



# Filings at the CPUC

March 2018 edition

Produced by the CPUC's News and Outreach Office  
outreach@cpuc.ca.gov

## Climate Credit to be awarded to residential natural gas customers

*ALJ says giving funds only to home customers promotes equity under cap and trade*

A proposed decision before the California Public Utilities Commission this month would extend the California Climate Credit to natural gas customers of the State's investor-owned utilities, and affirms an earlier decision's ruling that the credit only be given to residential customers.

Commissioners are tentatively scheduled to vote March 22 on a proposed decision (PD) modifying Decision D.15-10-032. The PD, authored by Administrative Law Judge Melissa Semcer, offers the legal justification as to why the credits from utility providers should only go to residential customers, and not also commercial ones.

The California Climate Credit (CCC) is an annual credit funded through utilities' sales of greenhouse gas (GhG) allowances under the State's "cap and trade" program. It has been awarded to electricity customers since 2014, and is part of billions of dollars scheduled to be distributed to ratepayers through 2020. The program has the aspirational goal that customers use the savings on their utility bills to pay for energy efficiency measures.

If the PD is approved, the gas CCC would be applied to customers' bills annually each April, although for 2018 only, it would be applied in September. The amount of the credit is still to be determined, will vary by utility, and will be the same for every residential customer of a given utility. The PD requires utilities to provide the CPUC with a calculation of the amount to be returned within 45 days of the PD's approval.

A CPUC decision in 2015 had largely approved the same provisions as in this PD, but the California Manufacturers and Technology Association (CMTA) applied for, and was granted, a limited request



### Featured Decision: D.15-10-032

for rehearing. The CMTA argued the GhG allowance proceeds were "rates" that must be redistributed to all customers, rather than just residential ones. After a process that included scoping sessions, hearings and statements, the administrative law judge determined that the CPUC is not required to allocate GhG allowance proceeds to each customer class (residential, non-residential core and non-residential non-core) in proportion to GhG costs incurred by that class.

"Providing GHG allowance proceeds to residential customers is more equitable and comports with the idea of common ownership of the atmosphere given that residential ratepayers will ultimately bear the increased costs as a result of the Cap-and-Trade program," wrote the

judge as part of a finding in the proposed decision.

The judge also ruled that the credits be distributed equally to each household, rather than be based on consumption, because not only do existing rules in the California Code of Regulations explicitly mandate such an approach, but also (according to page 27 of the PD) distributing revenues in a volumetric fashion "has the effect of encouraging consumption by rewarding inefficient consumers of natural gas."

Information on the California Climate Credit is available at: [www.cpuc.ca.gov/climatecredit/](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/climatecredit/)

The full text of the proposed decision is online at: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209611908>

### What am I reading?

This monthly newsletter is to keep you informed of proposed decisions by the CPUC's Commissioners and Administrative Law Judges, as well as applications of note.

Each month, we feature one or more proposed decisions or applications that were filed, decided, or are about to be decided, that have risen to prominence since the prior newsletter, along with a list summarizing the other filings at the CPUC in the previous month.

For more information on the CPUC's outreach efforts, visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov/Outreach/](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Outreach/), e-mail [outreach@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:outreach@cpuc.ca.gov), or call (855) 421-0400.

Prior editions of this newsletter are available online at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=6442455683>



# CPUC considers renewable programs for disadvantaged areas

Proposed and alternate decisions before the California Public Utilities Commission this month would adopt new programs designed to promote access to renewable power generation among low-income customers in disadvantaged communities (DACs).

Both the proposed decision and its alternate in Rulemaking R.14-07-002, tentatively scheduled to be voted on by the Commissioners at their March 22 meeting in San Francisco, would establish two programs: the Disadvantaged Communities – Single-family Solar Homes (DAC-SASH) programs and the Disadvantaged Communities – Green Tariff (DAC-Green Tariff) program.

The DAC-SASH program sets aside \$10 million per year to provide assistance in the form of up-front financial incentives for the installation of solar generating systems on the homes of low-income homeowners who are resident-owners of single-family homes in disadvantaged communities.

The DAC-Green Tariff program will allow customers to choose clean energy options, even if they are not in a position to install renewable energy systems due to barriers such as lack of property ownership or inability to secure financing. This new tariff option will allow low-income customers in DACs to receive generation from renewable resources while receiving a rate discount compared



## Featured Rulemaking: R.14-07-002

to their otherwise applicable tariff.

Commissioners will also consider an alternate proposed decision put forth by Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves that would adopt a third new program to allow primarily low-income customers in highly disadvantaged communities to benefit from the development of solar generation projects. Like the DAC-Green Tariff program, the Community Solar program is targeted towards homeowners with unsuitable roofs and those who rent rather than own their homes.

A disadvantaged community, for the purpose of these programs, is a

community that appears in the top 25 percent of census tracts statewide when using the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool, established by the California Department of Environmental Protection. (Information including maps) is available online at: <https://calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/GHGInvest/>.

If either the proposed decision or the alternate proposed decision are approved, the adopted programs would work hand-in-hand with the Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) Program to encourage the development of solar distributed generation in DACs.

The SOMAH program, which was approved in December of 2017, offers incentives for the development of solar generation systems on multifamily affordable housing, and includes a component specific to disadvantaged communities.

*The original proposed decision to be voted upon is online at: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209414614>.*

*Commissioner Guzman Aceves' alternate proposal is available at: <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M209/K414/209414614.PDF>.*

## The Docket: Filings of note from Feb. 1 to Feb. 28, 2018

### PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

A1801018 • 30-JAN-2018 • Silverado Stages CC, LLC • Transportation (Not included in February newsletter)

In the Matter of the Application of Silverado Stages CC, LLC. to modify its CPUC authority, PSC 9069, to operate as a Passenger Stage Corporation Between points in San Luis Obispo and Sacramento Counties to Levi Stadium in Santa Clara County and establish a Zone of Rate Freedom.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=208164488>

A1801019 • 30-JAN-2018 • Lit San Leandro LLC

(Not included in February newsletter)

Application of Lit San Leandro, LLC (U7234C) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity in Order to Provide Facilities-Based and Resold Competitive Local Exchange Service.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=208362800>

### PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

A1802002 • 02/01/18 • Southern California Edison Company  
In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY (U338E) for a Permit to Construct Electrical Facilities: Cerritos Channel Transmission Tower Replacement Project.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=208659998>

A1802005 • 01-FEB-2018 • The Utility Reform Network  
Application of The Utility Reform Network for an Award of Intervenor Compensation for Substantial Contributions to Resolution ALJ-344.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=208640808>

A1802008 • 01-FEB-2018 • Southwest Gas Corporation  
In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHWEST GAS CORPORATION

Continued on next page

# Docket: February Filings, *continued from previous page*

## PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

TION (U 905 G) for authority to: (1) issue one or more types of debt securities in the principal amount of up to \$375,145,000; (2) refinance previously issued short-term debt securities; (3) refinance previously authorized securities under the Evergreening Authority Guidelines; and (4) enter into one or more interest rate risk management contracts.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209550743>

A1704001; A1704002; A1704003; A1704006 • 6-Feb-18 • ALJ/BEMESDERFER/CPUC

Proposed Decision fixing cost of capital for calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020 for California Water Service Company, California-American Water Company, Golden State Water Company and San Jose Water Company.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209550731>

A1802010 • 12-FEB-2018 • Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority

Application of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority for an order authorizing construction of two light rail tracks and two SCRRA tracks at two (2) highway-rail crossings at (1) Cambridge Avenue, and (2) Claremont Boulevard in the City of Claremont in Los Angeles County.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209870284>

A1802011 • 12-FEB-2018 • Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority

of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority for an order authorizing construction of two light rail tracks and one freight track, for three (3) highway-rail crossings at (1) Wheeler Avenue, (2) A Street and (3) D Street in the City of La Verne in Los Angeles County, California.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=211136026>

A1802012 • 12-FEB-2018 • San Diego Association of Governments Application of the San Diego Association of Governments for an Order authorizing construction of two light-rail vehicle tracks grade separated above Gilman Drive E/W and N/S, in the City of San Diego.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=210041094>

A1802014 • 14-FEB-2018 • Calaveras Telephone Company • Communications

Application of Calaveras Telephone Company (U 1004 C) Cal-Ore Telephone Co. (U 1006 C) Ducor Telephone Company (U 1007 C) Foresthill Telephone Co. (U 1009 C) Kerman Telephone Co. (U 1012 C) Pinnacles Telephone Co. (U 1013 C) The Ponderosa Telephone Co. (U 1014 C) Sierra Telephone Company, Inc. (U 1016 C) The Siskiyou Telephone Company (U 1017 C) and Volcano Telephone Company (U 1019 C) For Rehearing of Resolution T-17585.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=210652578>

R1403003 • 15-Feb-18 • ALJ/SEMCKER/CPUC

Revised Proposed Decision modifying Decision 15-10-032. By

## PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

this decision the Commission distributes greenhouse gas allowance proceeds solely to residential customers of the natural gas utilities and provides the necessary legal rationale for that decision, pursuant to the limited rehearing granted by Decision 16-04-013.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209611908>

R1505006 • 16-Feb-18 • CMMR/PICKER/CPUC

Proposed Decision requiring the Peer Development Panel to submit a final tally of the billings submitted by the Independent Review Team and Order closing the proceeding.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209414599>

A1802013 • 16-FEB-2018 • Wild Goose Storage, LLC

Joint Application of Wild Goose Storage, LLC (U911G) and Lodi Gas Storage, L.L.C. (U912G) for an Order Pursuant to Sections 829 and 853 of the Public Utilities Code to Exempt from Commission Authorization the Encumbrance of the Assets of Wild Goose Storage, LLC and Lodi Gas Storage, L.L.C. and the Issuance of a Corporate Guarantee to Secure the Financing of certain Affiliates of the Utilities or in the Alternative for Authorization for the Same Relief under Sections 830 and 851.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=211142722>

A1509001 • 20-Feb-18 • ALJ/ROSCOW/CPUC

Decision resolving compliance issue regarding audit of Pacific Gas and Electric Company Rule 20A Undergrounding Program. Opening comments are due March 12, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing comments.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=210041091>

R1407002 • 20-Feb-18 • ACALJ/HECHT/CPUC; ALJs KAO/ MCKENZIE/ CPUC

Proposed Decision adopting alternatives to promote solar distributed generation in disadvantaged communities. Opening comments are due no later than March 12, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing opening comments.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209414614>

R1407002 • 20-Feb-18 • CMMR/GUZMAN ACEVES/CPUC •

Alternate Proposed Decision of Commissioner Guzman Aceves adopting alternatives to promote solar distributed generation in disadvantaged communities.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209414616>

R1408013 A1507002 A1507003 A1507005 A1507006 A1507007 A1507008 • 20-Feb-18

Proposed Decision on Track 3 policy issues, Sub-Track 2 (Grid Modernization). Opening comments are due no later than March 12, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing opening comments.

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=211142721>

Continued on next page

# CPUC to hold public workshops for California Advanced Services Fund

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as part of its implementation of Assembly Bill 1665 (also known as the Internet for All Now Act), will hold a series of public workshops to receive input on broadband grant program changes, learn of existing carrier commitments, and develop partnerships for regional solutions.

Assembly Bill 1665 (AB 1665) modified the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF), which promotes broadband adoption and infrastructure deployment in unserved and underserved areas with a goal of providing broadband access to no less than 98 percent of California households. AB 1665 increased the CASF's infrastructure account by \$300 million, added \$10 million in funding for regional consortia, sunsetted the existing loan and public housing accounts, and put into place a \$20 million account designed to promote adoption plans in order to narrow the Digital Divide.

