

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 23, 2009

**Advice Letter 3990**

Ronald van der Leeden, Director  
Rates, Revenues and Tariffs  
8330 Century Park Court CP32C  
San Diego, CA 92123-1548

**Subject: May 2009 Buy-Back Rates**

Dear Mr. van der Leeden:

Advice Letter 3990 is effective May 31, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie A. Fitch".

Julie A. Fitch, Director  
Energy Division



**Ronald van der Leeden**  
Director  
Rates, Revenues and Tariffs

555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6  
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Tel: 213.244.2009  
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*rvanderleeden@semprautilities.com*

May 29, 2009

Advice No. 3990  
(U 904 G)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: May 2009 Buy-Back Rates**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) hereby submits for filing revisions to its tariff schedules, applicable throughout its service territory, as shown on Attachment B.

**Purpose**

This routine monthly filing updates the Buy-Back Rates in Schedule No. G-IMB for May 2009.

**Background**

As authorized in Schedule No. G-IMB - Transportation Imbalance Service, the Buy-Back Rates are established effective the last day of each month.

The Buy-Back Rates will be the lower of 1) the lowest incremental cost of gas purchased by Utility during the month the imbalance was incurred; or 2) 50% of the applicable Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, set forth in Schedule No. G-CP, during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

**Information**

During the month of May, 50% of the Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, is lower than the lowest incremental cost of gas. Therefore, the Buy-Back Rates for May 2009 are being set accordingly. The work paper showing details of the calculation of these rates is incorporated herein as Attachment C.

The new rates are reflected in the attached Schedule No. G-IMB tariff sheets.

Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the May 2009 Standby Procurement Charges will be filed by separate advice letter at least one day prior to June 25, 2009.

**Protest**

Anyone may protest this Advice Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be submitted expeditiously. The protest must be made in writing and must be received within 20 days of the date this Advice Letter. There is no restriction on who may file a protest. The address for mailing or delivering a protest to the Commission is:

CPUC Energy Division  
Attention: Tariff Unit  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Copies of the protest should also be sent via e-mail to the attention of both Maria Salinas ([mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)) and to Honesto Gatchalian ([jnj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jnj@cpuc.ca.gov)) of the Energy Division. A copy of the protest should also be sent via both e-mail and facsimile to the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission.

Attn: Sid Newsom  
Tariff Manager - GT14D6  
555 West Fifth Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011  
Facsimile No. (213) 244-4957  
E-mail: [snewsom@SempraUtilities.com](mailto:snewsom@SempraUtilities.com)

**Effective Date**

SoCalGas believes this Advice Letter is subject to Energy Division disposition and should be classified as Tier 1 (effective pending disposition) pursuant to GO 96-B and therefore respectfully requests that the tariff sheets filed herein be made effective May 31, 2009, to coincide with SoCalGas' Adjusted Core Procurement Charge filing in Advice No. 3985, dated April 30, 2009.

**Notice**

A copy of this advice letter is being sent to the parties listed on Attachment A.

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Ronald van der Leeden  
Director  
Rates, Revenues and Tariffs

Attachments

# CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY (U 904-G)**

Utility type:

ELC     GAS  
 PLC     HEAT     WATER

Contact Person: Sid Newsom

Phone #: (213) 244-2846

E-mail: snewsom@semprautilities.com

### EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric    GAS = Gas  
PLC = Pipeline    HEAT = Heat    WATER = Water

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 3990

Subject of AL: May 2009 Buy-Back Rates

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Preliminary Statement, Core, Compliance

AL filing type:  Monthly     Quarterly     Annual     One-Time     Other

AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:  
D89-11-060 and D90-09-089, et al.

