Company: $\quad$ Southern California Gas Company (U 904 G)
Proceeding: 2024 General Rate Case
Application: A.22-05-015
Exhibit: SCG-32-2R

SECOND REVISED
PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

DANE A. WATSON
(DEPRECIATION)

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

November 2022

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## SUMMARY

- I sponsor depreciation rates used in the calculation of the Test Year (TY) 2024 depreciation and amortization expense recommendations of the Gas Plant depreciation area for Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas or Company). The purpose of depreciation and amortization expense is to provide for recovery of the original cost of plant (less estimated net salvage) over the used and useful life of the property by means of an equitable plan of charges to operating expenses.
- Tangible assets, usually referred to as plant, property, and equipment, are depreciated. Intangible assets, such as software, land rights and rights-of-way, are amortized. The technical definition for depreciation and related terms is provided in Section II of my testimony.
- The cumulative depreciation costs recovered through depreciation rates is captured in the depreciation reserve. The reserve represents the return of the investment and provides an ongoing record of one of the components in calculating rate base. SoCalGas' rate base proposals are sponsored in Exhibit (Ex.) SCG-31, direct testimony of Patrick D. Moersen.
- SoCalGas is requesting the adoption of proposed service lives and net salvage rates that were developed in accordance with the California Public Utilities Commission Standard Practice U-4.


# SECOND REVISED PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DANE A. WATSON <br> (DEPRECIATION) 

## I. INTRODUCTION

## A. Summary of Proposals

I sponsor the Test Year (TY) 2024 depreciation parameters, and the resultant depreciation and amortization expense for Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas or Company). As shown in Figure DW-1, the Gas Plant depreciation and amortization expense for Recorded Year 2021 is $\$ 703^{1}$ million and the expense requested for TY 2024 is $\$ 970$ million. Beginning in TY 2024, the requested expense is calculated using new depreciation rates resulting from an updated depreciation study.

# Figure DW-1 <br> Southern California Gas Company Summary of Depreciation Expense and Amortization (Thousands of Dollars) 

| Line <br> No. | Description |  | 2021 corded 2021\$) |  | 2024 <br> st Year <br> 2024\$) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Depreciation Expense |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | Underground Storage | \$ | 56,875 | \$ 88,168 |  |
| 2 | Transmission |  | 99,339 |  | 157,529 |
| 3 | Distribution |  | 334,446 |  | 458,243 |
| 4 | General Plant |  | 212,297 |  | 266,444 |
| 5 | Total Depreciation \& Amortization Expense | \$ | 702,956 |  | 970,383 |

## B. Organization of Testimony

My testimony is organized as follows:

1. In Section II, I explain the definitions of depreciation and the type of property analyzed in the Depreciation Rate Study (Depreciation Study), attached to my testimony as Attachment C, and the property included or excluded from the Depreciation Study.
2. In Section III, I describe the four-phase approach I used to conduct the Depreciation Study; and the depreciation system (straight-line method, Broad

[^0] Reconciliation is provided in Ex. SCG-32-WP.
(Average) Life Group (ALG) procedure, remaining-life technique) used for the Depreciation Study. Next, I explain how depreciation rates are determined. This portion of my Direct Testimony also explains and fully discusses each portion of the depreciation rate formula that is supported by my Depreciation Study. Section III is broken into the following subparts, which align with the components of the depreciation rate formula that the Depreciation Study supports: (A) Depreciation Study Process; (B) Methodology; and (C) Determination of the Depreciation Rates
3. Section IV, discusses the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC or Commission) approach to gradualism and how I recommend it be applied in this depreciation study.
4. Section V, discusses the specific changes in life and net salvage parameters by plant account.
5. Section VI, is the conclusion which describes the change in depreciation expense as a result of the proposed depreciation rates. Specifically, I explain why SoCalGas's depreciation expense is increasing. Note that the 2021 depreciation expense shown in this section is different from that shown in Figure DW-1, above due to the depreciation expense in this section being calculated at December 31, 2021 for comparison purposes instead of the actual recorded depreciation expense during 2021.
6. Section VII, details my witness qualifications.

## II. DEPRECIATION DEFINITIONS AND APPROACH

The term "depreciation," as used in my testimony is used in the accounting sense - that is, a system of accounting that distributes the cost of assets, less net salvage (if any), over the estimated useful life of the assets in a systematic and rational manner. Depreciation is a process of allocation, not valuation. In other words, depreciation expense allocates the cost of the asset, including any estimated net salvage necessary to remove the asset, as an ongoing cost of operations over the economic life of the asset. However, the amount allocated to any one accounting period does not necessarily represent an actual loss or decrease in value that will occur during that particular period. The Company accrues depreciation on the basis of the original cost of all depreciable property included in each functional property group. On
retirement, the full cost of depreciable property, less the net salvage value, is charged to the depreciation reserve.

A depreciation study is a comprehensive analysis of the property characteristics of a utility's assets. A depreciation study is specific to each utility and that utility's assets in order to determine the appropriate annual depreciation accrual rate for each asset account. The primary factors that influence the depreciation rate for an account are the remaining investment to be recovered in the account, the depreciable life of the account, and the net salvage for the account.

The key functions of the Depreciation Study are to: (1) determine the average service lives for Underground Storage, Transmission, Distribution, General Plant; (2) determine the net salvage percentages for Underground Storage, Transmission, Distribution, General Plant; (3) calculate the theoretical reserve of each property group based on the remaining life of the group, the total life of the group and the estimated net salvage; and (4) develop depreciation rates, including the annual depreciation accrual.

After following all these steps, I conclude that the depreciation rates developed for the Company's Gas Utility Plant accounts as set forth in the Depreciation Study encompass the best and most recent information for calculating the Company's depreciation and amortization expense associated with these assets. Based on life and net salvage parameters developed for actual plant asset balances and depreciation reserves as of December 31, 2021, the depreciation rates in the Depreciation Study will result in an increase in the annual depreciation expense for SoCalGas's utility assets of approximately $\$ 65.3$ million per year. I calculated that amount by comparing the depreciation expense based on the current depreciation rates to the depreciation expense based on the proposed depreciation rates applied to plant balances as of December 31, 2021. These rates as approved by the CPUC will be implemented in 2024 at the conclusion of this proceeding. This comparison is shown in detail in Appendix B of the Depreciation Study and is summarized on page 2 of that Study.

## III. DEPRECIATION STUDY

In this section of my Direct Testimony, I testify to: the property included or excluded from the Depreciation Study; the four-phase approach I used to conduct the Depreciation Study; and the depreciation system (straight-line method, ALG procedure, remaining-life technique) used for the study. For gas property, there are four general classes, or functional groups, of depreciable property that are analyzed in the study: (1) Underground Storage Plant; (2)

Transmission Plant; (3) Distribution Plant; and (4) General Property.

## A. Depreciation Study Process

As noted, with the assistance of my staff, I conducted the Depreciation Study in four phases, as described at pages 12-13 of the Depreciation Study. The four phases are data collection, analysis, evaluation, and calculation. During the initial phase of the Depreciation Study, I collected historical data through December 31, 2020 to be used in the analysis. After the data was assembled, I performed analyses to determine the lives and net salvage percentages for the different property groups being studied. As part of this process, I conferred with field personnel, engineers, and managers responsible for the installation, operation, and removal of the assets to gain their input into the operation, maintenance, and salvage of the assets. I then evaluated the information obtained from those Company representatives, combined with the Depreciation Study results, to determine how the results of the historical asset activity analysis, in conjunction with the Company's expected future plans, should be applied. In the final phase, I calculated depreciation rates and the theoretical reserve.

The authoritative treatise, DEPRECIATION SYSTEMS, documents the following stages of a depreciation study: statistical analysis, evaluation of statistical analysis, discussions with management, forecast assumptions, and document recommendations. ${ }^{2}$ My approach mirrors this process, and following this approach ensures that Alliance comprehensively and thoroughly projects the future expectations for the Company's assets.

Figure DW-2 demonstrates the four phases of the Depreciation Study at page 14.

[^1]FIGURE DW-2
Stages to Develop a Depreciation Study


[^2]*Although not specific ally noted, the mathematical analysis may need some level of input from other sources (for example, to determine analysis bands for life and adjustments to data used in all analy sis).

I used the straight-line (method), ALG (procedure), remaining-life (technique) depreciation method for this Depreciation Study, as discussed at page 3. This is the same methodology used by the Company in past GRCs and is consistent with CPUC Standard Practice U-4.

