Application of Southern California Gas Company (U-904-G) for Approval of Electric and Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs and Budgets for Years 2006 through 2008.

Application 05-06-___

CHAPTER IV

PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

YU KAI CHEN

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

JUNE 1, 2005

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PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

YU KAI CHEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of my testimony is to update the Energy Efficiency (EE) program cost allocation for Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) to reflect the new series of EE programs and its beneficiaries for 2006-08.

My testimony is arranged as follows:

- Section II discusses the latest EE goals.
- Section III presents the SoCalGas EE program cost allocation proposal.

II. BACKGROUND

On September 23, 2004, the Commission issued D.04-09-060, which implemented the mandate from the Energy Action Plan (EAP) into a quantitative goal to reduce energy use per capita. The adopted natural gas savings goals are designed to achieve approximately 40% of the maximum demand reduction potential. In this application, SoCalGas has submitted a budget for the 2006-2008 period that would result in a 125% increase to the current EE program expenses levels¹.

The substantial increase in EE program funding to meet the Commission's savings targets underscores the need to examine the current cost allocation methodologies to recover on-going and new EE program costs. EE programs are now a part of the series of public purpose

¹ See the testimony of SoCalGas Witness Athena Besa.

III. COST ALLOCATION PROPOSAL FOR SOCALGAS

Currently, SoCalGas assigns the costs of its EE programs directly to the customer classes for whom the programs are designed. Under this methodology, each customer class is allocated the amount of program costs proportionate to the benefit (i.e., financial incentives) received. The Commission established this allocation methodology in SoCalGas' 1993 General Rate Case, D.93-12-043. With regard to the cost allocation of marketing and EE programs, the Commission stated the following:

"As DRA points out, services to noncore customers should not be funded by core customers...The costs of SoCalGas' major market program, other than GasSelect, should be allocated to noncore customers in SoCalGas' next cost allocation proceeding. To be consistent, we will also allocate to core customers the costs of core marketing (DSM) programs." (D.93-12-043, mimeo, pp. 131-132 (emphasis added).)

The Commission later upheld this position in Pacific Gas & Electric Company's (PG&E) 1995 BCAP, indicating that "...DSM costs should be directly assigned to the customer classes for whom the programs are designed." (D.95-12-053, pg. 40.)

Currently, SoCalGas allocates its EE program costs as shown in the Table 1 below:

Table 1: Current Customer Class Allocation

Customer Class	Dollars	Percent		
	(\$000)	%		
Core				
Residential	\$12,070	44.7%		
Core C&I	\$14,760	54.7%		
Gas Air Conditioning	\$ 1	0.0%		
Gas Engines	\$ 66	0.2%		
Subtotal Core	\$26,897	99.6%		
Non-core				
Non-core C&I	\$ 98	0.4%		
Subtotal Non-core	\$ 98	0.4%		
TOTAL	\$26,995	100.0%		

The current cost allocation factors for EE program costs are based on prior EE program spending and are not representative of the beneficiaries of the future EE programs in the 2006-08 program cycle. In particular, the 2006-08 EE proposed program budgets reflect an expansion of programs to Non-core Commercial & Industrial (C&I) customers. Previously, SoCalGas had no EE programs specifically targeted at Non-core C&I customers, and these customers were allocated only a small portion of EE costs related to demonstration projects.

The proposed allocation factors by class for EE program costs are based on the 2006-08 three-year total of the budget provided in the testimony of SoCalGas Witness Athena Besa as shown in Table 2 below:

Table 2: EE 3-Year Budget and Total Percent

Customer Class	2006	2007		2008		3-Yr Total	
	(\$000)		(\$000)		(\$000)	%	
Residential Budget	\$19,281	\$	23,445	\$	29,414	39.5%	
Core C&I Budget	\$24,978	\$	32,934	\$	38,431	52.8%	
Non-core C&I Budget	\$ 3,610	\$	4,730	\$	5,612	7.6%	
TOTAL	\$47,869	\$	61,109	\$	73,457	100.0%	

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3 Existing adopted throughput was used to further segment the Core C&I budget dollars among the

retail Core C&I (i.e., the "G-10" class), Gas Air Conditioning, and Gas Engine rate classes. The

resulting proposed allocation factors were then multiplied to the annual budgets to derive at the