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL No

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Does AL request confidential treatment? If so, provide explanation: No

Resolution Required?     Yes     No

Tier Designation:     1     2     3

Requested effective date: May 31, 2009

No. of tariff sheets: 5

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): None

Estimated system average rate effect (%): None

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected: Preliminary Statement, Part II; Schedule G-IMB; and TOCs

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: 3984 and 3989

**Protests and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:**

**CPUC, Energy Division**

**Attention: Tariff Unit**

**505 Van Ness Ave.**

**San Francisco, CA 94102**

**mas@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov**

**Southern California Gas Company**

**Attention: Sid Newsom**

**555 West Fifth Street, GT14D6**

**Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011**

**snewsom@semprautilities.com**

<sup>1</sup> Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

**ATTACHMENT A**

**Advice No. 3990**

**(See Attached Service List)**

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ATTACHMENT B  
Advice No. 3990

| Cal. P.U.C.<br>Sheet No. | Title of Sheet  | Cancelling Cal.<br>P.U.C. Sheet No. |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Revised 44721-G          | PRELIMINARY STATEMENT, PART II,<br>SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES, Sheet<br>7 | Revised 44717-G                     |
| Revised 44722-G          | Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION<br>IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 2            | Revised 44718-G                     |
| Revised 44723-G          | Schedule No. G-IMB, TRANSPORTATION<br>IMBALANCE SERVICE, Sheet 3            | Revised 44648-G                     |
| Revised 44724-G          | TABLE OF CONTENTS   | Revised 44719-G                     |
| Revised 44725-G          | TABLE OF CONTENTS   | Revised 44720-G                     |

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT  
 PART II  
SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES

Sheet 7

(Continued)

IMBALANCE SERVICE

Standby Procurement Charge

Core Retail Standby (SP-CR)

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 50.963¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 62.288¢ | T |
| May 2009 .....   | TBD*    | T |

Noncore Retail Standby (SP-NR)

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 51.041¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 62.366¢ | T |
| May 2009 .....   | TBD*    | T |

Wholesale Standby (SP-W)

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 51.041¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 62.366¢ | T |
| May 2009 .....   | TBD*    | T |

\*To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the May Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by a separate advice letter at least one day prior to June 25.

Buy-Back Rate

Core and Noncore Retail (BR-R)

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 17.506¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 15.169¢ | R |
| May 2009 .....   | 13.369¢ | R |

Wholesale (BR-W)

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 17.465¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 15.132¢ | R |
| May 2009 .....   | 13.337¢ | R |

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3990  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 746 et al.

ISSUED BY  
**Lee Schavrien**  
 Senior Vice President  
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED May 29, 2009  
 EFFECTIVE May 31, 2009  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 2

(Continued)

RATES

Imbalance quantities remaining at the end of the designated imbalance trading period and which are outside of the 10% tolerance band will be billed at the Standby Procurement Charge or purchased by the Utility at the Buy-Back Rate. Any Standby Procurement Charge or purchases at the Buy-Back Rate of core imbalances created by the Utility Gas Procurement Department will be managed within the Utility System Operator's Operational Hub Services. Such core imbalances will be disposed of, with the net revenues from the core imbalance charges flowing back through the Noncore Fixed Cost Account (NFCA).

Standby Procurement Charge

This charge is applied to customer's cumulative negative transportation imbalance (confirmed transportation deliveries less actual usage) exceeding the 10 percent tolerance band. The Standby Procurement Charge is posted at least one day in advance of each corresponding imbalance trading period for noncore/wholesale and core transport agents (CTAs). It is calculated at 150% of the highest daily border price index at the Southern California border beginning on the first day of the month that the imbalance is created to five days prior to the start of each corresponding imbalance trading period plus a Brokerage Fee of 0.266¢ per therm for noncore retail service and all wholesale service, and 0.188¢ per therm for core retail service. The highest daily border price index is an average of the highest prices from "NGI's Daily Gas Price Index – Southern California Border Average" and "Gas Daily's Daily Price Survey – SoCal gas, Midpoint."

Core Retail Service:

SP-CR Standby Rate, per therm

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 50.963¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 62.288¢ |   |
| May 2009 .....   | TBD*    | T |

Noncore Retail Service:

SP-NR Standby Rate, per therm

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 51.041¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 62.366¢ |   |
| May 2009 .....   | TBD*    | T |

Wholesale Service:

SP-W Standby Rate per therm

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 51.041¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 62.366¢ |   |
| May 2009 .....   | TBD*    | T |

\*To be determined (TBD). Pursuant to Resolution G-3316, the May Standby Procurement Charge will be filed by a separate advice letter at least one day prior to June 25.

