

Application: A.22-05-XXX

Exhibit No.: SDGE-2A

Witness: Ellen Kutzler

PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
ELLEN KUTZLER - CHAPTER 2A
ON BEHALF OF SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



MAY 2, 2022

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**PREPARED TESTIMONY OF
ELLEN KUTZLER
CHAPTER 2A**

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I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of my direct testimony is to describe San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) Information Technology (IT) department budget request to support its demand response programs (DR) for 2023.¹ This direct testimony is being submitted in support of SDG&E's request for bridge funding for 2023.²

II. SDG&E'S 2023 IT BUDGET

SDG&E's request for the 2023 IT budget supporting its utility-run portfolio of demand response programs and Electric Rule 32 is \$1,879,865. The proposed budget is based on the expected scope and capabilities needed to integrate, manage, and operate SDG&E's complete portfolio of demand response programs effectively and centrally going forward. The following table shows this budget for 2023:

Table EK-1: Information Technology Budget Proposal 2023

	2023
IOU DR	\$1,072,579
R32	\$807,286
TOTAL	\$1,879,865

SDG&E tracks costs separately for its demand response activities related to its DR portfolio and those costs that are directly related to SDG&E's support of Electric Rule 32. The latter costs were originally separated in different proceedings and SDG&E believes it is appropriate to continue to track these costs separately. Decisions, such as D. 16-03-008, granted

¹ Note that this chapter includes requests for budget and activity that are specifically under the IT department's scope and responsibility. This chapter does not include other systems support work that is carried out by other departments, which are under the preview of Mr. E Bradford Mantz and are found in his testimony, Chapter 1A.

² See Prepared Direct Testimony of Ellen Kutzler Chapter 2B for my direct testimony supporting SDG&E's IT department budget request to support its demand response programs for 2024-2027.

1 funds that were separate from the IOU's DR portfolio. Further, Rule 32 work should not be
2 included in the portfolio cost effectiveness calculations. Lastly, Rule 32 costs are recovered
3 through its own memorandum account (DRPMA) which differs from the SDG&E's DR portfolio
4 cost recovery.

5 The costs set forth in Table EK-1 take into consideration some fundamental and high-
6 level assumptions based on the utility demand response program proposals contained in the
7 testimony of E Bradford Mantz (Chapter 1A). The IT department, on behalf of SDG&E's
8 Customer Programs department, performs tasks such as:

- 9 • Integration and maintenance between demand response applications and
10 other SDG&E applications and CAISO applications;
- 11 • Application change requests will be needed to support portfolio program
12 changes as proposed in the testimony of E Bradford Mantz or remediation
13 of problems reported to IT by Customer Programs;
- 14 • \$418,000 is reserved for a data conversion in 2023 for demand response
15 programs to improve aggregator and customer experience while reducing
16 manual work by the Customer Programs department.
- 17 • IT system outage support (planned & unplanned);
- 18 • Client communications & coordination.
- 19 • Collaboration with other IT departments (such as when other SDG&E
20 enterprise-wide systems upon which the DR systems rely are changed, or
21 otherwise require changes to the DR portfolio supporting systems);
- 22 • Small enhancements requested by Customer Programs; and
- 23 • Quality Assurance testing is associated with all these tasks.

24 **III. CONCLUSION**

25 This concludes my prepared direct testimony.

1 **IV. WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS**

2 My name is L. Ellen Kutzler, and my business address is 8690 Balboa Ave., Suite 10,
3 San Diego, California 92123. I am the Group Product Owner for SDG&E Customer Support.

4 My current responsibilities include overall management of several applications, including
5 those supporting Demand Response and the Customer Contact Center. These responsibilities
6 include interacting with the Customer Programs and Customer Care departments to understand
7 their needs to assist in supplying automated solutions, oversight of technical resources,
8 collaboration with other IT departments, and prioritization of work.

9 I have been employed by SDG&E since 2002. I graduated from The Ohio State
10 University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with emphasis in computer
11 science and from San Diego State University with a Master's in Business Administration.

12 I have previously testified before the Commission.