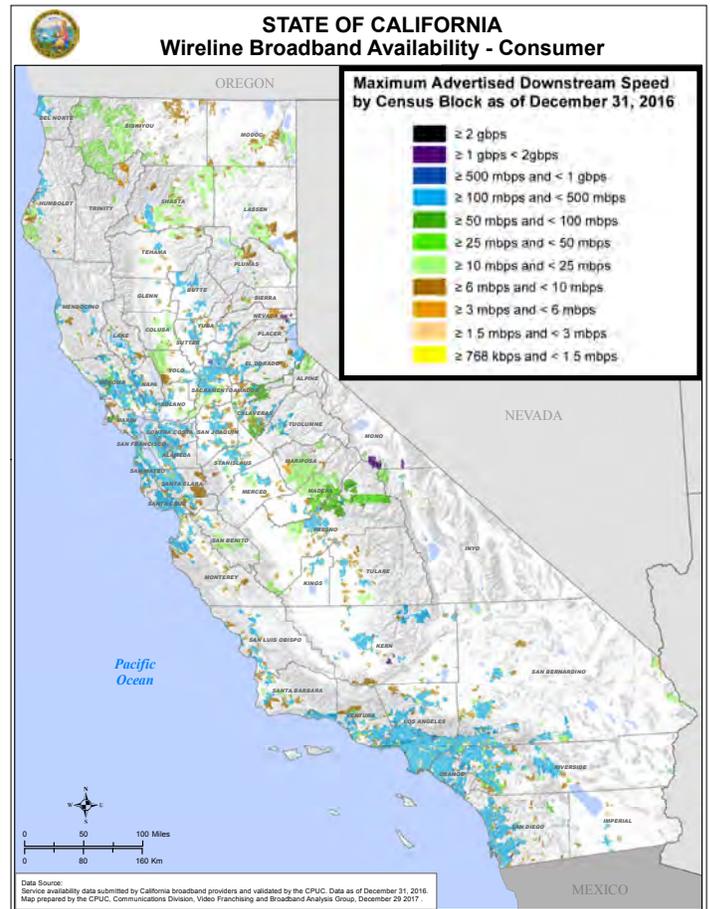
As part of the new rulemaking process, the CPUC has scheduled several public workshops to discuss the changes and establish new funding guidelines. Workshops will be held:

- March 16, 2018**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Madera Council Chambers, 205 W. 4th St., Madera, CA, 93637  
 Flyer: <https://tinyurl.com/CASFMadera>  
 Flyer (Spanish): <https://tinyurl.com/CASFMaderaesp>
- March 28, 2018**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.: El Centro Council Chambers, 1275 Main St., El Centro, CA 92243  
 Flyer: <https://tinyurl.com/CASFelcentro>  
 Flyer (Spanish): <https://tinyurl.com/elcentroESP>
- March 30, 2018**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Ronald Reagan Building, Auditorium, 300 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90013  
 Flyer: <https://tinyurl.com/CASFLA>  
 Flyer (Spanish): <https://tinyurl.com/CASFLAesp>

For those unable to attend the workshops in person, written comments may be submitted to:

CPUC Public Advisor, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102, or via email to [public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov). Please refer to proceeding number R.12-10-012 on any written or email correspondence about this proceeding.

The CASF is funded by a surcharge rate on revenues collected by tele-



Full-sized map: <https://tinyurl.com/CAwiredBroadband>

## Featured Rulemaking: R.12-10-012

communications carriers from end-users for intrastate telecommunications services. The Commission approved Resolution T-17593 on Dec. 14, 2017, which adopts a surcharge rate of 0.56% effective March 1, 2018.

Information on the CASF program is available at [www.cpuc.ca.gov/CASF/](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/CASF/)

Information on the 17 regional CASF-supported consortia is available at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=870>.

## Docket: February 2018 Filings, continued from previous page

### PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

P1710011 • 20-Feb-18 • ALJ/MASON/CPUC  
 Proposed Decision denying Petition of Quad Knopf, dba QK, to adopt, amend, or repeal a regulation pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 1708.5. Opening comments are due no later than March 12, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing opening comments.  
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209744014>

C1209002 • 20-Feb-18 • ALJ/ALJ DIVISION/CPUC • Electric • Adjudicatory • Decision granting Intervenor Compensation to the Acton Town Council for substantial contributions to Decisions 13-10-058 and 14-12-090. Opening comments are due March 12, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing comments.  
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=209870302>

### PROCEEDING NUMBER • FILED DATE • FILER

A1611002 • 23-Feb-18 • ALJ/MILES/CPUC  
 Decision denying the application of Southern California Edison Company for approval of the results of its Second Preferred Resources Pilot Request for Offers. Opening comments are due March 15, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing comments.  
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=210041124>

A1611002 • 23-Feb-18 • ALJ/MILES/CPUC  
 This decision denies 19 purchase and sale agreement contracts totaling 125 Megawatts within Southern California Edison Company's Second Preferred Resources Pilot Request for Offers. Opening comments are due March 15, 2018. Reply comments are due 5 days after the last day for filing comments.  
<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?DocFormat=All&DocID=210041124>