(Continued)

Schedule No. G-IMB  
TRANSPORTATION IMBALANCE SERVICE

Sheet 3

(Continued)

RATES (Continued)

Buy-Back Rate

This rate is applied to customer's cumulative positive transportation imbalance (confirmed transportation deliveries less actual usage) exceeding the 10 percent tolerance band. The Buy-Back Rate is established effective the last day of each month and will be the lower of 1) the lowest incremental cost of gas purchased by the Utility during the month the excess imbalance was incurred; or 2) 50% of the applicable Adjusted Core Procurement Charge, G-CPA, set forth in Schedule No. G-CP, during the month such excess imbalance was incurred.

Retail Service:

BR-R Buy-Back Rate, per therm

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 17.506¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 15.169¢ |   |
| May 2009 .....   | 13.369¢ | R |

Wholesale Service:

BR-W Buy-Back Rate, per therm

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| March 2009 ..... | 17.465¢ | D |
| April 2009 ..... | 15.132¢ |   |
| May 2009 .....   | 13.337¢ | R |

If the incremental cost of gas is the basis for the Standby or Buy-Back Rates, the Utility will provide CPUC the necessary work papers for such cost. Such documentation will be provided under confidentiality pursuant to General Order 66-C and Section 583 of the Public Utilities Code.

Daily Balancing Standby Rates

During November through March customers are required to deliver (flowing supply and firm storage withdrawal) at a minimum of 50% of burn during a five-day period. Volumes not in compliance with the 50% five-day minimum delivery requirement are purchased at the daily standby rate. The daily balancing standby rate is calculated as 150% of the highest Southern California Border price during the five-day period as published in "NGI's Daily Gas Price Index" including authorized franchise fees and, for retail customers, uncollectible expenses (F&U), and an authorized brokerage fee. Authorized F&U will not be added to any daily stand-by balancing charge for the Utility Gas Procurement Department to the extent it is collected elsewhere.

(Continued)

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| G-IMB  | Transportation Imbalance Service .....  | 43318-G,44722-G,44723-G,43321-G<br>43322-G,43323-G,43324-G,43325-G,43326-G  |
| G-OSD  | Off-System Delivery Service .....   | 42257-G,42258-G,42259-G   |
| G-RPA  | Receipt Point Access .....  | 42260-G,42261-G,42262-G,42263-G,42264-G,42265-G<br>43327-G,43328-G,43329-G,43330-G,43331-G,43332-G<br>43333-G,43334-G,43335-G,43336-G |
| G-POOL | Pooling Service .....   | 42276-G,42277-G, 42278-G  |
| G-BSS  | Basic Storage Service .....   | 43337-G,32701-G,43047-G,43048-G<br>43049-G,43050-G,43051-G  |
| G-AUC  | Auction Storage Service .....   | 43338-G,32709-G,32710-G,32711-G<br>32712-G,32713-G,36314-G,32715-G  |
| G-LTS  | Long-Term Storage Service .....   | 32716-G,32717-G,32718-G,43052-G<br>43053-G,43054-G,43055-G  |
| G-TBS  | Transaction Based Storage Service .....   | 43339-G,43340-G,43341-G,43342-G<br>43343-G,43344-G  |
| G-CBS  | UDC Consolidated Billing Service .....  | 34071-G,34072-G,34073-G,33095-G   |
| G-SMT  | Secondary Market Transactions<br>of Storage Rights .....  | 43345-G,43346-G,43347-G   |
| G-PPPS | Public Purpose Programs Surcharge .....   | 44042-G,39517-G,39518-G   |
| G-SRF  | Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission<br>Utilities Reimbursement Account .....  | 42000-G   |
| G-MHPS | Surcharge to Fund Public Utilities Commission<br>Master Metered Mobile Home Park Gas Safety<br>Inspection and Enforcement Program ..... | 32828-G   |
| G-MSUR | Transported Gas Municipal Surcharge .....   | 43777-G,25006-G   |
| GIT    | Interruptible Interutility Transportation .....   | 24567-G,24568-G   |
| GLT    | Long-Term Transportation of Customer-Owned<br>Natural Gas .....   | 24569-G,24570-G,42279-G   |
| GLT-1  | Transportation of Customer-Owned Natural Gas .....  | 24572-G,24573-G,24574-G<br>24575-G,24576-G,24577-G  |
| GLT-2  | Transportation of Customer-Owned Natural Gas .....  | 24578-G,24579-G,24580-G<br>24581-G,24582-G,24583-G  |
| G-PAL  | Operational Hub Services .....  | 43348-G,43349-G,43350-G   |
| G-FIG  | Fiber Optic Cable in Gas Pipelines .....  | 40828-G,40829-G,40830-G,40831-G<br>40832-G,40833-G,40834-G,40835-G,40836-G,40837-G  |

