PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



October 6, 2016

Advice Letter: 5019-G

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

SUBJECT: Modification of SoCalGas' Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA) in Accordance with Decision (D.) 16-06-046

Dear Mr. Newsom:

Advice Letter 5019-G is effective as of September 30, 2016.

Sincerely,

Edward Ramlogan

Edward Randolph Director, Energy Division



Ronald van der Leeden Director Regulatory Affairs

555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011 Tel: 213.244.2009 Fax: 213.244.4957 RvanderLeeden@semprautilities.com

August 31, 2016

<u>Advice No. 5019</u> (U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

<u>Subject</u>: Modification of SoCalGas' Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA) in Accordance with Decision (D.) 16-06-046

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby requests California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) approval of modifications to its tariff schedules, applicable throughout its service territory, as shown on Attachment A.

<u>Purpose</u>

This advice filing modifies SoCalGas' existing Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA), Preliminary Statement V-Balancing Accounts, to record the net savings associated with SoCalGas' branch office closures consistent with D.16-06-046.

Background

On June 27, 2016, the Commission issued D.16-06-046 which granted, in part, and denied in part, SoCalGas' request for permission to close six branch offices. D.16-06-046 approved the closure of the Bellflower, Monrovia, and Santa Monica branch offices. Additionally, D.16-06-046 granted SoCalGas request to close the Palm Springs branch office following successful implementation of a process for identification verification consistent with the Fair & Accurate Credit Transaction Act requirements. Furthermore, D.16-06-046 approved SoCalGas' proposal to track and record the ongoing Operation and Maintenance savings after each branch office closure and the costs to achieve such closure, and credit the net savings to SoCalGas' CFCA.¹

¹ D.16-06-046 at p.48.

Requested Tariff Changes

In accordance with Ordering Paragraph (OP) 4 of D.16-06-046, SoCalGas is modifying its CFCA to record the net savings associated with the branch office closures. The net savings will be credited to the CFCA for refunding to customers in connection with SoCalGas' annual regulatory account balance update filings for rates effective January 1 of the following year. SoCalGas will continue to adjust its CFCA until the net savings resulting from the branch office closures are incorporated in SoCalGas' next General Rate Case filing.

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 must be received within 20 days of the date of this Advice Letter, which is September 20, 2016. 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 (<u>EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov</u>). 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: snewsom@SempraUtilities.com

Effective Date

This filing is subject to Energy Division disposition and is classified as Tier 2 (effective after staff approval) pursuant to General Order (GO) 96-B. Therefore, SoCalGas respectfully requests that this Advice Letter be approved September 30, 2016, which is thirty (30) calendar days after the date filed.

<u>Notice</u>

A copy of this Advice Letter is being sent to SoCalGas' GO 96-B service list and the Commission's service list in A.13-09-010. Address change requests to the GO 96-B should

be directed by electronic mail to <u>tariffs@socalgas.com</u> or call 213-244-3387. For changes to all other service lists, please contact the Commission's Process Office at 415-703-2021 or by electronic mail at <u>Process Office@cpuc.ca.gov</u>.

