

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 18, 2019

Advice Letter 5429-G

Ronald van der Leeden
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Southern California Gas
555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011

SUBJECT: System-wide Curtailment effective February 20-21, 2019

Dear Mr. van der Leeden:

Advice Letter 5429-G is effective as of February 28, 2019.

Sincerely,

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

Edward Randolph
Deputy Executive Director for Energy and Climate Policy/
Director, Energy Division



Ronald van der Leeden
Director
Regulatory Affairs

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February 28, 2019

Advice No. 5429
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: System-wide Curtailment effective February 20-21, 2019

Purpose

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

Background

This submittal is being made consistent with that requirement set forth in SoCalGas Rule No. 23, Section J, which provides that:

The Utility shall submit an Advice Letter to the Commission's Energy Division within five business days from the conclusion of a non-maintenance-related curtailment. The filing shall state the facts underlying and the reasons for the curtailment, shall demonstrate that the type of curtailment being declared complies with the Utility's tariffs, and shall set forth efforts the Utility has taken to minimize or alleviate the curtailment. The filing shall be served by electronic mail or overnight mail on affected noncore customers and posted by the Utility on its Electronic Bulletin Board. The Utility shall submit an Advice Letter to the Commission's Energy Division within five business days from the end of each calendar quarter providing the same information for all maintenance-related curtailments over the reporting period.

¹ SoCalGas is submitting this Advice Letter pursuant to Decision (D.) 16-07-008.

Information

A. Facts Underlying and Reasons for the Curtailment

On February 8, 2019, due to continued low temperatures and expected high customer demand, SoCalGas posted to its Electronic Bulletin Board, ENVOY ® (Envoy), notice of a system-wide voluntary curtailment of service for electric generation customers effective 12:00 a.m. on February 9, 2019 and continuing through 11:59 p.m. February 12, 2019.² Voluntary curtailments are consistent with section 1.A. of the Aliso Canyon Withdrawal Protocol (Protocol) and must be issued before initiating withdrawal from the Aliso Canyon storage field. Voluntary curtailments are effectuated as a request of the electric Balancing Authorities to limit and/or reduce electric generation demand on SoCalGas' and San Diego Gas & Electric Company's integrated transmission system, to the extent it does not impact electric system integrity. If needed, following the effectuation of a voluntary curtailment, the Aliso Canyon storage field may be used to meet demand as well as to maintain inventory levels at the other storage fields to meet core reliability. SoCalGas had already initiated withdrawal from the Aliso Canyon storage field as of approximately 6:30 p.m. on February 4, 2019, and the initiation of the voluntary curtailment following the conclusion of the Rule No. 23 curtailment allowed SoCalGas to continue withdrawing gas from Aliso Canyon, pursuant to the Protocol.

While withdrawals of gas from the Aliso Canyon storage facility ceased momentarily at approximately 11:37 p.m. on February 9, 2019, they were eventually reinitiated at approximately 11:22 p.m. on February 10, 2019. SoCalGas provided notification to the Commission's Energy Division of this second initiation of withdrawal, pursuant to the Protocol. As cold weather persisted, on February 12, 2019, SoCalGas extended the voluntary curtailment through 11:59 p.m. February 18, and on February 17, SoCalGas again extended the voluntary curtailment, this time through 11:59 p.m. on February 22.

On February 19, 2019, the SoCalGas System Operator's next-day forecast showed strong demand for natural gas. SoCalGas issued a system-wide curtailment watch for all noncore customers effective 12:00 p.m. on February 19, 2019 and continuing until further notice. Due to forecasted low temperatures and expected high customer demand, SoCalGas issued a system-wide curtailment of electric generation customers, in accordance with Rule No. 23, effective 12:00 a.m. on February 20, 2019 and continuing until further notice. Electric generation customers were curtailed in coordination with the electric Balancing Authorities based on day-ahead demand forecasts and weather conditions. Faced with similar system conditions, the curtailment of electric generation customers continued into February 21. Stage 4 low operational flow orders (OFO) were in effect on both February 20 and February 21.

² In that same Envoy posting, SoCalGas had announced the ending of a then-current Rule No. 23 curtailment of electric generation customers and system-wide curtailment watch effective at 11:59 p.m. on February 8, 2019. That Rule No. 23 curtailment was the subject of SoCalGas Advice No. 5422.

The curtailment of electric generation customers and the system-wide curtailment watch both ultimately ended at 11:59 p.m. on February 21, 2019 as temperatures slightly moderated. A voluntary curtailment of electric generation customers, through coordination with the electric Balancing Authorities, continued through February 25, 2019. Withdrawals of gas from the Aliso Canyon storage facility ceased at approximately 2:58 p.m. on February 24, 2019.

B. Compliance with SoCalGas' Tariffs

This curtailment was instituted in accordance with the Protocol and Section C.1 of Rule No. 23, Effectuation of Curtailment.

C. Efforts by SoCalGas to Notify Affected Customers

SoCalGas notified the affected customers of the curtailment of service through coordination with the Balancing Authorities and via Envoy. Notices were posted on Envoy on February 8, 2019, February 12, 2019, February 17, 2019, February 19, 2019, and February 21, 2019.³

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 March 20, 2019. 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: Ray B. Ortiz
Tariff Manager - GT14D6
555 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011
Facsimile No.: (213) 244-4957
E-mail: ROrtiz@semprautilities.com

³<https://scgenvoy.sempra.com/#nav=/Public/ViewExternalEbb.getMessageLedger%3FfolderId%3D1%26rand%3D80>

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 General Order (GO) 96-B. It is in compliance with D.16-07-008. Therefore, SoCalGas respectfully requests that it be made effective on February 28, 2019, which is the date submitted.

Notice

A copy of this Advice Letter is being sent to SoCalGas' GO 96-B service list and the Commission's service lists for A.15-06-020 and A.18-07-024. Address change requests to the GO 96-B service list should be directed via e-mail to tariffs@socalgas.com or call 213-244-2837. For changes to all other service lists, please contact the Commission's Process Office at 415-703-2021 or via e-mail at Process_Office@cpuc.ca.gov.

Ronald van der Leeden
Director – Regulatory Affairs

Attachments



ADVICE LETTER SUMMARY

ENERGY UTILITY



MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No.:

Utility type:

ELC GAS WATER
 PLC HEAT

Contact Person:

Phone #:
E-mail:
E-mail Disposition Notice to:

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric GAS = Gas WATER = Water
PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat

(Date Submitted / Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #:

Tier Designation:

Subject of AL:

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing):

AL Type: Monthly Quarterly Annual One-Time Other:

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

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL:

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL:

Confidential treatment requested? Yes No

If yes, specification of confidential information:

Confidential information will be made available to appropriate parties who execute a nondisclosure agreement. Name and contact information to request nondisclosure agreement/ access to confidential information:

Resolution required? Yes No

Requested effective date:

No. of tariff sheets:

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%):

Estimated system average rate effect (%):

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:

Service affected and changes proposed¹:

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets:

¹Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

Protests and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this submittal, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

CPUC, Energy Division
Attention: Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
Email: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Name:
Title:
Utility Name:
Address:
City: State:
Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email:

Name:
Title:
Utility Name:
Address:
City: State:
Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email: