Application No.: A.25-06-XXX

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Witnesses: <u>Josue Mondragon; Jeff DeTuri</u>

PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOSUE MONDRAGON AND JEFF DETURI

REGARDING RECORD YEAR 2024 PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF UNREALIZED SALES AND REVENUE CALCULATIONS ON BEHALF OF SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



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PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOSUE MONDRAGON AND JEFF DETURI **REGARDING RECORD YEAR 2024 PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF** UNREALIZED SALES AND REVENUE CALCULATIONS ON BEHALF OF SDG&E

I. **INTRODUCTION**

This testimony presents San Diego Gas & Electric Company's ("SDG&E") calculation of unrealized volumetric sales and unrealized revenue resulting from Public Safety Power Shutoff ("PSPS") events in 2024 for purposes of determining the PSPS ratemaking remedy set forth in Decision ("D.") 21-06-014 and using the methodology set forth in D.23-06-054. This testimony is sponsored by SDG&E witnesses Josue Mondragon (Sections II-III) and Jeff DeTuri (Section IV) and is organized as follows:

- **Section II** Summarizes the Commission's decision establishing the PSPS ratemaking remedy and the Commission's directives on the methodology to be used by the investor-owned utilities ("IOUs") to calculate unrealized sales and unrealized revenues for purposes of determining the PSPS ratemaking remedy. This section also provides a description of SDG&E's PSPS Program.
- **Section III** Identifies the PSPS events that occurred in SDG&E's service territory in 2024 and presents SDG&E's calculation of unrealized volumetric sales for purposes of determining the PSPS ratemaking remedy.
- Section IV Presents SDG&E's calculation of unrealized revenues for purposes of determining the PSPS ratemaking remedy.

II. **BACKGROUND**

A. **Commission Decisions Establishing the PSPS Ratemaking Remedy**

On November 13, 2019, the Commission initiated its Order Instituting Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion on the Late 2019 Public Safety Power Shutoff Events ("PSPS

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OII")¹ to determine whether California's electric investor-owned utilities complied with applicable laws, rules, and regulations when they initiated the PSPS events in 2019.

On June 7, 2021, the Commission issued D.21-06-014 in the PSPS OII ("PSPS OII Decision").² The PSPS OII Decision found that the utilities did not reasonably comply with the critical guideline to identify, evaluate, weigh, and report public risks for the late 2019 PSPS events.³ Accordingly, the Commission determined a "ratemaking remedy" that would apply prospectively from the effective date of the PSPS OII Decision. Specifically, the Commission stated:

...we find that a ratemaking remedy, in the form of a future downward rate adjustment for customers with the amount of the downward adjustment tied to the duration and scope of any future PSPS events will serve to address the Commission's concerns discussed above and recognize the undue harms caused to customers by overly broad PSPS events. To minimize the complexity of this ratemaking remedy, this downward rate adjustment will not apply retroactively but, instead, apply starting on the effective date of this decision.⁴

The PSPS OII Decision directs that the IOUs shall include the estimated unrealized volumetric sales and unrealized revenue resulting from future PSPS in their respective Energy Resource Recovery Account ("ERRA") proceedings, addressing the years in which the PSPS events occurred.⁵ The PSPS OII Decision also directs that the IOUs forgo collection in rates of unrealized sales and unrealized revenues until the utility demonstrates improvements in identifying, evaluating, weighing, and reporting public harm when determining whether to initiate a PSPS event.⁶ The PSPS OII Decision directed SDGE, Pacific Gas and Electric

¹ Investigation ("I.") 19-11-013.

² D.21-06-014.

³ D.21-06-014 at 56.

⁴ *Id.* at 60.

⁵ *Id.* at Ordering Paragraph (OP) 1

⁶ *Id*.

Company ("PG&E"), and Southern California Edison Company ("SCE") to agree on a methodology to be used to calculate the estimated unrealized volumetric sales and revenues and present it for the Commission's consideration in the ERRA proceeding.⁷

On July 3, 2023, the Commission issued D.23-06-054, which adopted the methodology for calculating unrealized sales and revenues during PSPS events.⁸ D.23-06-054 states that the unrealized revenues resulting from a PSPS event "shall be calculated by multiplying the unrealized volumetric electric sales by the electric rate." D.23-06-054 provides a detailed description as to how the utilities are to calculate both the unrealized volumetric electric sales as well as the electric rate that should be used. Sections III and IV below address how SDG&E has applied the Commission's methodology in its calculations.