T

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The following listed sheets contain all effective Schedules of Rates and Rules affecting service and information relating thereto in effect on the date indicated thereon.

| <u>GENERAL</u>   | <u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>            |
|--|---|
| Title Page .....   | 40864-G                                 |
| Table of Contents--General and Preliminary Statement .....     | 44725-G,44195-G,44266-G                 |
| Table of Contents--Service Area Maps and Descriptions .....    | 41970-G                                 |
| Table of Contents--Rate Schedules .....                        | 44703-G,44704-G,44724-G                 |
| Table of Contents--List of Cities and Communities Served ..... | 40149.1-G                               |
| Table of Contents--List of Contracts and Deviations .....      | 40149.1-G                               |
| Table of Contents--Rules .....                                 | 43402-G,43403-G                         |
| Table of Contents--Sample Forms .....                          | 44440-G,44339-G,44340-G,44441-G,44442-G |

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Part I General Service Information .....                         | 37917-G,24332-G,24333-G,24334-G,24749-G  |
| Part II Summary of Rates and Charges .....                       | 44683-G,44684-G,44685-G,44686-G,44220-G,44687-G<br>44721-G,43595-G,43596-G,44041-G,44656-G,44657-G,44224-G,44225-G |
| Part III Cost Allocation and Revenue Requirement .....           | 27024-G,37920-G,27026-G,27027-G,44226-G  |
| Part IV Income Tax Component of Contributions and Advances ..... | 44448-G,24354-G  |
| Part V Balancing Accounts  |  |
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| Purchased Gas Account (PGA) .....                                | 44460-G  |
| Core Fixed Cost Account (CFCA) .....                             | 42242-G  |
| Noncore Fixed Cost Account (NFCA) .....                          | 44461-G  |
| Enhanced Oil Recovery Account (EORA) .....                       | 42244-G  |
| Noncore Storage Balancing Account (NSBA) .....                   | 44191-G,44192-G  |
| California Alternate Rates for Energy Account (CAREA) .....      | 40872-G,40873-G  |
| Brokerage Fee Account (BFA) .....                                | 40874-G  |
| Hazardous Substance Cost Recovery Account (HSCRA) .....          | 40875-G, 40876-G,40877-G   |
| Natural Gas Vehicle Account (NGVA) .....                         | 43688-G,40879-G  |
| El Paso Turned-Back Capacity Balancing Account (EPTCBA) .....    | 40880-G  |
| Gas Cost Rewards and Penalties Account (GCRPA) .....             | 40881-G  |
| Pension Balancing Account (PBA) .....                            | 43689-G,43690-G  |

(Continued)

(TO BE INSERTED BY UTILITY)  
 ADVICE LETTER NO. 3990  
 DECISION NO. 89-11-060 & 90-09-089,  
 et al.

ISSUED BY  
**Lee Schavrien**  
 Senior Vice President  
 Regulatory Affairs

(TO BE INSERTED BY CAL. PUC)  
 DATE FILED May 29, 2009  
 EFFECTIVE May 31, 2009  
 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHMENT C**

**ADVICE NO. 3990**

**RATE CALCULATION WORKPAPER  
BASED ON ADVICE NO. 3985  
ADJUSTED CORE PROCUREMENT CHARGE FILING  
EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2009**

**Adjusted Core Procurement Charge:**

**Retail G-CPA: 26.737 ¢ per therm**  
( WACOG: 26.283 ¢ + Franchise and Uncollectibles:  
0.454 ¢ or [ 1.7262% \* 26.283 ¢ ] )

**Wholesale G-CPA: 26.673 ¢ per therm**  
( WACOG: 26.283 ¢ + Franchise:  
0.390 ¢ or [ 1.4837% \* 26.283 ¢ ] )

**GIMB Buy-Back Rates**

**BR-R = 50% of Retail G-CPA:**  
50% \* 26.737 cents/therm = **13.369** cents/therm

**BR-W = 50% of Wholesale G-CPA:**  
50% \* 26.673 cents/therm = **13.337** cents/therm