loads were increasing dramatically due to the cold weather. The high loads, combined with reduced withdrawal capabilities from SoCalGas’ storage fields, strained its ability to serve its customers, and in such situations, SoCalGas had to act quickly to preserve its ability to serve core and other high priority customers. In order to prevent end use curtailment, SoCalGas coordinated with both CAISO and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) asking them to shift or delay starting electric generation. LADWP voluntarily delayed startup of some of their electric generation replacing it with other sources, and CAISO moved electric generation and replaced some generation with other sources. It is not clear how SoCalGas could have alleviated the resulting curtailment; however, SoCalGas was successful in keeping the curtailment isolated to curtailment of standby procurement service only. On December 6, 2013 at 9:24 a.m., SoCalGas posted the following low temperature advisory on Envoy requesting that customers take steps to conserve energy and mitigate the potential effects of the cold weather east of California.

Weather forecasters are predicting extremely cold weather in Southern California for the next several days, starting today, Friday, Dec 6, 2013. In addition, temperatures are anticipated to be extremely cold in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas during the same time period. These unseasonably cold temperatures have the potential to dramatically increase gas demand in Southern California, and they also create the potential for supply disruptions (e.g., well freeze offs) and increased gas demand east of California. SoCalGas and SDG&E are taking operational precautions to prepare for the cold weather and mitigate the potential effects on our customers, but we want customers to be aware of the upcoming potential strains on our systems and potential effects on their operations that could be created by this upcoming cold front. To the extent possible, please limit discretionary operations over the next several days and please continue to practice energy conservation whenever possible (please see www.socalgas.com for more energy conservation tips and other information). Customers are advised to monitor Envoy for additional informational postings at www.socalgasenvoy.com as the upcoming cold front progresses.

SoCalGas and SDG&E also distributed news releases on Friday, December 6, 2013 and Monday, December 9, 2013 calling for energy conservation in light of winter weather putting a heavy demand on natural gas supply.²

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 April 5, 2015. 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 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

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. It is in compliance with Ordering Paragraph 1 of D.91-09-026 and Ordering Paragraph 2 of Commission Resolution G-3493. Therefore SoCalGas respectfully requests that it be made effective on February 12, 2015, which is the date Commission Resolution G-3493 was approved.

² <http://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=136899>
<http://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=136902>
<http://www.sdge.com/newsroom/press-releases/2013-12-09/southern-california-utilities-call-energy-conservation-winter>
<http://www.sdge.com/newsroom/press-releases/2013-12-06/sdge-calls-energy-conservation>

Notice

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to the General Order 96-B parties listed on Attachment A. In addition, SoCalGas is mailing a copy of this advice letter by overnight mail to affected customers or their contracted marketers.

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) #: 4576-A

Subject of AL: Partial Supplement - Curtailment of Standby Service on December 7, 2013

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Curtailment

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

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

D.91-09-026 and Res. G-3493

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: 2/12/15

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: N/A

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.