

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 25, 2020

Advice Letter 5533-G

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

SUBJECT: Request for One-Time Deviation from Rule No. 16, Adjustment of Bills, for Billing Error Resulting in Overcharges to the Customer.

Dear Mr. van der Leeden,

Advice Letter 5533-G is withdrawn as requested per your letter dated February 18, 2020.

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

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

February 18, 2020

Mr. Edward F. Randolph
Deputy Executive Director, Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Subject: Withdrawal of SoCalGas Advice No. (AL) 5533 - Request for One-Time Deviation from Rule No. 16, Adjustment of Bills, for Billing Error Resulting in Overcharges to the Customer

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby withdraws AL 5533, designated as Tier 3 and submitted on October 18, 2019. The purpose of AL 5533 was to request approval by the California Public Utilities Commission for a one-time deviation from Rule No. 16 to refund overcharges beyond three years due to billing error to a customer under an Optional Rate Agreement for a discounted rate.

Per procedural guidance from Energy Division, SoCalGas' request for a one-time deviation from Rule No. 16 does not impact ratepayers; therefore, the submittal of AL 5533 effectively renders the request for the one-time deviation moot. Pursuant to General Order 96-B, General Rule 5.3, SoCalGas hereby withdraws AL 5533.

Sincerely,

Ronald van der Leeden
Director, Regulatory Affairs

cc: Energy Division Tariff Unit
All recipients of AL 5533



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@socalgas.com

October 18, 2019

Advice No. 5533
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Request for One-Time Deviation from Rule No. 16, Adjustment of Bills, for Billing Error Resulting in Overcharges to the Customer

Purpose

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits to the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission or CPUC) a request for a one-time deviation from its tariff Rule No. 16 in order to refund overcharges beyond three years due to billing error to the Customer under an Optional Rate Agreement for a discounted rate.

Background

On April 30, 2014, effective August 1, 2014, through July 1, 2019, SoCalGas entered into an Optional Rate Agreement for a discounted rate in conjunction with the services set forth in Schedule No. G-EN, Core Gas Engine Water Pumping Service for Commercial and Industrial (including both G-EN rates for procurement services and GT-EN rates for transportation-only services), with the Customer. The Optional Rate Agreement would provide a rate discount to the Customer, with resulting transportation revenue being credited to SoCalGas shareholders for the duration of the contract. SoCalGas recently discovered that the Customer was not being billed a discounted rate pursuant to the agreement. The billing error resulted in overcharges of \$786.86 to the Customer.

SoCalGas' tariff Rule No. 16, Section C.1., includes the following:

C. ADJUSTMENT OF BILLS FOR BILLING ERROR

1. Billing Errors Resulting in Overcharges to the Customer

If either a residential or nonresidential service is found to have been overcharged due to a billing error, the Utility shall calculate the amount of the overcharge, for refund to the customer, for a period

of three years. However, if it is known that the period of billing error was less than three years, the overcharge shall be calculated for only those months during which the billing error occurred.

SoCalGas' Rule No. 16 limits the refund calculation for a period of three years. SoCalGas refunded the Customer the overages for the most recent three-year period in the amount of \$343.48. Subject to Rule No. 16, SoCalGas is unable to refund the remaining \$443.38, which represents the overcharges beyond the three-year period.

Requested One-Time Deviation

SoCalGas requests a one-time deviation from its Rule No. 16, Section C.1. The one-time deviation would result in SoCalGas refunding the Customer overcharges of \$443.38, which are beyond the three-year period tariff limit.

The Commission is authorized to approve deviations from tariff provisions by General Order (GO) 96-B, Energy Industry Rules, Section 5.3 (Matters Appropriate to Tier 3). SoCalGas generally does not request deviations from its tariff; however, in this instance, SoCalGas believes unusual circumstances justify the proposed one-time deviation.

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 on this advice letter, which is November 7, 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

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

Effective Date

SoCalGas believes this advice letter is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 3 (effective after Commission approval) pursuant to GO 96-B, SoCalGas respectfully requests that it become approved by the Commission at the earliest opportunity.

Notice

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to SoCalGas' GO 96-B service list. Address change requests to the GO 96-B should be directed via e-mail to tariffs@socalgas.com or call 213-244-2837.

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: Zip:
Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email:

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