



California Public Utilities Commission Proceeding

Public Comments

Proceeding Number: A2107017

Filed Date: 30-JUL-21

Status: Closed

Filer Name List: San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Description: Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 M) for Establishment of an Interim Rate Relief Mechanism for its Wildfire Mitigation Plan Costs.

Assignment List: ALJ: Nilgun Atamturk (Assigned Aug 20, 2021)
COMMISSIONER: Darcie L. Houck (Assigned Aug 20, 2021)

Total Comments: 12



Cyndi F

Oceanside, CA 92057

To Whom it May Concern at CPUC,
Charging solar users more money for doing the right thing by switching to solar will yield the opposite of the desired result. Fewer people will switch to solar as you reduce the incentives, because it just won't be worth it. SDG&E claims that it needs the money for "wildfire mitigation". They should actually solve the problem, not just throw money at it. How? Maybe they should bury the power lines as many other states do. Or, (change laws, if necessary)— cut down dead trees and clear out dead underbrush that only serve to fuel wildfires. Then, reforest with new trees and plants, possibly succulents, to defend against spreading fires. Maybe there are some internal cut-backs they could make, to reduce wasteful spending from within. Based on what I read in a recent news article, it appears that I (and others) may be paying about \$40 a month (or more) just for trying to be environmentally responsible. In under three months, that wipes out my "true up" refund. Why should I give SDG&E solar energy for nothing and pay more for the "privilege" of letting them increase my bill? I live in a senior community, and several of us have solar energy. Although some of us aren't considered "low-income", so wouldn't qualify for any proposed low-income credit, many of us are on fixed incomes, and don't need this unwarranted increase. We didn't jump onto the solar bandwagon with the expectation of SDG&E penalizing us for being almost energy independent from the grid. Supposedly, (according to a joint filing of SDG&E and other CA energy companies) they already get over THREE BILLION DOLLARS in subsidies, but before the end of this decade, that amount will increase to almost ELEVEN BILLION DOLLARS—EVEN WITHOUT THIS INCREASE! Consider this: As fewer people choose the solar energy option, fewer solar panels will be demanded (and produced), and fewer installers will be needed. This will cause a downward spiral in the prosperous solar energy industry in all of California! What do we do with all the people who will then be unemployed? The state does not need higher unemployment rates. Is that really what you want? I read that Tesla wrote on its website "If adopted, this would be the highest solar fee anywhere in the country. . ." [quote is from the article I read], and states that these charges impinge on customers' right to self-generate their own clean energy. [Again, quoting from the article that quotes from the website]: "It violates every tenant of regulatory fairness and is likely illegal under federal law". Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla, tweeted that the idea is a, "a bizarre anti-environmental move. . ." You remember Elon Musk, right? He's the richest man in the world; an entrepreneur with college degrees in both economics and physics; he helped create the company called Solar City, which was later acquired by Tesla, his company. He's the one who was chased out of California because of our state's policies. It seems to me that with his credentials, his opinion is worth considering. Your committee has been given an opportunity to accept disastrous proposal, or do the right thing and reject this punitive idea and let the solar energy industry flourish. Thank you for your consideration.

Jan 14, 2022 5:36 pm



PAUL HENKIN

BONITA, CA 91902

I strongly oppose SDGE's request A 21-07-017 to increase electric and gas rates.

SDGE wants a 50% increase to General Rate Case (GRC) approved funding, refundable (subject to a 'reasonableness' review.) Give SDGE the money and it might favor YOU by returning it - Is this Vegas style gambling or what? Or maybe an accountants' full employment program.

In fact, according to its own documents, a reasonableness review should be up to its own management: "Determination of what is reasonable in conducting business of utility is primarily responsibility of management, and commission does not have power to prescribe terms of contracts and practices of utilities and thus substitute its judgment as to what is reasonable for that of management. Pacific Tel. & Tel. Co. v. Public Utilities Com. (Cal. Feb. 28, 1950), 34 Cal. 2d 822, 215 P.2d 441, 1950 Cal. LEXIS 297. " (https://www.sdge.com/sites/default/files/regulatory/Cal%20Pub%20Util%20Code%20_%20451_0.pdf - SDGE notes to Deering's CA Util. Code Sec. 451.)

So once you give SDGE the money and make it subject to a 'reasonableness' review, it is SDGE's to refund or not, at its discretion - that is the SDGE ethos.

But what is especially disturbing is that this is, according to SDGE's notice, 'incremental to those [expenditures] authorized for recovery in SDG&E's General Rate Case.

And it is not a small amount - it is 50% of an already approved amount. Does this mean SDGE wants the CPUC to modify (read tear up all the work it's done) their own legally approved funding?

In the customer notice. we are given no real specific reason for modifying basically a contract other than 'wildfire relief.'

