

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Authority to Establish Its Authorized Cost of Capital for Utility Operations for 2013 and to Reset the Annual Cost of Capital Adjustment Mechanism.

Application 12-04-015  
(Filed April 20, 2012)

Order Instituting Rulemaking to Implement Electric Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plans Pursuant to Senate Bill 901 (2018).

Rulemaking 18-10-007  
(Filed October 25, 2018)

**DECISIONMAKER NOTICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

In the interest of transparency and in an abundance of caution, Michael Picker, President of the California Public Utilities Commission files this Notice of Communications. The meetings described below do not constitute ex parte communications, because there was not a discussion of a formal proceeding. This Notice has been served on the proceedings noted above.

**Meeting 1**

**DATE and TIME:** November 12, 2018, 6:00 – 7:00 pm.

**LOCATION:** Huntington Hotel, 1075 California Street, San Francisco, CA.

**COMMUNICATION MEDIUM:** Oral.

**WHO INITIATED COMMUNICATION:** Jonathan Arnold (Deutsche Bank).

**PERSONS PRESENT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION:** Michael Picker, CPUC President; Edward Randolph, Director of Energy Division; Arocles Aguilar, General Counsel; James Ralph, Chief of Policy and Legal Affairs to President Picker.

**PERSONS PRESENT ON BEHALF OF INTERESTED PERSON:** Jonathan Arnold, Abe Azar, Caroline Bone (Deutsche Bank); Joseph Titmus (AMP Capital); James Wigley (Pictet Asset Management); Philson Yim, Philson Yim, Gene Hennelly (Balyasny Asset Management LP); Michael Goldenberg, Chris Shelten (Millennium); Ivana Ergovic (Nexus Capital Group); Tom O'Neill (Green Arrow); Betsy Lind (Orbis); Chris Melendes (Willington Management); Claud Davis (MFS Invest Management), Jamie Waters (Blackstart Capital), Glenn McIsacc (Lord Abbett and Company); Leon Dubov (Luminus Management), Matt Davis (Carlson Capital), Kevin Fallon (Citadel), Matthew Fallon (Shelter Harbor), Alexander Lue (The Baupost Group); Troy Green (Brookfield); Geg Reiss (Gentegis).

## **Meeting 2**

**DATE and TIME:** November 14, 2018, 3:30-4:00 pm.

**LOCATION:** CPUC, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA.

**COMMUNICATION MEDIUM:** Oral.

**WHO INITIATED COMMUNICATION:** Robert Kenney (Pacific Gas & Electric ("PGE")).

**PERSONS PRESENT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION:** Michael Picker, Commission President; Edward Randolph, Director of Energy Division; Arocles Aguilar, General Counsel; James Ralph, Chief of Policy and Legal Affairs to President Picker.

**PERSONS PRESENT ON BEHALF OF INTERESTED PERSON:** Geisha Williams, John Wells, Richard Kelly, Steve Malnight (PGE).

**Meeting 3**

**DATE and TIME:** November 15, 2018, 12:30-1 pm.

**LOCATION:** N/A

**COMMUNICATION MEDIUM:** Telephonic

**WHO INITIATED COMMUNICATION:** Julien Dumoulin-Smith (Bank of America).

**PERSONS PRESENT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION:** Michael Picker, Commission President; Edward Randolph, Director of Energy Division; Arocles Aguilar, General Counsel; Geoffrey Dryvynsyde, Assistant General Counsel, James Ralph, Chief of Policy and Legal Affairs to President Picker.

**PERSONS PRESENT ON BEHALF OF INTERESTED PERSON:** Julien Dumoulin-Smith (Bank of America). List of call participants to follow.