B. SDG&E'S Public Safety Power Shutoff Program

SDG&E is obligated to operate its system safely and takes this obligation very seriously. As part of this obligation, SDG&E de-energizes circuits to protect public safety when weather and other conditions pose a heightened risk or potential of wildfire ignitions. The Commission has acknowledged that "SDG&E has statutory authority under Pub. Util. Code § 399.2(a) and § 451 to shut off power in emergency situations when necessary to protect public safety, including the situation where strong Santa Ana winds exceed the design basis for SDG&E's overhead power-line facilities and threaten to topple energized power lines onto tinder dry brush." ¹⁰

ld.

⁸ D.23-06-054.

⁹ *Id.* at OP 1.

D.12-04-024, at Conclusions of Law 1. This decision applied only to SDG&E and established requirements for reasonableness, notification, mitigation, and reporting for SDG&E's de-energization events.

Further, the Commission recognized that "de-energizing electric facilities during dangerous conditions can save lives and property and can prevent wildfires."¹¹

During extreme weather, SDG&E may employ the use of PSPS to try to prevent its electric system from becoming the source of an ignition which may result in a wildfire.

SDG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program applies a host of precautionary measures to help reduce the threat of wildfire in its communities.

A PSPS is a measure of last resort and is based on a combination of factors. ¹² SDG&E uses a number of tools to monitor the extent and duration of weather events and the condition of available fuels across its service territory. The company also has field personnel who observe environmental conditions such as lying debris or other threats to power lines. SDG&E assesses each situation for potential impacts to electric infrastructure and surrounding communities, allowing it to reduce the potential of fire from its electric system by operating it at various levels of caution. The decision and action to turn off power is based on a combination of factors, including high winds (including Red Flag warnings), low humidity, dry vegetation (that could serve as fuel), fire threat (to electric infrastructure), on-the-ground observations, and public safety risk. If a PSPS is needed due to extreme conditions, customers can expect early warning notification, ongoing updates, safety inspections and ultimately power restoration. ¹³

Resolution ("Res.") ESRB-8 (July 12, 2018), at 1. This resolution extended the de-energization reasonableness, public notifications, mitigation, and reporting requirements established in D.12-04-024 to all electric IOUs and also added new requirements.

¹² In December 2018, the Commission opened a rulemaking proceeding to examine de-energization policies and guidelines adopted in D.12-04-024 and Res. ESRB-8 (see Rulemaking (R.) 18-12-005, Order Instituting Rulemaking to Examine Electric Utility De-Energization of Power Lines in Dangerous Conditions (issued December 19, 2018) (referred to herein as "PSPS Rulemaking")).

More information about PSPS events and SDG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program can be found at https://www.sdge.com/our-commitment-wildfire-safety

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III. CALCULATION OF UNREALIZED SALES DUE TO RY 2024 PSPS EVENTS

A. Summary of PSPS Events in 2024

SDG&E activated two PSPS events in 2024, the first November 6th through November 8th, and the second event on December 9th through December 11th. Table I below displays the number of affected customers for each event by rate class.

Table I

SDG&E's Summary of 2024 Impacted Customers per Post PSPS Event Reports

Event Day(s)	Residential	Small Commercial	Medium & Large Commercial	Agriculture	Streetlighting	Customers Impacted
November 6-8, 2024	938	248	26	24	2	1,238
December 9-11, 2024	43,757	5,363	437	1,908	5	51,470

Table II Displayed the unrealized sales calculated for each PSPS event by rate class.