Ronald van der Leeden 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. SOL	JTHERN CALIFO	RNIA GAS COMPANY (U 904G)			
Utility type:	Contact Person: S	id Newsom			
\Box ELC \boxtimes GAS	Phone #: (213) 24	4-2846			
\square PLC \square HEAT \square WATER	E-mail: SNewsom@semprautilities.com				
EXPLANATION OF UTILITY T		(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)			
ELC = ElectricGAS = GasPLC = PipelineHEAT = Heat	VATER = Water				
Advice Letter (AL) #: 5019					
Subject of AL: <u>Modification of SoCalGa</u>	as' Core Fixed Cost	Account (CFCA) in Accordance with			
Decision (D.) 16-06-046					
Keywords (choose from CPUC listing):	Balancing Account				
AL filing type: 🗌 Monthly 🗌 Quarter	ly 🗌 Annual 🖂 On	e-Time 🗌 Other			
If AL filed in compliance with a Comm	If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:				
D.16-06-046					
Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected	ed AL? If so, identi	fy the prior AL No			
Summarize differences between the AL	and the prior with	drawn or rejected AL ¹ : N/A			
Does AL request confidential treatmen	-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	er il so, provide chp				
Resolution Required? 🗌 Yes 🖾 No		Tier Designation: 🗌 1 🛛 2 🔲 3			
Requested effective date: <u>9/30/16</u>		No. of tariff sheets: 0			
Estimated system annual revenue effect	ct: (%): <u>N/A</u>				
Estimated system average rate effect (
• •		showing average rate effects on customer classes			
(residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).					
Tariff schedules affected: <u>N/A</u>					
Service affected and changes proposed ¹ : <u>N/A</u>					
Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: <u>N/A</u>					
0					
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	S	Southern California Gas Company			
Attention: Tariff Unit		Attention: Sid Newsom			
505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102		555 West 5 th Street, GT14D6 Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011			
mas@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov	6				
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¹ Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

ATTACHMENT A Advice No. 5019

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 53073-G	PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V - BALANCING ACCOUNTS, CORE FIXED	Revised 51352-G
Revised 53074-G	COST ACCOUNT (CFCA), Sheet 1 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V -	Revised 52666-G
Revised 53075-G	BALANCING ACCOUNTS, CORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (CFCA), Sheet 2 PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V -	Original 52667-G
	BALANCING ACCOUNTS, CORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (CFCA), Sheet 3	
Revised 53076-G	TABLE OF CONTENTS	Revised 53072-G

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V - BALANCING ACCOUNTS CORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (CFCA)

Sheet 1

1. Purpose

The CFCA is an interest bearing balancing account recorded on SoCalGas' financial statements. The purpose of this account is to balance the difference between the authorized margin, (excluding the transmission revenue requirements and Backbone Transportation Service (BTS) revenue requirement) and other non-gas costs as detailed below, including funding of SoCalGas' Gas Assistance Fund (GAF) program pursuant to Advice No. 4168, and storage costs associated with the allocation of storage adopted in D.08-12-020 that are not currently reflected in current rates, allocated to the core market with revenues intended to recover these costs. Pursuant to Advice No. 3963, SoCalGas establishes a separate subaccount in the CFCA to track authorized funding by the CPUC and related funds actually used in providing eligible customers with assistance in paying their bills in connection with SoCalGas' Gas Assistance Fund (GAF) program.

In accordance with Advice No. 4177-A, filed pursuant to D.07-08-029, D.10-09-001, and Resolution G-3489, the CFCA will be credited for the core's allocation of the System Modification Fee (SMF) charged to California Producers to offset the system modification costs which have been incorporated in base rates in connection with SoCalGas' 2012 General Rate Case (GRC).

In accordance with Advice No. 4772 filed pursuant to D.13-05-010, the CFCA will be debited for the core's allocation of the revenue requirement adjustments to comply with the normalization requirements of Internal Revenue Code Section 168(i)(9), as interpreted by the Internal Revenue Service in Private Letter Ruling (PLR) 136851-14. These revenue requirement adjustments are associated with SoCalGas' net operating loss carry-forward amounts that should have been used to reduce SoCalGas' accumulated deferred income tax liability balance in determining SoCalGas' authorized rate base in connection with SoCalGas' 2012 GRC.

Pursuant to D.16-06-046, the CFCA will record the net savings associated with the closure of four SoCalGas branch offices. SoCalGas will continue to adjust the CFCA until the net savings resulting from the branch office closures are incorporated in SoCalGas' GRC.

2. <u>Applicability</u>

The CFCA shall apply to all core gas customers.

3. <u>Rates</u>

The projected year-end CFCA balance will be applied to core gas transportation rates.