A survivor curve represents the percentage of property remaining in service at various age intervals. The Iowa Curves, the predominantly used survivor curve method in the utility industry, are the result of an extensive investigation of life characteristics of physical property made at Iowa State College Engineering Experiment Station in the first half of the twentieth century. Through common usage, revalidation, and regulatory acceptance, the Iowa Curves have become a descriptive standard for the life characteristics of industrial property. An example of an Iowa Curve is shown below in Figure DW-3. For more detail on survivor curves, see pages 49 of the Depreciation Study.


Most property groups can be closely fitted to one Iowa Curve with a unique average service life. By blending of judgment concerning current conditions and future trends with the matching of historical data, the depreciation analyst can make an informed selection of an account's average service life and survivor curve. When selecting an average service life, the analyst also selects a survivor curve. When recommending depreciation rates, the depreciation analyst selects the average service life and survivor curve that are used to compute remaining life, annual depreciation accrual, and annual depreciation accrual rate.

Historical lives and net salvage data are not the only factors to consider in making life and net salvage recommendations. It is crucial to incorporate future trends, changes in equipment, and Company-specific operational information before finally making life and net salvage recommendations. Once all the calculations and data are prepared, I take into account my judgment, Company expectations, and trends to determine the appropriate net salvage percentages. A summary of the proposed net salvage percentages is shown in Attachment $B$ of
this testimony.
For instance, if most of the dollars in an account are associated with assets that have projected lives between 20 and 40 years, an overall life of 60 years for that account would not be reasonable. This is true even if a particular mathematical curve match mechanically produces a 60-year overall life. A statistical analysis may suggest a longer life because there may be insufficient retirement data (i.e., the full life cycle of assets is not yet visible in the mathematical calculations $)^{3}$ or because there have been recent changes in technology or changes in how the assets are operated that are not adequately reflected in the statistical results. While the results of the calculations themselves may seem accurate to someone who is not aware of or ignores the actual life cycles exhibited, failure modes, and engineering expectations for the various assets in the account, the results are inaccurate because they do not reflect the real-life expectations of the assets in the account.

As noted above, the manner in which the Company currently uses its assets provides important indicators as to the expected service life of those assets and reveals flaws in generic statistical assumptions. The information was extracted from interviews with Company subject matter experts and is described in my study and accompanying workpapers.

As an example, if a Company expert suggests a life for a specific asset that is shorter or longer than I would expect from my experience, I conduct further investigation as to why they understand the life expectation to vary from what I would normally expect, conduct my own research of the asset as necessary, and use my judgment to determine how much weight to give the Company expert's feedback.

Accordingly, as I noted before, one must consider the operational information, the expectations across the country for similar assets in similar environments, and the statistical analysis to verify the reasonableness of the results. Information provided by Company personnel on the specific plant and equipment being studied is of critical importance in the depreciation study process to ensure the statistical analysis accurately reflects the expected service lives of the assets. In its 1996 edition of the publication Public Utility Depreciation Practices, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), specifically advises against strict reliance on historical data and curve fitting:

[^3]Depreciation analysts should avoid becoming ensnared in the historical life study and relying solely on mathematical solutions. The reason for making an historic life analysis is to develop a sufficient understanding of history in order to evaluate whether it is a reasonable predictor of the future. The importance of being aware of circumstances having direct bearing on the reason for making an historical life analysis cannot be understated.... The analyst should become familiar with the physical plant under study and its operating environment, including talking with the field people who use the equipment being studied. ${ }^{4}$

## B. Methodology

The methods used to calculate the mortality characteristics (i.e., service lives, retirement dispersions, and net salvage rates) and to calculate the straight-line remaining life depreciation rates are consistent with CPUC Standard Practice U-4.

## C. Determination of the Depreciation Rates

In this section of my Direct Testimony, I explain how depreciation rates are determined, and I identify the formula for depreciation rates. This portion of my Direct Testimony also explains and fully discusses each portion of the depreciation rate formula that is supported by the Depreciation Study. Section III is broken into the following subparts, which align with the components of the depreciation rate formula that the Depreciation Study supports: (A) Depreciation Study Process; (B) Methodology; (C) and Determination of the Depreciation Rates.

The formula to derive depreciation rates calculates annual depreciation accrual amounts for each group by dividing the original cost of the asset (gross plant), less allocated depreciation reserve, less estimated net salvage, by the group's respective remaining life. The resulting annual accrual amounts for all depreciable property within an account are accumulated, and the total is divided by the original cost (gross plant) of all depreciable property within the account to determine the annual accrual amount and the annual accrual rate. The Depreciation Study determines several pieces of the overall formula used to derive depreciation rates. The portions of the formula derived by the Depreciation Study are:

- Depreciation Reserve Balance: To calculate depreciation reserve, the Company provided me with the actual gross plant balance amounts and the actual depreciation reserve. I calculated the theoretical reserve that is used as a point of comparison to the book depreciation reserve balance.

[^4]- Net Salvage Amounts or Percentages: For Underground Storage, Transmission, Distribution and General Plant, I calculated the net salvage percentages reflected in the Depreciation Study. For these plant accounts, I calculated salvage and removal cost percentages by dividing the current cost of salvage or removal, as supported by the Depreciation Study, by the original installed cost of the retired asset.
- $\quad$ Remaining Life: The Depreciation Study supports the remaining life calculation by determining the appropriate average service lives and retirement survivor curve for each account within a functional group.
- Resulting Annual Depreciation Accrual and Depreciation Rates: As discussed above, I calculated the depreciation rates, and I then derived the annual accrual amounts from these rates. The computations of the annual depreciation rates and annual accrual amounts are shown in Appendix A of the Depreciation Study.

The May 2022 filing date for this case made it necessary to determine whether the depreciation study would be based on year end 2021 or year-end 2020 data. Given the short amount of time between year-end 2021 closing and the filing of this case, the Company and I determined it best to base the analytics on year end 2020 data to determine the proposed depreciation parameters for life and net salvage. That process was completed in late 2021. After the Company closed its accounting records for 2021 business, we updated the depreciation rate computations to reflect year end 2021 plant and accumulated depreciation balances.

Annual depreciation expense amounts for SoCalGas's depreciable accounts were calculated by the straight-line method, life-span procedure, and remaining-life technique. With this approach, remaining lives were calculated according to standard ALG group expectancy techniques, using the Iowa Curves noted in the calculation. For each plant account, the difference between the surviving investment, adjusted for estimated net salvage, and the allocated book depreciation reserve, was divided by the average remaining life to yield the annual depreciation expense. These calculations are shown in Appendix A to the Depreciation Study.

In a whole life representation, the annual accrual rate is computed by the following equation,

$$
\text { Annual Accrual Rate }=\frac{(100 \%-\text { Net Salvage Percent })}{\text { Average Service Life }}
$$

In the case of natural gas assets, each vintage within the group has a unique average service life and remaining life determined by computing the area under the Iowa Curve.

Use of the remaining life depreciation system adds a self-correcting mechanism, which accounts for any differences between theoretical and book depreciation reserve over the remaining life of the group. For each vintage,


Average Service Life $=\frac{\text { Area Under Survivor Curve }}{\text { Survivors at age zero }}$
With the straight line, remaining life, average life group system using Iowa Curves, composite remaining lives were calculated by computing a direct weighted average of each remaining life by vintage within the group. Within each group (plant account/unit), for each plant account, the difference between the surviving investment, adjusted for estimated net salvage, and the allocated book depreciation reserve, was divided by the composite remaining life to yield the annual depreciation expense as noted in this equation, where the net salvage percent represents future net salvage.

## Annual Depreciation Expense $=$ <br> Original Cost-Book Reserve - (Original Cost * Net Salvage \%) <br> Remaining Life

Within a group, the sum of the group annual depreciation expense amounts, as a percentage of the depreciable original cost investment summed, gives the annual depreciation rate as shown below:

## Annual Depreciation Rate $=$ <br> $\sum$ Annual Depreciation Expense <br> $\sum$ Original Cost

These calculations are shown in Appendix A of the Depreciation Study. The calculations of the theoretical depreciation reserve values and the corresponding remaining life calculations are shown in the workpapers.

The theoretical reserve represents the portion of a property group's cost that would have been accrued as depreciation reserve if current expectations were used throughout the life of the property group for future depreciation accruals. The theoretical reserve for the asset group serves as a point of comparison to the book reserve to determine if the unrecovered investment of the asset and its removal cost are over or under-accrued.