However, in the actual application, it says "As of the end of the first quarter 2021, SDG&E has an under-collected balance of approximately \$107.2 million recorded to its WMPMAs, incremental to authorized amounts, and this balance is expected to grow." So the question is why was this amount under-collected and my question is why does SDGE want to charge all of its customers when this seems to be a problem between SDGE and individual customers.

I also notice that SDGE cites future credit ratings in its application. I believe that future credit ratings may rise or fall but I do not think that SDGE should charge the customers for market forces out of their control. If credit rates impact the company's performance, amounts to recover should be taken up then and not on the basis of speculation as to what might happen.

SDGE has, by most accounts, has done a good job with wildfire mitigation. However, this is not really their job. Moreover, by all accounts, SDGE already has outrageously high utility rates. So why are they telling you that their accountants basically underestimated bigtime (I assume) their alleged need for funds so they need more funds (unless they are gaming us for more bucks.)



Regards,

Paul Henkin
Bonita, CA
henkinp@earthlink.net

Oct 07, 2021 12:43 pm

Jeff Korzatkowski

San Diego, CA 92119

No. They need to manage their finances like everyone else. They also need to take responsibility for their actions and not pass the blame and cost onto us. If they cause a wildfire they should pay not us. No rate increase.

Sep 26, 2021 9:47 pm

Bradford Kolumbic

Escondido, CA 92027

Looking for any way to not get charged out the ass for turning on a single lightbulb in San Diego

Sep 26, 2021 8:33 pm

Bradford Kolumbic

Escondido, CA 92027

Looking for any way to not get charged out the ass for turning on a single lightbulb in San Diego

Sep 26, 2021 8:32 pm

Ruth G

San Diego, CA 92126

So many Californians are struggling because of the pandemic- inflation is rising, and we already pay some of the highest rates in the whole country. SDGE makes enough money off of us already. No more rate increases.

Sep 25, 2021 1:39 pm

Sandra Wilson

El Cajon, CA 92021

A.21-08-010 Increase in rates.... what? You just gave us a decrease and now an increase. Why didn't you see this coming and not decreased. Interesting comment on brochure "it is important to help ensure SDGE does not overcharge or undercharge for electric service" If it was important you would not have to ask all the time for increase/decrease. If it was important, SDGE would have an accountant that could read the numbers and budget accordingly. NO INCREASE!

Sep 21, 2021 2:21 pm



Sandra Wilson

El Cajon, CA 92021

Did not see an end date for comments. Docket No. A.21-07-117. SDGE is again requesting a Wildfire Mitigation fund. This is a big NO, they make money like any other business so they should be budgeting like any other business for such a fund. Why did you allow this years ago when you probably got many comments of NO?

Sep 21, 2021 2:07 pm

Michael Swavely

San Diego, CA 92027

This request makes no sense. Wildfire mitigation is a normal business expense for this company, just as it has always been. Maintaining their equipment and assuring that their equipment does not cause harm to others is required of all businesses.

Sep 21, 2021 9:22 am

Daniel Na

San Diego, CA 92115

I oppose SDGE raising rates based on wildfires, when it is their neglected infrastructure that creates the risk to begin with. The people should not be made responsible for SDGE's own negligence and greed. Nationalize power companies.

Sep 16, 2021 2:12 pm

ALFONSO HERNANDEZ

SAN DIEGO , CA 92154

dear sirs,
this is crazy to hear that SD GAS & ELECTRIC are requesting an increase based on fires risk ,hope the governor and your department , DO NOT BEND TO THIS REQUEST , WE ARE TIRED OF ABUSED FROM THIS COMPANY , THEY JUST SIGNED A NEW LONG TERM CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO , NO COMPETETION IN THE LAST 20 TO 25 YEARS IS THIS NEW LONG TERM CONTRACT WAS CITY AWARE OF WHAT COMING ? , IF NOT THEN THE CITY IS PART OF THIS ILLEGAL DEAL AND THEY KEEP INCREASING THEIR POOR SERVICE , SOMEBODY NEED TO REALLY INVESTIGATE THIS COMPANY , TOO MANY EMPLOYEES , TOO MANY COMPANY VEHICLES PARKED , TOO MANY ADMINISTRATION EMPLOYEES, EXECUTIVES AT HIGH SALARIES , POOR MANAGEMENT, ETC.

Aug 24, 2021 6:28 pm

steve na

Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

This is a BUNCH OF B.S.!!!!
Why are you making us blue collar workers pay for SDG&E's mistakes??? We pay sdge billions of dollars over the years and now the really rich power company doesnt want to pay out of their own pockets so they want to charge their customers to pay for the fire settlement, the fires they caused!!!! I call B.S.! Just pay your executive's a couple million less and use the money we already paid you.

Aug 18, 2021 12:33 pm