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ISSUED BY Dan Skopec Vice President Regulatory Affairs (TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC) DATE FILED <u>Aug 31, 2016</u> EFFECTIVE <u>Sep 30, 2016</u> RESOLUTION NO. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA CANCELING

53074-G CAL. P.U.C. SHEET NO. 52666-G CAL. P.U.C. SHEET NO.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V - BALANCING ACCOUNTS CORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (CFCA)

Revised

Sheet 2

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4. Accounting Procedures

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

- A debit entry equal to seasonalized monthly amount of the authorized margin; a.
- b. A one-time debit entry equal to the adjustment to the adopted revenue requirements for Test Year 2012 and Attrition Years 2013 through 2014 to comply with the normalization requirements pursuant to PLR 136851-14;
- c. A debit entry equal to the adjustment to the adopted revenue requirements for Attrition Year 2015, prorated on a seasonalized basis during the year, to comply with the normalization requirements pursuant to PLR 136851-14;
- d. A debit entry equal to the recorded cost of the core portion of company-use fuel (excluding transmission and load balancing company-use fuel);
- e. A debit entry equal to the recorded cost for the core portion of unaccounted for gas;
- f. A debit entry equal to the recorded cost for the core portion of well incidents and surface leaks;
- g. A debit entry equal to the actual funds used, up to amounts authorized by the Commission, in providing eligible customers with assistance in paying their bills in connection with SoCalGas' Gas Assistance Fund (GAF) program;
- h. An adjustment to reflect storage costs consistent with the allocation of storage adopted in D.08-12-020 that are not currently reflected in current transportation rates;
- A credit entry equal to the core portion of the following recorded revenues: transportation i. revenues from core deliveries; revenues from the sale of core storage capacity rights; base revenues that would have been collected from customers absent the core pricing flexibility program, net Low Operational Flow Order (OFO) noncompliance charge revenues from core customers as addressed in the Settlement Agreement approved by a May 27, 2016 Assigned Commissioner's Ruling in Application (A).15-06-020, and other revenues that the Commission has directed SoCalGas to allocate to the core market; (the italicized section of this procedure is temporary and will end upon the expiration of the term in the referenced Ruling. Specifically, that settlement term will conclude upon the earlier of: (1) any superseding decision or order by the Commission, (2) return of Aliso Canyon to at least 450 MMcfd of injection capacity and 1,395 MMcfd of withdrawal capacity, or (3) November 30, 2016);
- An entry to amortize the previous year's balance; į.
- k. A credit entry equal to the core's allocation of the SMF charged to California Producers;
- 1. A credit entry equal to the net savings associated with the closure of SoCalGas' branch offices pursuant to D.16-06-046; and
- m. An entry equal to interest on the average balance in the account during the month, calculated in the manner described in Preliminary Statement, Part I, J.

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY) 5019 ADVICE LETTER NO. DECISION NO. D.16-06-046

(Continued)

ISSUED BY Dan Skopec Vice President **Regulatory Affairs** LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA CANCELING

52667-G CAL. P.U.C. SHEET NO.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT - PART V - BALANCING ACCOUNTS CORE FIXED COST ACCOUNT (CFCA)

Sheet 3

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4. Accounting Procedures (Continued)

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

- a. A debit entry equal to actual funds provided to customers for paying their gas bills;
- b. A credit entry equal to funds to be used in providing customers with assistance in paying their gas bills: and
- c. 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.

5. Disposition

In each annual October regulatory account balance update filing, SoCalGas will amortize the projected year-end CFCA balance effective January 1 of the following year. The projected year-end balance will be allocated on an Equal Cents Per Therm (ECPT) basis.

For the GAF subaccount, the disposition of any unspent funds will be addressed in SoCalGas' next annual regulatory account update filing or other appropriate filing.

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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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ISSUED BY Dan Skopec Vice President Regulatory Affairs (TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC) DATE FILED <u>Aug 31, 2016</u> EFFECTIVE <u>Sep 30, 2016</u> RESOLUTION NO.