In the Depreciation Study, I computed theoretical reserves based on plant balances as of December 31, 2021. I calculated the theoretical reserve using a reserve model that relies on a prospective concept relating future retirement and accrual patterns for property, given current life and salvage estimates. More specifically, I determined the theoretical reserve of a property group from the estimated remaining life of the group, the total life of the group, and estimated net salvage. This computation for the straight-line, remaining-life theoretical reserve ratio, which I describe in more detail starting on page 11 of the Depreciation Study, involves multiplying the vintage balances within the property group by the theoretical reserve ratio for each vintage.

While discussed more fully in the Depreciation Study itself, net salvage is the difference between the gross salvage (what the asset was sold for) and the COR (cost to remove and dispose of the asset). If the COR exceeds gross salvage, net salvage is negative. Some plant assets can experience significant negative removal cost percentages due to the amount of removal cost and the timing of any capital additions versus the retirement. Salvage and removal cost percentages are calculated by dividing the current cost of salvage or removal by the original installed cost of the assets retired.

The Depreciation Study separately calculates the net salvage percentages for the Underground Storage, Transmission, Distribution, and General Plant accounts. To determine the appropriate net salvage percentages for each account, I started by using an industry-standard method that divides the current cost of salvage or removal by the original installed cost of the assets retired. I also applied judgment, however, to select a net salvage percentage that represents the future expectations for each account. To apply this judgment, I compiled historical salvage and removal data by functional group and account to determine values and trends in gross salvage and removal cost. As detailed in the Depreciation Study, for most accounts, data for retirements, gross salvage and COR covered the period from 2002-2020. I calculated moving averages with this data to remove timing differences between retirement and
salvage and removal cost; those moving averages are analyzed over periods varying from one to 10 years. These calculations are found in Appendix D of the Depreciation Study, along with a detailed history. The current and proposed net salvage percentages are shown in Appendix C to the Depreciation Study.

For the Depreciation Study, I analyzed all Underground Storage, Transmission, Distribution, and General Plant accounts using actuarial analysis (retirement rate method) to estimate the life of the property in each account where sufficient activity is available. In much the same manner as human mortality is analyzed by actuaries, depreciation analysts use models of property mortality characteristics that have been validated in research and empirical applications. Aged retirements are combined to develop retirements and property exposed to retirement for each age interval. And interval exposures (total property subject to retirement at the beginning of the age interval, regardless of vintage) and age interval retirements are calculated.

The complement of the ratio of interval retirements to interval exposures establishes a survivor ratio. The survivor ratio is the fraction of property surviving to the end of the selected age interval, given that it has survived to the beginning of that age interval. Survivor ratios for all of the available age intervals were chained by successive multiplications to establish a series of survivor factors, collectively known as an observed life table.

The observed life table shows the experienced mortality characteristic of the account and may be compared to standard mortality curves such as the Iowa Curves. Where data was available, accounts were analyzed using this method. Placement bands were used to illustrate the composite history over a specific era, and experience bands were used to focus on retirement history for all vintages during a set period.

The Depreciation Study report provides details regarding the life selection for each account. Graphs and other data supporting the proposed life estimate are provided in the "Determination of the Lives" section of the Depreciation Study. A summary comparison of the depreciable lives is shown in Attachment B attached to this testimony.

## IV. GRADUALISM

In this section of my testimony, I discuss how the Commission gradualism in rate setting's policy is impacting the Company. Specifically, in recent proceedings, the Commission has applied a principle of gradualism to depreciation rates in response to concerns about growing
cost burdens associated with increasing cost trends for negative net salvage. ${ }^{5}$ The Commission explained that:
[t]he principle of gradualism applies where there is a recognized need to revise estimated parameters, but where the change is allowed to occur incrementally over time rather than all at once. Applying gradualism thus limits the approved increase that would otherwise be warranted, all else being equal and mitigates the short-term impact of large changes in depreciation parameters. Also, it is advisable to be cautious in making large changes in estimates of service lives and net salvage for property that will be in service for many decades, as future experience may show the current estimates to be incorrect. ${ }^{6}$

The Commission gave specificity to this directive in D.14-08-032, instructing to "adopt no more than $25 \%$ of the estimated net [salvage] increase from current [net salvage] rates" ${ }^{\prime 7}$ a directive that was reiterated in D.15-11-021 ${ }^{8}$ and D.19-05-020. ${ }^{9}$ This Depreciation Study follows these directives in the selections for life and net salvage parameters for SoCalGas's depreciable and amortized assets.

Yet instead of gradualism being applied, in its 2019 GRC, SoCalGas was ordered to retain all depreciation rates and parameters from the 2016 GRC. ${ }^{10}$ Because of this, the Company is behind in the recovery of the removal cost for its investment in property, plant, and equipment. The gradualism principle only exacerbates this issue. Figure DW-4 below shows the change in life from 2012 to 2019 GRC for the Company's largest accounts, as measured by plant investment at December 31, 2020.

FIGURE DW-4
SoCal Gas Changes in Life Largest Accounts

| Acct | 2012 GRC <br> Life | 2019 GRC <br> Life | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G352- Wells | 29 | 49 | 20 |
| G354 Compressor Station Equipment | 45 | 41 | -4 |
| G367 Transmission Mains | 57 | 64 | 7 |

[^5]| Acct | 2012 GRC <br> Life | 2019 GRC <br> Life | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G376 Distribution Mains | 55 | 68 | 13 |
| G380 Services | 51 | 67 | 14 |

The life is extending for a number of the larger accounts. And the gradualism applied to net salvage is creating a shortfall in capital recovery for some accounts. The reality is that the Company is incurring much more negative net salvage than currently authorized. Figure DW-5 shows how approved net salvage has changed over the past two GRCs.

FIGURE DW-5
SoCal Gas Changes in Net Salvage Largest Accounts

| Acct | 2012 GRC Net <br> Salvage | 2019 GRC Net <br> Salvage | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G352- Wells | -45 | -70 | 25 |
| G354 Compressor Station Equipment | -5 | -15 | 10 |
| G367 Transmission Mains | -30 | -60 | 30 |
| G376 Distribution Mains | -55 | -80 | 25 |
| G380 Services | -95 | -115 | 20 |

Figures DW-6 through DW-10 show the actual negative net salvage incurred since 2011 as compared to the currently authorized net salvage.

SoCalGas Account 352 Net Salvage Experience 2011-2020

FIGURE DW-7
SoCalGas Account 354 Net Salvage Experience 2011-2020


Notably, Account 354 experienced a moderate amount of net salvage in prior periods. But indications in recent years are showing increasing negative net salvage. This is also true for the Company's largest accounts in Mains and Services.

FIGURE DW-8
SoCalGas Account 367 Net Salvage Experience 2011-2020


FIGURE DW-9
SoCalGas Account 376 Net Salvage Experience 2011-2020


FIGURE DW-10
SoCalGas Account 380 Net Salvage Experience 2011-2020


Given that SoCalGas' 2019 GRC decision continued the Company's previous depreciation rates ${ }^{11}$-combined with the gradualism principle-it is even more urgent that the Commission adopt these net salvage proposals in this Depreciation Study.

## V. RESULTS OF DEPRECIATION STUDY

The proposed life and curve dispersion and net salvage rates by account, grouped by functional class, are presented below. Documentation in support of these results is found in my workpapers, Exhibit SCG-32-WP. The service life and curve dispersion selections and estimated net salvage rates for each account were derived from statistical analyses of historical data, visual matching to Iowa curves, informed judgment, discussions with field personnel, and expectations about the future projection of life and dispersion curve and net salvage.

## A. Underground Storage Plant

Underground storage plant balance at December 31, 2021, is $\$ 1.680$ million, excluding $\$ 5$ million for land which is non-depreciable. The accumulated reserve is $\$ 213.5$ million.

11 D.19-09-051 at 623.

## 1. Account 350: Rights-of-Way

This account includes the cost of all interests in land on which underground storage lines, telephone poles, their associated lines, and like property used in connection with underground gas storage operations are located. Storage rights, recoverable oil, and rights-of-way are subaccounts within this account. Assets in this account are individually amortized over 40 years until fully amortized and will remain on the books until retired. Given that the assets this right of way rests upon will last as long as 50 years, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to a 50 -year amortization period. There is insufficient retirement data to analyze this account through actuarial analysis. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 50-year life with a Square (SQ) dispersion.

The current net salvage parameter for this account is 0 percent. These assets generally have no residual value. This Depreciation Study proposes to retain the existing net salvage parameter.

## 2. Account 351: Structures and Improvements

This account includes the cost of structures and various improvements in connection with underground storage plant. Compressor station structures and other structures are subaccounts of this account. The assets in this account consist of long-lived items such as buildings, structures, site prep, electrical, roads, and foundations, as well as shorter lived assets such as roofs, generators, fencings, lightings, fixtures, and other items. The current life/curve is 48 R1.5. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 10 years.

Operations personnel support a slight increase in the life of this account from the approved 48 years, as supported by this analysis. Actuarial analysis for this account also shows a slight increase in life after comparing analytics from multiple placement and experience bands. This Depreciation Study thus recommends increasing the average service life to 51 years and retaining the current R1.5 dispersion curve based on input from operations personnel and analytics from actuarial analysis. The observed life table from Company data is shown below in Figure DW-11 comparing the proposed life estimate.

## FIGURE DW-11

Account 351x - Structure and Improvements


The current authorized net salvage for this account is negative 70 percent. Net salvage has been erratic in recent years, with the five-year and ten-year average net salvage for this account being negative 143 and 141 percent, respectively. There was lower net salvage in 2018 and 2019 than prior periods. Given this pattern of data, this Depreciation Study recommends retaining 70 percent net salvage for this account.

## 3. Account 351.20: Storage Solar and Fuel Cells

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. There is currently no plant in this account. SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future, and it is assumed that they will be incorporated into existing structures. However, since these are materially different assets than buildings and other structures, separating this plant into a new account is recommended. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion for this account.

Based on judgment, negative 5 percent net salvage is recommended for this account.

## 4. Account 352: Wells

This account includes the drilling cost of wells used for injection and withdrawal of gas from underground storage projects, including wells kept open and used for observation. On average, components for wells require replacement every 10 years. Company personnel report
that there are current programs that are impacting lives in this account in the short run.
An example of this is well replacement, which is both multi-year and multimillion dollar (\$40M per year). The well replacement program aims to replace storage well capacity that have been abandoned (e.g., Honor Rancho) and will continue into 2023. Other activity will continue to 2030 at other sites.

In discussion with operations personnel, some assets will routinely be replaced every 5 to 7 years. The current life/curve is 49 R2.5. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 11 years. Analytics from actuarial analysis show a decrease in life from 2016-2019 when many well replacements occurred. Operations personnel recommend retention of the current life, even though actuarial analysis shows a decrease in life. Based on input from operations personnel, the Depreciation Study recommends retention of the 49 R2.5 life and dispersion curve. As a point for comparison, Figure DW-12 below compares the observed life table to the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-12

## Account 352x-Wells



The current net salvage parameter for this account is negative 70 percent. Years 20122020 show negative net salvage well in excess of 100 percent annually driven by the well abandonment projects. The cost to abandon wells has increased significantly due to new
regulations. ${ }^{12}$ Some abandonment work done for retired assets many years ago must be redone to current regulation compliance, which will increase removal cost. The composite estimate from recent well abandonments demonstrates an estimated negative 120 percent net salvage. Based on the above estimates and remaining population of wells, this Depreciation Study proposes negative 95 percent net salvage for this account, based on the 25 percent gradualism criteria.

## 5. Account 353: Lines

This account includes installed gas pipelines used for conveying gas from point of connection with transmission or field lines to underground storage wells and from underground storage wells to the point where the gas enters the transmission or distribution system. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 13 years. The current approved life for this account is 54 years with an R 3 dispersion.

Actuarial analysis shows a decline in life to 50 years. Company personnel believe that the decrease in life seen in the analysis could be related to well abandonments since surface facilities are removed. Lines are carbon steel and, depending on the field, the pipe is wrapped, buried, and catholically protected.

If the lines are above ground, they do not need cathodic protection. Company experts expect a shorter life for buried pipe than above ground pipe from an operational perspective. At one site (Honor Rancho), the coating is failing on underground pipe. Company subject matter experts believe a 50 -year life for this account is reasonable. Actuarial analysis shows a shorter life in various placement and experience bands. Based on input from operations personnel and actuarial analysis, the Depreciation Study recommends decreasing the life to 50 with a R4 life dispersion curve. As a point for comparison, Figure DW-13 below compares the observed life table to the proposed life estimate.

[^6]FIGURE DW-13
Account 353x-Wells


The current authorized net salvage is negative 40 percent. Moving averages in this account in the most recent year are negative 82 for both the 5- and 10-year periods. Based on judgment and Company history, this Depreciation Study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 65 percent net salvage for this account.

## 6. Account 354: Compressor Station Equipment

This account includes installed compressor station equipment used for the purpose of raising the pressure of gas for delivery to underground storage or to raise the pressure of gas withdrawn from underground storage for delivery to the transmission or distribution system. The current life/curve is 41 L 0.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 8 years.

A program of compressor modernization is underway, with $\$ 600 \mathrm{M}$ at Honor Rancho, the second largest of the Company's four underground sites, and a smaller program at Playa Del Ray. Company personnel report that this modernization effort is driven by aging equipment and air quality regulations by Air Quality Management District. The Company is also adding emissions controls at some sites.

At Honor Rancho, which was converted to storage in 1975, the Company is installing a new compressor station and removing the original compressors once the new station is in place. The completion date for that project is estimated for 2027.

The life of reciprocating compressors and turbine driven compressors are similar. Aliso Canyon has been replaced in the same way that Honor Rancho will be at an estimated cost of $\$ 300 \mathrm{M}$. This project only replaced one portion of the original injection system.

Turbine driver compressors require more capital replacements than reciprocating compressors, where maintenance costs are higher. Company personnel recommend retention of the current service life and dispersion of 41-year average service life with an L 0.5 dispersion curve. Actuarial analysis shows a close visual match using the current life, with good visual matches to 40 percent surviving in the widest bands. Based on input from Company personnel combined with actuarial analysis, this Depreciation Study proposes retaining a 41-year life with a L0.5 dispersion. As a point for comparison, Figure DW-14 below compares the observed life table to the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-14
Account 354 - Compressor Station Equipment


The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent. Moving averages in this account in the most recent year are negative 27 percent and negative 33 percent for the 5- and 10-year periods. Based on recent experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving from negative 15 percent net salvage to negative 25 percent for this account.

## 7. Account 355: Measuring and Regulating Equipment

This account includes installed gas pipelines used for the purpose of measuring and regulating deliveries of gas to underground storage, and withdrawals of gas from underground storage. The current life/curve is 22 L 0 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is seven years.

Company personnel report that technology change is the biggest force impacting this account through retirements. Specifically, the Company is changing from older technology to digital equipment, which Company personnel believe will have an effect on the life of this account. For example, the Company is still using dial-up modems to collect data. Assets that will be replaced frequently are measurement related, such as flow elements (turbine meter and orifice plates), flow computers, and transmitters.

At the same time, Company personnel believe that many of the assets will attain a longer life than the 22-year authorized life from an operations perspective. Company personnel support moving the life longer, perhaps to 30 years, based on operational considerations. Actuarial analysis shows large retirements around age 20 that make it difficult to match various Iowa curves.

Based on input from Company personnel, this Depreciation Study recommends a 30 L1 life and dispersion curve for this account. For comparison, Figure DW-15 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-15
Account 355 - Measuring and Regulating Equipment


The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is positive 5 percent. The most recent five-year and 10-year moving averages in this account are negative 9 and negative 8 percent, respectively. Based on recent experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to the trend in negative net salvage with a proposed negative 5 percent net salvage for this account.

## 8. Account 356: Purification Equipment

This account includes installed apparatus used for the removal of impurities from and the conditioning of gas delivered to or removed from underground storage fields. The current life/curve is 39 R 2.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 16 years. Company experts report that there have recently been some changes in the dehydration equipment, with changing vessels and modifying internals of existing vessels.

The Company is changing technology (e.g., structured packing instead of bubble trays). In the past, the Company moved to hot oil heaters from steam. Analytics from actuarial analysis show a slight increase of 5 or 6 years, which Company engineers believe is reasonable based on current conditions. Actuarial analysis shows a good match with this longer life and the same dispersion. Based on input from operations personnel and actuarial analysis, the Depreciation

Study recommends an average service life of 44 years and retaining the R2.5 curve. For comparison, Figure DW-16 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-16 Account 356x - Purification Equipment


The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 30 percent. There are environmental drivers that are driving removal cost higher, including new asbestos and concrete regulations. Regulations impact asbestos in concrete foundations, which will increase removal cost. Moving averages in this account in the most recent year are negative 46 and 59 percent for the 5- and 10-year periods, respectively. For years 2018 and 2019, the net salvage indications were more in line with the existing negative 30 percent. Based on recent experience, this Depreciation Study recommends retaining negative 30 percent net salvage for this account.