**SUMMARY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS:**

The tragic events of this past week are still unfolding, the details of which are to be investigated by the appropriate authorities, but it is already evident that the loss of life and property due to the wildfires in Northern and Southern California in November 2018 exceed historical marks by any measure. The California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) is one of the government agencies tasked with ensuring investor owned utilities operate a safe and reliable grid. To ensure public safety in this time of increased wildfire occurrence, the Commission is addressing wildfires in many settings and proceedings. The public can, and should participate, in these proceedings. The public can contact

the Commission's Public Advisor (<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/pao/>) for more information. Some of the Commission's efforts include:

### Wildfire Mitigation

In September 2018, Governor Brown signed SB 901 (2018), which requires, in part, investor owned utilities to file wildfire mitigation plans at the Commission, and for the Commission to pursue enforcement actions if the investor owned utilities do not follow the plans approved by the Commission. In October 2018, the Commission opened a rulemaking to develop and adopt the wildfire mitigation plans. This is effort ongoing and the Commission aims to adopt the first round of plans before the wildfire season starts next year.

### Investigations

The Commission's enforcement staff, the Safety and Enforcement Division ("SED"), is diligently investigating several fire events, and that process must be allowed to play out before drawing conclusions. If the SED finds an investigation warrants the Commission opening an investigation, then SED will present information to the Commission for consideration. SED also has authority to issue citations for alleged violations, which it finds do not warrant an investigation proceeding. SED's reports are available to the public when they are complete.

### Joint Agency Efforts

The Commission is working collaboratively with Cal OES and Cal Fire. The Commission and Cal Fire will also work together in reviewing the wildfire plans. This work builds on the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Commission and CalFire, which allows the two agencies to work collaboratively.

### De-energization Events

In July 2018, the Commission adopted rules to strengthen customer notification requirements before an investor owned utility can de-energize power lines and ordered utilities to engage local communities in developing de-energizing programs.

In October 2018, the Commission, Cal OES, and Cal Fire issued a joint letter to the utilities providing further instructions on what the agencies expect from the utilities before de-energizing power lines. This letter is enclosed with this Notice. Investor owned utilities recently began filing post-de-energization reports to the Commission. These are currently being reviewed by Commission staff.

### Other SB 901 (2018) Implementation Efforts by the Commission

SB 901 (2018) also prohibits investor owned utilities from recovering officer compensation from ratepayers, increases the maximum amount the Commission can fine utilities, and requires the Commission to do safety culture reviews of utilities. In October 2018, the Commission issued a resolution, which prohibits ratepayers from paying for utility-officer compensation. The Commission is scheduled to vote on this item at the November 29, 2018 Commission meeting. As the implementation of Public Utilities Code Section 451.2 is under consideration by the Commission, the Commission is mindful that in order for a utility to operate safely, it must have the financial means to function and implement new safety measures.

## Consumer Protection

On October 26, 2018, the Commission held a workshop at Cal OES addressing telecommunication providers participation in providing relief to customers in times of emergencies.

## Summary

As investigations are completed, best practices are developed, and we learn which policies prevent wildfires and protect the public, the Commission's safety programs will continue to evolve. The Commission is moving quickly to implement new legislation and to update existing programs to ensure public safety, protect consumers, and hold utilities accountable.

November 15, 2018

*/s/ Michael Picker*

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Michael Picker, President, California Public Utilities Commission



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October 26, 2018

Geisha Williams  
Chief Executive Officer  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
77 Beale Street  
San Francisco, California 94105

Kevin Sagara  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
San Diego Gas and Electric  
8330 Century Park Court  
San Diego, California 92123-4150

Kevin M. Payne  
Chief Executive Officer  
Southern California Edison  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Rosemead, California 91770

**Subject: Public Safety Power Shut-Off**

Dear Ms. Williams, Mr. Sagara, and Mr. Payne:

Ensuring the safety of Californians is of the utmost importance to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Recent actions of Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), and San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E), to proactively de-energize power lines during high wildfire danger weather conditions make clear that utilities must provide specific, real-time information so the State can take appropriate steps to ensure public safety. This letter sets forth Cal OES, CAL FIRE, and the CPUC's expectations regarding your potential Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) that may occur during high wildfire danger weather conditions.

