

# **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY**

## **NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO INCREASE PROGRAM COSTS**

### **APPLICATION NO. 02-07-001**

On July 1, 2002, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) filed an Application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) seeking approval of its Low Income Energy Efficiency (LIEE) and California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) programs and budgets for Program Year 2003. SoCalGas filed this application in response to an order from the CPUC. The LIEE and CARE programs are CPUC-authorized activities designed to assist low-income customers with their energy bills. The LIEE program provides direct weatherization and energy efficiency services. The CARE program provides a 20% discount to income-qualified households on their gas bills.

If the Commission approves the 2003 LIEE and CARE program budget, SoCalGas will adjust its Public Purpose Program (PPP) surcharge to reflect the authorization of increased costs. While SoCalGas' proposed 2003 CARE program budget will increase from current levels, it is only one component of the PPP surcharge that will be updated effective January 1, 2003. In the fourth quarter of 2002, the PPP surcharge will be established for 2003 based on the most current estimates at that time. Based on current estimates, this year-end adjustment would result in an average 37-cent or 1.04% decrease driven primarily from an overcollection projected in the CARE account at year-end 2002 to the total rates of non-CARE residential customers.

### **THE CPUC MAY HOLD EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS**

Before acting on SoCalGas' application, the CPUC may hold evidentiary hearings. At the hearings, the Commission will accept testimony from SoCalGas, the Commission's Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) and other interested parties who may offer proposals that differ from those applied for by SoCalGas. After considering all evidence presented, the CPUC will issue a decision on this application. The actual rates approved by the CPUC may be different from those proposed in this notice.

### **EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

If you wish to participate in the evidentiary hearings and need advice on how to do so, or if you would like to submit written comments, please write to the CPUC's Public Advisor at the following address: Public Advisor, California Public Utilities Commission, 320 West Fourth Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, CA 90013 or by e-mail to [public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov). Make sure that you specify the application number, (A.) 02-07-001 in your letter. The Public Advisor will give your comments to the Commissioners and the Administrative Law Judge assigned to the case. Your comments will become part of the formal correspondence file in this proceeding. Also, please indicate in your letter if you would like a response. Otherwise, none will be sent.

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### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

You may obtain a copy of the application and related exhibits by writing to: Margee Moore, Regulatory Case Manager for Southern California Gas Company, 8315 Century Park Court CP 22D, San Diego, CA 92123-1550.

You may also view a copy of this application at the following address:

California Public Utilities Commission  
320 West Fourth Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Copies of this notice will be available for viewing and printing on the SoCalGas Web site at [www.socalgas.com/regulatory](http://www.socalgas.com/regulatory).



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