## 9. Account 357: Other Equipment

This account includes installed equipment used in connection with underground storage of gas, when not assignable to any of the foregoing accounts. The current life/curve is 37 R 2.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 8 years. Company personnel report that there are significant amounts of electrical assets, roads, and non-Department of Transportation piping in this account. Programmable Logic Controllers and pumps would be components with shorter
lives. Other assets tend to have longer lives.
Operationally, Company personnel have not observed factors that would lead to any significant change in life. Actuarial analysis shows a good match through about age 40 for the 38-year life with a R3 dispersion. Based on input from Company personnel and the actuarial matching of history, this Depreciation Study recommends a slight increase to a 38 -year life and moving to an R3 dispersion. For comparison, Figure DW-17 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-17
Account 357x - Other Equipment


The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 100 percent. Moving averages in this account range from negative 91 negative 110 percent in the 5 - and 10 -year period. Based on recent experience, this Depreciation Study recommends retaining negative 100 percent net salvage for this account.

## B. Transmission Plant

Transmission plant balance at December 31, 2021, was $\$ 4,251$ million, excluding $\$ 2$ million for land which is non-depreciable. The accumulated reserve was $\$ 991.6$ million.

## 1. Account 365.29: Rights-of-Way

This account includes the cost of rights-of-way used in connection with transmission operations. Assets in this account are individually amortized over 40-years until fully amortized and will remain on the books until retired. In 2018, the Company signed an agreement with the Morongo Indian Tribe to lease various gas transmission easements across the Tribe's reservation. The agreement is for 40 years. Based on the new agreement, SoCalGas recommends retaining the 40-year amortization period. There is insufficient retirement data to analyze this account through actuarial analysis. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends retaining a 40-year life with a SQ dispersion.

There are no removal costs associated with rights-of way.

## 2. Account 366: Structures and Improvements

This account includes the cost of structures and various improvements in connection with transmission plant. Compressor station structures, measuring and regulating structures, and other structures are subaccounts included in this account. The current life/curve is 47 R2. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 13 years. Company experts report that operating rules, maintenance practices, and other retirement forces impacting this account have been the same for the past several years. They thus do not believe there would be any operational reason for a change in life for this account.

Actuarial analysis shows good visual matching through age 40. Based on actuarial analysis and input from Company operations personnel, the Depreciation Study recommends retaining the average service life to 47 with a R2 dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW18 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

## FIGURE DW-18

Account 366x - Structures and Improvements


The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 40 percent. Negative net salvage has increased for this account, with the five-year moving averages showing negative 245 percent and the 10-year average showing negative 242 percent. Based on judgment and Company history, this Depreciation Study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as approved by the Commission in recent proceedings, resulting in a negative 65 percent net salvage for this account.

## 3. Account 366.20: Transmission Solar and Fuel Cell

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. There is currently no plant in this account. SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future, however, and it is assumed that they will be incorporated into existing structures.

But since these are materially different assets than buildings and other structures, separating this plant is recommended. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion, and a negative 5 percent net salvage is recommended for this account.

## 4. Account 367: Mains

This account includes the cost of installed transmission system mains. Assets include large high pressured gas mains of different sizes and types, cathodic protection equipment, drip lines and pots, pipe coating, pipe and fittings, pipe supports, anchors, and valves. The current life/curve is 64 R3.

The average age of the surviving plant balance is 14 years. The Company is also seeing some class changes as population densities increase. Typically, it is much more rectifier based, which would have a life from between 20 and 25 with anodes around 15 years or less.

The Integrity Management Program (IMP) forced the retirement of some valves. The Company has been adding more instrumentation and automation (remote control) in recent years. For the most part, automation could be added to existing assets (such as valves) in most instances.

But in about $40 \%$ of the cases, they would have to replace the full valve assembly. Actuarial analysis shows a life of 75 years or greater that is beyond industry norms. Based on input from Company personnel and incorporating judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to a 70-year life and an R2 dispersion.

The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 60 percent. The five- and 10year moving averages show negative 360 and negative 373 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company history, this Depreciation Study recommends moving by the negative 25 percent as approved by the Commission in recent proceedings to negative 85 percent net salvage for this account.

## 5. Account 367.6: Hydro Test Equipment

This is a new account that will be used as the Company complies new Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulations, effective July 1, 2020, that will impact pipelines of vintage 1970 and older. The rule, known as the Mega Rule, seeks to improve pipeline safety by combining previous regulations for onshore gas transmission addressing pipeline safety and environmental risk.

With new regulations for operations and increased requirements for reporting, pipeline operators expand Integrity Management Programs, verify Maximum Allowable Operating

Pressure, and test previously untested pipe to ensure they are in compliance. ${ }^{13}$ Costs incurred to comply the with Mega Rule will be treated as a capital item. After examining the remaining life of vintages 1970 and older, those assets will have an average remaining life of about 21 years, assuming the proposed life and curve for Account 367.

Since this is a new account with no history, actuarial analysis was not utilized. The testing costs are proposed to be depreciated over 21 years with an SQ curve. Since these costs are not directly tied to specific mains, auto retirement is recommended. No net salvage is estimated for this account.

## 6. Account 368: Compressor Station Equipment

This account includes the cost of installed compressor station equipment and associated appliances used in connection with transmission system operations. Due to the high pressures used at compressor stations, replacement of engines, gas turbines, and compressors may have to occur after 15 years. The current life/curve is 50 R1.

The average age of the surviving plant balance is 16 years. Company personnel report that the Company has a modernization program driven by emissions compliance and decarbonization initiatives. SoCalGas has used low speed reciprocating engines. But it is moving more to turbine compressors in the future, which have a shorter life than reciprocating compressors.

Several replacement projects are underway. For example, Ventura replacements will have a reciprocating engine, Honor Rancho is replacing compressors which have been cycled more frequently causing more deterioration, and carbon reduction solutions are being considered. The project at Honor Rancho has an estimated cost of $\$ 500 \mathrm{M}$ for one station and replaces assets from the 1950s to 1990s. SoCalGas is focused on replacing old technology with new turbines and adding hydrogen production to use on site.

From a technical standpoint, operations personnel report that reciprocating compressors operated at high speed have more issues. There is also a transition where the longer-lived reciprocating compressors are being replaced with shorter lived turbines and electric motor

[^7]driven compressors. Storage operations are requiring the cycling of compressors more than in the past, which shortens the life of the compressors.

The program is just beginning. It will be in service between 2024-2026, and Marino and Honor Rancho will not be used and useful until 2025 or 2026. Actuarial analysis shows good visual matching through age 45 for a 48 -year life with a R1 dispersion. Based on actuarial analysis and input from Company operations personnel, the Depreciation Study recommends moving the average service life to 48 years with a R1 dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW-19 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-19
Account 368x - Compressor Station Equipment


The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent. The five- and 10year moving averages show negative 88 and negative 117 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company history, this Depreciation Study recommends applying the negative 25 percent change permitted by the Commission in recent proceedings to negative 40 percent net salvage for this account.

## 7. Account 369: Measuring and Regulating Station Equipment

This account includes the cost of installed meters, gauges, and other equipment used in measuring or regulating gas in connection with transmission system operations. The current life/curve is 46 S 0 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is eight years.

Company experts report that there has been a lot of investment related to IMP to retrofit for pigging. They have been adding more instrumentation and automation (remote control) in recent years. For the most part, the automation could be added to existing assets (such as valves) in most instances.

But about 40 percent of the time, the Company would have to replace the full valve assembly. There have been activities to change out actuating equipment that might release methane. As communities become more developed, class location change due to population density increases the need for accurate regulating equipment.

A slight change in life is reasonable. But there are no retirement forces that would cause a significant change. Actuarial analysis shows a good visual match through age 40 for a 48 -year life with a R0.5 dispersion. Based on informed judgment and input from field personnel, SoCalGas recommends a 48 R0.5 life and dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW-20 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-20
Account 369 - Measuring and Regulating Equipment


The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 50 percent. The five- and 10year moving averages show negative 187 and negative 198 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company history, this Depreciation Study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 75 percent net salvage for this account.

