

Decision 17-05-016 May 11, 2017

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Investigation and Ordering Pacific Gas and Electric Company to Appear and Show Cause Why It Should not be Sanctioned for Violations of Article 8 and Rule 1.1 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure and Public Utilities Code Sections 1701.2 and 1701.3.

Investigation 15-11-015
(Filed November 19, 2015)

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to December 29, 2017.

1. Background

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(e) provides that adjudication cases must be resolved within 12 months of initiation unless the Commission makes findings why that deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending that deadline. In this proceeding, the original 12-month deadline for resolving this proceeding was November 18, 2016.

The parties have been engaged in a lengthy and detailed meet and confer process to resolve as many issues as possible. On October 14, 2016, the parties filed and served a joint status report with a proposed procedural schedule that would hopefully conclude their settlement efforts in January, 2017. Decision (D.) 16-11-023 extended the statutory deadline from November 18, 2016 to

May 17, 2017, to allow the parties time to complete their settlement efforts and for the Commission to prepare a decision.

The parties filed their report on January 13, 2017. They advised that their efforts had not resulted in a settlement but that they would simultaneously continue with their settlement efforts while also preparing their substantive briefs in accordance with the schedule set by the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ).

On March 28, 2017, the City of San Bruno, the City of San Carlos, the Office of Ratepayer Advocates, the Safety and Enforcement Division, The Utility Reform Network, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company filed their All-Party Joint Motion for Adoption of the Settlement Agreement pursuant to Rule 12.1 (Joint Motion), supporting documentation, and a Joint Motion for Order Waiving Comment Period Pursuant to Rule 12.2.

There is good cause to extend the statutory deadline beyond May 17, 2017. Additional time is needed to review the Joint Motion, the many supporting documents, and any comments that may be filed, in order to prepare a proposed decision. This process will not be completed in time for the Commission to resolve this proceeding by the current May 17, 2017 deadline. Therefore, an extension of the statutory deadline until December 29, 2017, is necessary.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Pursuant to Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving adjudicatory proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment on an extension order issued pursuant to § 1701.2(e) is being waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

President Michael Picker is the assigned Commissioner and Robert M. Mason III is the assigned ALJ in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this adjudication proceeding is May 17, 2017.
2. On March 28, 2017, the City of San Bruno, the City of San Carlos, the Office of Ratepayer Advocate, the Safety and Enforcement Division, The Utility Reform Network, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company filed a Joint Motion for Adoption of the Settlement Agreement.
3. An extension of the statutory deadline until December 29, 2017, is necessary to allow the assigned ALJ time to review the proposed settlement and to prepare a proposed decision for the Commission's consideration.

Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to the Commission's authority under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(e) the statutory deadline should be extended until December 29, 2017.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until December 29, 2017.

This order is effective today.

Dated May 11, 2017, at Merced, California.

MICHAEL PICKER

President

CARLA J. PETERMAN

LIANE M. RANDOLPH

MARTHA GUZMAN ACEVES

CLIFFORD RECHTSCHAFFEN

Commissioners