6 cost allocation results shown in Table 3 below:

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 Table 3: Proposed Cost Allocation Factors

	Current		Prop	osed	
Customer Class	Allocation	Allocation	2006	2007	2008
	%	%	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)
Annual Budget			\$ 47,869	\$ 61,109	\$ 73,457
Core					
Residential	44.7%	39.5%	\$ 18,929	\$ 24,164	\$ 29,047
Core C&I	54.7%	51.7%	\$ 24,768	\$ 31,618	\$ 38,007
Gas Air Conditioning	0.0%	0.1%	\$ 36	\$ 45	\$ 55
Gas Engines	0.2%	1.0%	\$ 476	\$ 608	\$ 730
Subtotal Core	99.6%	92.4%	\$ 44,208	\$ 56,436	\$ 67,839
Non-core					
Non-core C&I	0.4%	7.6%	\$ 3,661	\$ 4,674	\$ 5,618
Subtotal Non-core	0.4%	7.6%	\$ 3,661	\$ 4,674	\$ 5,618
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	\$ 47,869	\$ 61,109	\$ 73,457

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Table 4: 2006 PPP Surcharge Rate Impact

rates are shown in the Tables 4 through 6 below:

	Non-CAI	RE Cu	stomers	CA	CARE Customers			
Customer Class	Current	2006 % change		Current	2006	% change		
	¢/th	¢/th	·	¢/th	¢/th			
Core								
Residential	3.80	4.07	7%	2.00	2.27	13%		
Core C&I	3.44	4.49	31%	1.64	2.69	64%		
Gas Air Conditioning	1.88	3.92	108%	0.09	2.12	2386%		
Gas Engines	2.11	3.76	78%	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Non-core								
Non-core C&I	1.83	2.06	13%	n/a	n/a	n/a		

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 Table 5: 2007 PPP Surcharge Rate Impact

	Non-CARE Customers				CARE Customers			
Customer Class	Current	2007	% change		Current	2007	% change	
	¢/th	¢/th			¢/th	¢/th		
Core						-	-	
Residential	3.80	4.27	12%		2.00	2.48	24%	
Core C&I	3.44	5.21	52%		1.64	3.41	108%	
Gas Air Conditioning	1.88	4.49	139%		0.09	2.70	3061%	
Gas Engines	2.11	4.29	103%		n/a	n/a	n/a	
Non-core								
Non-core C&I	1.83	2.12	16%		n/a	n/a	n/a	

Table 6: 2008 PPP Surcharge Rate Impact

	Non-CAI	RE Cu	stomers		CAI	RE Custom	ners
Customer Class	Current	2008 % change		Current		2008	% change
	¢/th	¢/th		П	¢/th	¢/th	
Core				П			
Residential	3.80	4.47	17%	П	2.00	2.67	33%
Core C&I	3.44	5.89	71%	П	1.64	4.09	149%
Gas Air Conditioning	1.88	5.03	167%	П	0.09	3.23	3690%
Gas Engines	2.11	4.78	126%		n/a	n/a	n/a
Non-core							
Non-core C&I	1.83	2.18	20%		n/a	n/a	n/a

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SoCalGas proposes to update its EE cost allocation factors shown in Table 3 in this proceeding to reflect the proposed 2006-08 EE program expenditures described in this application effective with the next annual Gas PPP Surcharge update effective January 1, 2006.

This concludes my prepared direct testimony.

QUALIFICATIONS

My name is Yu Kai Chen. My business address is 555 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles,
California, 90013-1011. I am employed as an Economic Advisor in the Regulatory Gas Analysi
group for both the San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) and the Southern California
Gas Company (SoCalGas).

I began work at SoCalGas in 1997 and have held positions of increasing responsibilities in the Revenue Cycle Services, Mass Markets, and Regulatory Affairs departments. I have served in my current role as Economic Advisor since October 1, 2004. My current responsibilities include providing analytical support and direction to SoCalGas and SDG&E on gas rate design, cost allocation, balancing accounts, revenue requirements, rate adjustment mechanisms, industry restructuring, stranded cost recovery and other related issues.

I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in 1998 from the University of California, Irvine with honors. In 2003, I graduated from Yale University with a Master of Business Administration degree in Strategy and Operations.