## 8. Account 370: Transmission Communication Equipment

This account includes installed communication equipment used in the operation and maintenance of the gas transmission system, including supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA). The average age of the surviving plant balance is 3 years. Company operations personnel report that technology improvements and obsolescence of old equipment may decrease the life of this equipment.

Cyber threats also can cause reasons to replace with stronger equipment. The assets in this account are a combination of all forms of communication (4-wire, radio, fiber, cell, satellite). Company personnel report that there is an ongoing project to replace cell equipment. New control equipment is being installed as part of the Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plant (PSEP). Although a 15-year life remains reasonable, it may decrease in future years. Since this account is relatively new, there is insufficient actuarial data to perform life analysis. Based on input from Company personnel, this Depreciation Study recommends retaining the existing 15 SQ life and dispersion curve. Based on judgment this Depreciation Study recommends retention of the existing future net salvage rate of $0 \%$.

## 9. Account 371: Other Equipment

This account includes installed equipment used in transmission system operations, when not assignable to any of the foregoing accounts. The current life/curve is 21 L 0.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 12 years.

This equipment has had little change over the years. Nor do subject matter experts expect a large change. Analytics from actuarial analysis show an excellent visual match through age 20 for a 20-year life and L2 dispersion. Based on actuarial analysis and judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to a 20-year life with a L2 dispersion. For comparison, Figure DW21 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

## FIGURE DW-21

Account 371x - Other Equipment


The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 10 percent. The retirement data since 2012 is very sparse with few retirements. While there are indications of higher negative net salvage, the data is not indicative of a pronounced trend. Based on recent data, this Depreciation Study recommends retention of negative 10 percent net salvage for this account.

## 10. Account 371.1: Temporary Assemblies and Test Heads

This account includes the cost of temporary assemblies and test heads used in connection with transmission operations. This is a new account that will be separated from Account 371 . There is no plant investment at present.

Company subject matter experts state that the assets in this account will differ from Account 371. They believe that these assets will be used during a period of at least 10 years. The 10-year depreciation is chosen due to the nature of how these assets are used and their service life, after which they are sent to salvage.

These assets are used to conduct post construction strength test on pipelines and there are only so many tests that can be performed with a test head before it could no longer be utilized. Since this is a new account with no history, actuarial analysis was not utilized. Based
on the recommendation of Company operations personnel, a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion is proposed for this account. Company operations personnel do not think these assets will have any residual value. Thus, a net salvage percentage of 0 percent is proposed for this account.

## C. Distribution Plant

Distribution plant balance at December 31, 2021 is $\$ 12,115$ million, excluding $\$ 30$ million for land which is non-depreciable. The accumulated reserve is $\$ 5,934$ million.

## 1. Account 374.2: Land Rights

This account includes the cost of land rights used in connection with distribution operations. Assets in this account are individually amortized over 40-years until fully amortized and will remain on the books until retired.

Given that the proposed lives of account 376 and 380 are close to 70 years, this Depreciation Study recommends extending the life of this account to a 70-year amortization period. There is insufficient retirement data to analyze this account through actuarial analysis. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 70-year life with a SQ dispersion. There are no removal costs associated with rights-of way.

## 2. Account 375: Structures and Improvements

This account includes the cost of structures and improvements used in connection with distribution operations. Besides long-lived assets such as buildings and structures, this account consists of many short-lived assets such as roofs, interior office improvements, wiring upgrades, and other items. The current life/curve is 40 S 0 .

The average age of the surviving plant balance is 14 years. Operations personnel state that there are no obvious changes in the usage or characteristics of these assets that would suggest a material change in life. There are a number of shorter life assets within the group: roofs, HVAC, generators, parking lot replacements, etc. that would moderate the building lives.

Analytics from actuarial analysis shows the life account is close to the current 40-year range. Lives of the assets in this account are expected to be shorter than assets in Account 390, which have more robust systems like general office facilities. Actuarial analysis shows an excellent visual match for a 39-year life and S 0.5 dispersion. Based on information from Company operations personnel and actuarial analysis, SoCalGas recommends decreasing the average service life to 39 years and moving to a S 0.5 dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW-22 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

## FIGURE DW-22

Account 375 - Structures and Improvements


The Commission has authorized a negative 10 percent net salvage rate for this account. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 40 , negative 39 , and negative 39 percent, respectively. To move in the direction of this trend, a higher (more negative) net salvage is recommended. Based on judgment and Company experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to negative 20 percent net salvage.

## 3. Account 375.20: Distribution Solar and Fuel Cell

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. There is currently no plant in this account. SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future, and it is assumed that they will be incorporated into existing structures.

Yet since these are materially different assets than buildings and other structures, separating this plant is recommended. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion for this account. Likewise, based on judgment, negative 5 percent net salvage is recommended for this account.

## 4. Account 376: Mains

This account includes the cost of installed distribution system mains. Steel mains, plastic mains, and deep well anodes are all subaccounts included in this account. The current life/curve
is 68 R 2.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 17 years.
The Integrity management program is replacing $\$ 280 \mathrm{M}$ per year of bare steel and early vintage plastic (pre-1973 and 1973-1985) for both mains and services. Over the last 4 years, the replacements have tripled. This program is a continuing effort that has been in effect for a while and has escalated over the last few years.

This is in addition to normal replacements. Company personnel would have expected the life to decrease, given the level of retirements that are occurring. From a longer-term operational perspective, company personnel recommend retaining the 68-year life and the R2.5 dispersion. Actuarial analysis shows a life of more than 80 years, which is well beyond industry expectations. Based on input from Company personnel and uncertainty regarding decarbonization in the future, this Depreciation Study recommends retention of the existing service life, 68 R2.5.

The Commission has authorized a negative 80 percent net salvage rate for this account. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages show negative 243, negative 251, and negative 243 percent, respectively. To move in the direction of this trend, a higher (more negative) net salvage is recommended. Based on judgment and Company experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to negative 105 percent net salvage, based on the amount of change allowed by the Commission under its gradualism precedent.

## 5. Account 378: Measuring and Regulating Equipment

This account includes the cost of installed meters, gauges, and other equipment used in measuring and regulating gas in connection with distribution system operations other than measurement of gas deliveries to customers. The current life/curve is 47 S 0.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 13 years.

Company personnel report that the Company is targeting higher risk regulation stations for replacement. The regulations for regulating stations have changed more than the regulations for mains and services. The Company has also been upgrading stations. And they are more aggressively targeting regulating stations than they previously have.

Operationally, there is no reason that the life should increase. There are drivers that would decrease the life, such as Risk Assessment and Mitigation Phase and Control Center Modernization programs. Actuarial analysis shows an excellent visual match for a 47-year life with a S1.5 dispersion. Based on input from operations and actuarial analysis, this Depreciation

Study recommends retaining the existing 47-year life and moving to a S1.5 dispersion. For comparison, Figure DW-23 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-23
Account 378 - Measuring and Regulation Equipment


The current net salvage parameter for this account is negative 95 percent. The 10 -year historical average for net salvage shows a net salvage rate of $-267 \%$. SoCalGas recommends increasing the current future net salvage rate from $-95 \%$ to $-120 \%$, based on the amount of change allowed by the Commission under its gradualism precedent.

## 6. Account 380: Services

This account includes the cost of installed service pipes and accessories leading to customers' premises. The current life/curve is 67 R2. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 19 years.

Company personnel report that if a service is cut, the Company will generally repair the service. If a service has a leak, the Company will likely replace it. When a steel main is replaced with plastic, the service would typically be replaced if it were also steel.

Company personnel expect the life of services to be slightly shorter than the life of mains, as there are a number of factors that would cause services to retire earlier than mains. Actuarial analysis continues to support a life around 67 years. Based on input from Company personnel
and judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends retaining the 67-year life with an R2 dispersion for this account.

The current authorized net salvage is negative 115 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10 -year moving averages show negative 181 , negative 168 , and negative 187 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to negative 140 percent net salvage for this account, based on the amount change allowed by the Commission under its gradualism precedent.

## 7. Account 381: Meters

This account includes the cost of installed meters, or devices and appurtenances thereto, for use in measuring gas delivered to users, whether actually in service or held in reserve. The current life/curve is 25 S 0.5 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 11 years. Operations personnel report that meters would have historically lasted longer.

SoCalGas has 6 million meters in service. Operations personnel report that they target replacing aging meters that were approaching the 30 -year life and will request more capital in this GRC. When SoCalGas installed Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), they would also replace older meters.