Table II SDG&E PSPS Unrealized Sales (kWh) for 2024 PSPS Events by Customer Class

Event Day(s)	Residential	Small Commercial	Medium & Large Commercial	Agriculture	Streetlighting	Total
November 6-8, 2024	12,044	11,434	12,039	245	34	35,797
December 9-11, 2024	1,169,672	360,784	935,695	414,014	259	2,880,423

Information on SDG&E's PSPS events can be found in SDG&E's Post-PSPS Event Reports.¹⁴

IV. CALCULATION OF UNREALIZED REVENUES DUE TO RY 2024 PSPS EVENTS

D.23.06-054 directs the IOUs to calculate the electric rate as follows:

The electric rate that shall be used to calculate a utility's unrealized revenues shall consist of all rate components that are under the jurisdiction of the California Public Utilities Commission and are charged based on volumetric sales, except rate components that do not recover any revenue shortfalls or variances resulting from PSPS events and rate components that provide a credit to ratepayers during the PSPS event. Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and

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As required by Res. ESRB-8 and D.19-05-042 and archived at https://www.sdge.com/wildfire-safety/psps-more-info

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San Diego Gas & Electric Company shall include all applicable rate components in the electric rate based on the utility's rate structure at the time the PSPS event was initiated.¹⁵

SDG&E quantified the revenue impact for each customer class by multiplying the results from the unrealized sales volumes to the applicable energy rates. SDG&E also included lost PCIA revenue for both bundled and unbundled customers in the calculation of unrealized revenue. Table III below shows the rates that were used to perform the calculation and the resulting unrealized sales revenues. The total of all unrealized revenues associated with 2024 PSPS events is \$373,937.

Table III SDG&E's Calculation of Unrealized Revenues by Customer Class

Unrealized Revenues Calculation 1,2

	Unrealized								Total Unrealized
	Sales	Dist ³	PPP	ND	стс	LGC	TRAC	PCIA ⁴	Revenues ⁵
	kWh				(\$)				(\$)
Residential	1,181,717	\$148,768	\$19,546	\$83	\$638	\$29,732	\$1,761	\$22,863	\$223,389
Small									
Commercial	372,166	\$48,890	\$6,312	\$26	\$194	\$6,550	\$0	\$8,656	\$70,628
Medium/Large									
Commercial &									
Industrial	947,786	\$3,916	\$16,975	\$66	\$455	\$17,041	\$0	\$17,099	\$55,552
Agriculture	414,259	\$7,880	\$7,366	\$29	\$124	\$4,254	\$0	\$4,650	\$24,303
Streetlighting	293	\$54	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5	\$0	\$6	\$65
System	2,916,221	\$209,508	\$50,198	\$204	\$1,411	\$57,583	\$1,761	\$53,273	\$373,937

¹Based on rates approved in SDG&E Advice Letter 4507-E for rates effective October 1, 2024; Calculations are based on

V. CONCLUSION

This concludes SDG&E's direct testimony on Record Year 2024 PSPS unrealized sales and revenues.

² Electric Rate components: Distribution (Dist), Public Purpose Programs (PPP), Nuclear Decommissioning (ND), Competition Transition Charges (CTC), Local Generation Charge (LGC), Total Rate Adjustment Component (TRAC),

³ Distribution rate is prorated based on the revenue calculated from energy only rates to remove demand, monthly

⁴ PCIA includes both bundled and unbundled revenues

⁵ Totals may not sum due to rounding.

¹⁵ D.23-06-054, at OP 1(b).

VI. WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS

A. Witness Qualifications of Josue Mondragon

My name is Josue Mondragon. My business address is 8330 Century Park Court, San Diego, California 92123. I am employed by San Diego Gas & Electric Company as the Electric Load Research Manager within the Customer Pricing Department. My primary responsibility is the study and research of customer electric energy usage. I have held my current position since 2020. Prior to this, I have held various roles of increasing responsibilities in the Load Research area since 2003.

I have previously testified before the California Public Utilities Commission.

B. Witness Qualifications of Jeff DeTuri

My name is Jeff DeTuri. My business address is 8315 Century Park Court, San Diego, CA 92123. I am employed by SDG&E and my current title is Real Time Pricing Manager in the Customer Pricing Department. My responsibilities include oversight of development of real-time pricing strategies and analysis needed for the development of electric rates. I joined SDG&E in August 2003 and have held various positions with increasing levels of responsibility within San Diego Gas & Electric. Prior to joining SDG&E, I worked as an accounting professional for various companies throughout San Diego County. I received a Bachelor of Accountancy degree and a Master of Business Administration from the University of San Diego.

I have previously testified before the California Public Utilities Commission.