

SIERRA CLUB-UCS DATA REQUEST
SIERRA CLUB-SCG-08
SOCALGAS 2019 GRC – A.17-10-008
SOCALGAS RESPONSE
DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 2018
DATE RESPONDED: MAY 9, 2018

1. In its response to Question 3 of DR Sierra Club/UCS-SCG-05, SoCal Gas states that the Decarbonizing Pipeline Gas report was “categorized as GRC ratepayer funded operations and maintenance (O&M) expense.”

a. Please explain why operations and maintenance funds were used to pay for this report.

b. Please provide the criteria used by SoCalGas to determine if an expenditure qualifies as an appropriate operations and maintenance expense.

SoCalGas Response 1:

- a. In general, costs resulting in new additions of plant, property and equipment that have a useful life of more than one year are to be capitalized. All other costs incurred are charged to O&M as incurred.
- b. SoCalGas objects to this request on the grounds that that the term “criteria” is vague and ambiguous. Subject to and without waiving the foregoing objection, SoCalGas responds as follows: see the response to Question 1.a. above.

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2. With respect to SoCalGas' request for funding to construct new and upgrade existing natural gas vehicle fueling stations for use by SoCalGas fleet vehicles, discussed in Exh. SCG-23:

- a. Please provide, in dollars per MMBtu, the cost passed on to ratepayers for the natural gas consumed at these fueling stations to fuel SoCalGas' vehicle fleet.

- b. What is the basis for this cost?

SoCalGas Response 2:

SoCalGas objects to the request pursuant to Rule 10.1 of the Commission's Rule of Practice and Procedure to the extent it seeks information that is neither relevant to the subject matter involved in this proceeding nor is reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. SoCalGas objects to this request on the grounds that it is vague and ambiguous with respect to the term "cost passed on to ratepayers for the natural gas consumed at these fueling stations to fuel SoCalGas' vehicle fleet" as no time period is specified. Subject to and without waiving these objections, SoCalGas responds as follows:

CNG costs used to fuel Fleet vehicles are recoverable as company use fuel through the utilities gas fixed cost balancing accounts. For SoCalGas, CNG costs are priced using SoCalGas' actual portfolio weighted average cost of gas (WACOG) rate for the month the fuel was consumed.

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3. In its response to Question 13 of DR Sierra Club/UCS-SCG-03, SoCalGas provided information on RD&D expenditures to outside parties (institutions, groups, and organizations that are not part of SoCalGas). Please describe the selection process for choosing and awarding R&D funding to outside parties.

SoCalGas Response 3:

Please refer to SoCalGas' response to the data request SIERRA CLUB-SCG-05, Question 4.

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4. On April 20, 2018 SoCalGas Regional Vice President George Minter published an opinion piece in the Sacramento Bee titled, “Most of us can’t afford to go all-electric. Here’s a fairer way to curb climate change,” which is available at <http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/california-forum/article209189564.html>. Were any costs associated with preparation of this opinion piece or its placement with the newspaper borne by ratepayers? If so, please provide the category of ratepayer funded cost used to prepare the article.

SoCalGas Response 4:

Yes. The cost of preparing the article was categorized as GRC ratepayer funded operations and maintenance (O&M) expense. See also the response to Question 1.a. above.