Company experts anticipate an operational life of about 25 years for SoCalGas. Two years ago, SoCalGas made a change to their sampling program that will likely extend the life of meters on average. Now, if a meter fails, they will take $2 \%$ off the bill for the family until the AMI battery fails.

In the future, they may expect to see a slight increase in life as this goes forward. Meters that are not in the residential sampling program must be tested every 10 years or replaced (with a few exceptions for very large meters). Meters that weigh less than 50 lbs . will be taken to see if repair and rebuilding is possible. While under repair, the meters remain in service.

Meter costs have escalated, as there are now only two manufacturers in the United States. Analytics from actuarial analysis shows an excellent visual match with the existing curve. Based on input from Company personnel and actuarial analysis, the Depreciation Study recommends retaining the current 25 S 0.5 life and dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW-24 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-24
Account 381x - Meters


The current authorized net salvage rate is positive 5 percent. Gross salvage proceeds as a percentage of retirements have declined in recent years. The current moving averages for 3 and 5 years are positive 2 for both periods. Based on judgment and Company experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to positive 2 percent net salvage for this account.

## 8. Accounts 381.15: AMI Modules and Account 382.15: Module Installations

These accounts include the cost of gas modules used to provide daily meter reads and the cost to install these modules on gas meters as part the AMI deployment. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 6 years. Currently these accounts have a of 20 SQ life/curve.

Operations personnel believe that the life of this account will be the same as the current estimate. There is insufficient actuarial analysis to analyze for this account. Based on input from operations personnel, SoCalGas recommends retaining the current 20 SQ life and dispersion curve.

The current authorized net salvage rate is 0 percent. In the periods for which history is available, there has been no net salvage received. Based on Company history and judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## 9. Account 382: Meter Installations

This account includes the cost of labor and materials used, and the expenses incurred in connection with the original installation of customer meters. The current life/curve is 30 S 1 . The average age of the surviving plant balance is 11 years.

Operations personnel report that the Company has started using a pre-manufactured Meter Set Assembly (MSA). If there is no over-pressure protection on a regulator, they will replace the regulator. Normally they replace one regulator for every two replaced meters.

Typically, the MSA would not be replaced before the meter, but the MSA may be replaced at the same time as a meter. Actuarial analysis shows a slightly shorter life. Analytics results from actuarial analysis shows an excellent visual match for a 28-year life with S1 dispersion curve. Based on actuarial analysis and judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends moving from the 30 S 1 to the 28 S 1 for this account. For comparison, Figure DW25 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-25
Account 382x - Meter Installations


The current authorized net salvage percent is negative 10 percent. The overall 5- and 10year moving averages show 0 and positive 2 percent. Based on Company experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving less negative to 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## 10. Account 382.6: Meter Installation-Other

This account includes the cost of the installed Gas Energy Measurement Systems (GEMS), which are automated metering devices attached to customers' meters. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 8 years. These assets are automatically retired when the average service life is attained.

These assets have only been in service since 2012. There is thus insufficient history to analyze the data. Operations personnel believe that the life of this account will be the same as the current estimate. Based on input from Company personnel, this Depreciation Study recommends retention of the 15 -year life with a SQ dispersion.

Based on input from field personnel, these devices advance quickly and are upgraded over a 15 -year life cycle. The current life/curve is 15 SQ . There is insufficient actuarial analysis to analyze for this account. Based on input from operations personnel, SoCalGas recommends maintaining the existing life/curve of 15 SQ .

The current authorized net salvage rate is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10year moving averages are 0 for all periods. Based on recent experience and judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## 11. Account 383: House Regulators

This account includes the cost of installed house regulators, whether actually in service or held in service. The current life/curve is 33 L5. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 17 years.

The retirement data is very limited for this account and does not produce actuarial results that are reasonable for this type of assets. The curve from actuarial analysis only drops to 80 percent surviving (which makes it not predictive for the future). Input from operations was used to estimate the life for this account. Company subject matter experts recommend leaving the life account at its current parameter. Based on input from Company operations personnel, this Depreciation Study recommends retention of 33 years with an L5 dispersion.

The current authorized net salvage rate is positive 5 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10 -year moving averages are 0,0 , and negative 6 percent, respectively. The six- and sevenyear moving averages moderate the experience with a value of positive 4 percent for each time frame. Based on recent experience and judgment, this Depreciation Study moves in the direction of this trend and recommends positive 4 percent net salvage for this account.

## 12. Account 387: Other Equipment

This account includes the cost of installed distribution system equipment not provided for in the foregoing accounts, including street lighting equipment. The current life/curve is 21 O1. ${ }^{14}$ The average age of the surviving plant balance is 11 years. Analytical results from actuarial analysis show a good visual match for the 20 -year life with a L 0.5 dispersion curve. Based on actuarial analysis, the Depreciation Study recommends a 20 L0.5 life and dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW-26 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-26

## Account 387x - Other Equipment



The current authorized net salvage rate is positive 5 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 9 , negative 6 , and negative 5 percent, respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this Depreciation Study moves in the direction of this trend and recommends 0 percent net salvage for this account.

14 The O1 curve is sometimes called a survivor curve (SC) or straight-line (SL), meaning it is a straightline retirement.

## D. General Plant

General plant balance excluding amortized software accounts at December 31, 2021 is $\$ 1.639$ million, excluding $\$ 1$ million for land which is non-depreciable. The accumulated reserve is 884 million.

## 1. Account 303.10: Cloud Computing

This account consists of asset related to cloud computing software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 640$ thousand in this account. This is a new account. The Company is requesting a fixed life for amortization of 5 years based on contract duration.

This Depreciation Study recommends a 5- year amortization rate for this account. Software has no intrinsic value at the end of its life. Therefore, this Depreciation Study recommends 0 per cent net salvage for this account.

## 2. Account 389.2: Land Rights

This account includes the cost of general plant land rights used for utility purposes, the cost of which is not properly includible in other land rights accounts. Assets in this account are individually amortized over 40 years until fully amortized and will remain on the books until retired. Because the life of the structures in this account is proposed to increase, the Depreciation Study proposes to increase the amortization period of this account.

As such, SoCalGas recommends moving to a 50 -year amortization period. There is insufficient retirement data to analyze this account through actuarial analysis. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 50-year life with a SQ dispersion.

There are no removal costs associated with rights-of way.

## 3. Account 390.0: Structures and Improvements

This account includes the cost in place of structures and improvements used for utility purposes. The current life/curve is 33 R1.5. The average age of the surviving plant balance is 15 years.

Company experts feel that the current 33-year life seems short for buildings from an operations perspective. They instead would expect a life in the mid 40-year range. While there are a number of shorter-lived assets within the group such as roofs, HVAC, Generators, and parking, other items like the building shell should have a longer life.

Analytics from actuarial analysis show an excellent match for the 46 year life with a R0.5 curve through age 50. Based on input from Company experts and actuarial analysis, SoCalGas
recommends increasing the average service life to 46 years and R0.5 dispersion curve. For comparison, Figure DW-27 below shows the observed life table and the proposed life estimate.

FIGURE DW-27
Account 390 - Structures and Improvements


The 10-year historical average for net salvage shows a net salvage rate of $-15 \%$. SoCalGas recommends retaining the current future net salvage rate of $-15 \%$.

## 4. Account 390.1: GCT Leasehold Structures and Improvements

This account includes the cost in place of structures and improvements used for utility purposes for the Gas Company Tower (GCT). The assets in this account are tied to the GCT lease, which expires in 2026. The current life/curve is 15 remaining life span. SoCalGas recommends retaining the life span of 15 years The lease on the Tower expires at year end 2026 when the asset will be retired. There is thus a six year remaining life at year end 2020.

This account has experienced higher negative net salvage than 390.0, but those indications on a small sample of activity are not sufficient to increase the negative net salvage recommendations for this account. This Depreciation Study recommends retention of a net salvage rate of $-15 \%$, consistent with account 390.0 General Plant Structures and Improvements account.

## 5. Account 390.2: Solar and Fuel Cells

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service.
Previously these items were booked in Account 390. There is approximately $\$ 8.2$ million in this account. The current life for this account (in Account 390) is 33 years with an R1.5 dispersion. Since these are materially different assets that office buildings, separating this plant is recommended. The average age of survivors in this account is 0.50 years. Based on judgment, this Depreciation Study recommends a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion for this account.

Based on judgment, negative 5 percent net salvage is recommended for this account.