NOTIFICATIONS

The State expects PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E to provide notifications at several distinct stages of a PSPS event. These notifications must be made to the California State Warning Center [[warning.center@caloes.ca.gov](mailto:warning.center@caloes.ca.gov); (916) 845-8911] as follows:





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- First, immediately notify the California State Warning Center upon the utility's decision to activate its PSPS program to consider de-energization during high wildfire danger weather conditions. This notice to the California State Warning Center must be made in advance of any public notice of this potential de-energization.
- Second, immediately notify the California State Warning Center upon the decision to carry out the de-energizing of power lines.
- Third, immediately notify the California State Warning Center upon the actual de-energization of power lines.
- Finally, immediately notify the California State Warning Center upon the restoration of power.

#### INFORMATION AND BRIEFINGS

In its initial notification(s) to the California State Warning Center, the utility must provide the designated point of contact, to include name, phone number, and email address, within that utility who will serve as the primary source of updated information regarding the potential PSPS.

The utility must also provide the State with its proposed operational periods and provide briefings prior to the PSPS, during the power shut-down, and during restoration. The State expects no less than three briefings per day. In the event the State requests a modification to the briefing schedule, the utility is expected to make its best effort to comply with the State's request.

In these briefings, the State expects the utility to provide information including, but not limited to: the expected duration of the power outage; the number of customers potentially impacted; the method of public notification, including the proposed language to be disseminated to the public; the plan for public messaging, as well as coordination with Cal OES, CAL FIRE, and local public safety agencies; and information regarding the deployment of any asset.

Additionally, if Cal OES, CAL FIRE, or the CPUC deploys a representative to a utility's Emergency Operations Center, the State expects the utility to accommodate that deployment, include the State representative in its operational briefings, and provide workspace within its Emergency Operations Center.

#### DATA

It is critical that each utility provide the State with real-time data, in advance of the utility's actual de-energization, so the State can prepare for the proposed power outage. Therefore, upon its initial notification to the California State Warning Center of a potential de-energization, the utility must provide the State with all data related to the potentially-impacted areas, as set forth below. Additionally, the State must have the ability to share such data with any state or local agency it deems necessary to protect public safety.







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The utility must provide the State with maps in PDF format, containing: outage areas; circuits; impacted critical customers; and roads for distribution to emergency response personnel at the local, state, and federal partner agencies. Additionally, each utility must provide GIS datasets, as set forth below, in an ESRI-compliant web service updated and maintained by the utility. If web service is unavailable, data can be in geodatabase format, shapefile, or a KMZ file type. The utility must provide updated files as the data changes. Any point location data provided via a spreadsheet must include an address and/or latitude and longitude.

The specific GIS datasets are as follows:

- Planned Outage Areas (Polygon)
  - Customers per outage area
  - Time of outage
  - Time to restoration
  - # of Medical Baseline Customers
- Current Outage Areas (Polygon)
  - Customers per outage area
  - Time of outage
  - Time to restoration
  - # of Medical Baseline Customers
- Impacted Circuits (Line)
  - Circuit type
  - Customers per circuit
  - Voltage
  - # of Medical Baseline Customers
- Impacted Critical Customers (e.g. Hospitals, Fire Stations, Police Stations, Water/Irrigation Districts, Waste Water Treatment Plants, Telecom, Schools) (Point)
  - Facility Name
  - Street Address
  - City
  - ZIP
  - County
  - Latitude
  - Longitude
  - Customer Type
- Medical Baseline Customer (this can be provided in a spreadsheet format)
  - Impacted Population, by County
  - Impacted Population, by City





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Having real-time information in preparation for, during, and following a utility's de-energization of a community is essential for the preservation of public safety. This effort will ensure that the State, as well as all potentially-impacted local jurisdictions, are able to effectively prepare for any impacts that may result from a utility's de-energization and respond accordingly. We look forward to your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Ghilarducci  
Director, Governor's Office of  
Emergency Services

Ken Pimlott  
Director, California Department of  
Forestry and Fire Protection

Michael Picker  
President, California Public Utilities  
Commission

Cliff Rechtschaffen  
Commissioner, California Public Utilities  
Commission

