

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for Authority, Among Other Things, to Increase Rates and Charges for Electric and Gas Service Effective on January 1, 2020. (U39M)

Application 18-12-009

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES' RULING GRANTING MOTION TO AMEND SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This ruling grants the Motion to Amend Settlement Agreement filed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) on August 13, 2020. The motion seeks to correct numerical discrepancies in the Settlement Agreement jointly filed by PG&E, Public Advocates Office, The Utility Reform Network, Small Business Utility Advocates, Center for Accessible Technology, National Diversity Coalition, Coalition of California Utility Employees, California City County Street Light Association, and Office of the Safety Advocate (collectively, settling parties). According to PG&E, the numerical discrepancies were discovered as a result of discovery requests propounded by the Commission's Energy Division. The corrections do not impact the revenue requirements adopted in the Settlement Agreement and none of the settling parties object to the corrections.

The Joint Community Choice Aggregators filed a Response to PG&E's motion urging the Commission to direct PG&E to exercise greater care in improving the accuracy of its filings, to more carefully track utilization of Customer Care Services, and to present the allocation of all shared costs more transparently.

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However, we find that issues concerning utilization of common Customer Care Services and allocation of shared costs do not bear directly on the primary purpose of the motion which is to correct errors and discrepancies in the Settlement Agreement. We also do not find that the motion raises transparency concerns as the corrections relate to numerical discrepancies that typically occur during General Rate Cases (GRC) of large energy utilities. This is because of the extremely large volume of costs, measurements, forecasts, and other numerical data that are presented in large GRCs. And while we fully expect PG&E to exercise great care in minimizing these numerical errors, it is not uncommon for these instances to still occur. In this instance, we find that the corrections that are the subject of the motion are products of simple errors and not deliberate actions to conceal or obfuscate data in order to confuse parties.

Therefore, we find it reasonable to grant the motion especially since the corrections do not impact the proposed revenue requirements adopted in the Settlement Agreement for this GRC cycle. The motion is attached to this ruling as Appendix A and we adopt the following corrections:

- (a) The requested corrections to the Settlement Agreement enumerated in the Requested Corrections section of the motion;
- (b) The redlined correction to Section 2.7.2.2 specified in Attachment A of the motion; and
- (c) The redlined corrections to Appendix B of the Settlement Agreement specified in Attachment B of the motion.

Appendix C to the motion is a consolidated list of the above changes to the Settlement Agreement.

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IT IS RULED that the Motion to Amend Settlement Agreement is hereby adopted. The corrections to the Settlement Agreement are identified in the body of this ruling and specified in the motion which is attached to this ruling as Appendix A.

Dated September 28, 2020, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELAINE C. LAU

Elaine C. Lau Administrative Law Judge /s/ RAFAEL L. LIRAG

Rafael L. Lirag Administrative Law Judge

APPENDIX A