## 6. Accounts 391.3-391.6: Software Amortization

These accounts include costs of installed software programs of various estimated useful lives, as determined by information technology operations staff. Software programs may include shelf software and self-developed software used for accounting, customer accounts, workforce scheduling, dispatching, and mapping, among others. With advances in technology, the tendency is towards an increase in shorter lived software.

Assets are treated as individual units of property. Each project is individually amortized over the average service life of that subaccount: $3,5,6,10,15$, and 20 years. However, amortization periods could range from 2 years to 20 years. For example, assets in subaccount 391.3 2-4 Years Software may have assets amortized over two years, three years, or four years. But the default will be the average service life of each subaccount for ease of administration.

SoCalGas recommends retaining the current subaccounts and average service lives. These assets are amortized on a straight-line remaining life, unit basis. Fully amortized software will stop accruing amortization expense but remain on the asset ledger until retired. There is no net salvage associated with software accounts.

## 7. Accounts 391 through 398: Vintage Group Amortization

Assets are automatically retired when the average service life assigned is reached, except for account 392 Transportation Equipment. Fleet services notifies Plant Accounting when assets are retired and when gross salvage is received for transportation equipment. Vintage group accounting is applied to the following accounts:

Figure DW-28
General Plant Life Comparison for Amortized Accounts

| Account | Description | Current Life/Curve | Proposed Life |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 391.1 | Office Furniture and Eqt | 14 SQ | 14 |
| 391.2 | Computer Hardware | 5 SQ | 5 |
| 392 | Transportation Eqt | 7 SQ | 7 |
| 392. | Drones | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | 5 SQ |
| 393 | Stores Eqt | 20 SQ | 20 |
| 394 | Shop and Garage Eqt | 29 SQ | 20 |
| 394.19 | Large Portable Tools | 24 SQ | 24 |
| 395 | Laboratory Eqt | 25 SQ | 15 |
| 396 | Construction Eqt | 12 SQ | 12 |
| 397 | Communication Eqt | 15 SQ | 15 |
| 397.1 | General Network Eqt | 5 SQ | 5 |
| 397.2 | PBX and Voice Eqt | 7 SQ | 7 |
| 397.3 | Microwave and Radio Eqt | 10 SQ | 10 |
| 397.4 | Communication Structures | 15 SQ | 15 |
| 397. | Poles- AMI | 40 SQ | 47 |
| 398 | Miscellaneous Eqt | 20 SQ | 20 |

Operations personnel were consulted. They confirmed the current average service lives for the most vintage groups remains appropriate from an operational perspective. The following accounts are proposed to be changed based on feedback from Company subject matter experts.

Account 392.3 Drones are assets that are being installed in the forecast period to monitor Company assets across the system. Company operations' experts believe that a 5 -year life is the longest foreseeable life for these assets.

Account 394 Tools and Shop Equipment are more tied to technology change than in the past. Based on that trend, this Depreciation Study recommends a 20-year amortization period.

Account 395 Laboratory Equipment - These assets are more tied to technology than in the past. Given the current rates of change, Company personnel recommend a 15 -year life for this account.

Account 397.55 Poles - AMI SoCalGas has no similar investment to these poles. This account is more like San Diego Gas and Electric Company's (SDG\&E) Account 364 Poles, Towers and Fixtures. The current life for SDG\&E's Account 364 is 47 years and retention of the 47-year life is recommended in SDG\&E's concurrent GRC. Based on SDG\&E's experience, this Depreciation Study recommends moving to a 47-year amortization life for this account.

Net salvage studies were performed on all accounts. Retaining the current future net salvage rate is recommended for most of the above general plant amortization accounts:

Figure DW-29
General Plant Net Salvage Comparison for Amortized Accounts

| Account | Description | Current Net <br> Salvage | Proposed Net <br> Salvage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 391.1 | Office Furniture and Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 391.2 | Computer Hardware | $0 \%$ | 0 |
| 392 | Transportation Eqt | $5 \%$ | 5 |
| 392.3 | Drones | N/A | $0 \%$ |
| 393 | Stores Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 394 | Shop and Garage Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 394.19 | Large Portable Tools | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 395 | Laboratory Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 396 | Construction Eqt | $25 \%$ | 25 |
| 397 | Communication Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 397.1 | General Network Eqt | $0 \%$ | 0 |
| 397.2 | PBX and Voice Eqt | $0 \%$ | 0 |
| 397.3 | Microwave and Radio Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |
| 397.4 | Communication Structures | $-5 \%$ | $-5 \%$ |
| 397.55 | Poles- AMI | $0 \%$ | - |
| 398 | Miscellaneous Eqt | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ |

Account 392.3 is a new account which will be used for drones. According to Company personnel, the old drones will not have a scrap value. Based on judgment, 0 percent net salvage is recommended for that account. The only account recommended for a change in negative net salvage is 397.55 Poles AMI. Poles for SDG\&E in Account 364 have a currently approved net salvage percent of negative 100 percent, and my study recommends that it should be negative 95 percent in SDG\&Es current GRC. To move in the direction of that trend, this Depreciation Study proposed negative 25 percent net salvage for that account.

## VI. CONCLUSION

SoCalGas' proposed service lives and net salvage rates, which were developed in accordance with CPUC Standard Practice U-4, are reasonable and should be adopted. The resulting depreciation expense set forth in Figure DW-1 above, should be approved by the CPUC for use in TY 2024 for determination of SoCalGas' revenue requirement.

I conducted a complete depreciation study using standard depreciation processes and methodologies that resulted in the recommended parameters and depreciation rates. My
recommended life and net salvage parameters are reasonable and specific to SoCalGas's unique circumstances. The depreciation rates, as shown in Appendices B, and C to my Direct Testimony, should be applied to the Company's plant in service. My depreciation rates, when applied to SoCalGas's plant in service balances, provide fair and reasonable recovery to both the Company and its customers.

Account-level detail workpapers (historical data, statistical tables, and charts) are submitted separately with this testimony in support of the proposed underlying depreciation rates.

This concludes my prepared direct testimony.

## VII. WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS

My name is Dane A. Watson. My business address is 101 E. Park Blvd, Suite 220, Plano, TX 75074, I am Manager Partner of Alliance Consulting Group. Alliance Consulting Group provides consulting and expert services to the utility industry. In this proceeding I am testifying on behalf of Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas).

I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and a master's degree in Business Administration from Amberton University.

Since graduation from college in 1985, I have worked in the area of depreciation and valuation. I founded Alliance Consulting Group in 2004 and am responsible for conducting depreciation, valuation, and certain accounting-related studies for clients in various industries. My duties related to depreciation studies include the assembly and analysis of historical and simulated data, conducting field reviews, determining service life and net salvage estimates, calculating annual depreciation, presenting recommended depreciation rates to utility management for its consideration, and supporting such rates before regulatory bodies.

I have twice been Chair of the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) Property Accounting and Valuation Committee and have been Chairman of EEI's Depreciation and Economic Issues Subcommittee. I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Texas and a Certified Depreciation Professional. I am a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and served for several years as an officer of the Executive Board of the Dallas Section of IEEE as well as national and and worldwide offices. I have served as President of the Society of Depreciation Professionals twice.

I am qualified as Certified Depreciation Professional as recognized by the Society of Depreciation Professionals. The Society administers an examination and has certain required qualifications to become and remain certified in this field. I meet and maintain all those requirements.

I have presented testimony and or depreciation studies in nearly 300 depreciation studies over the course of my career. I have testified before the California Public Utilities Commission in nine cases: on behalf of Southwest Gas Corporation - Northern California and Southwest Gas Corporation - Southern California both in proceeding Application (A.)19-08-015; on behalf of San Diego Gas and Electric Company in proceeding A.17-10-007; on behalf of Golden State

Water Company in proceeding A.14-07-006; California American Water Company in proceedings A.16-07-002 and A.10-07-007, and Southern California Edison Company in proceedings A.10-11-015 and A.13-11-003. I have appeared before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, more than 35 United States state commissions, and three international proceedings.

I train people who want to learn more about utility depreciation by serving on the training faculty of the Society of Depreciation Professionals, teaching classes in utility seminars at Michigan State University and the EEI American Gas Association accounting conference.

## ATTACHMENT A

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Below is a list of acronyms and its definition used in my testimony.

| A.: | Application |
| :--- | :--- |
| ALG | Average Life Group |
| AMI: | Advanced Metering Infrastructure |
| Amort: | Amortization |
| ASL: | Average Service Life |
| COR | Cost to Remove and dispose of the asset |
| CPUC or <br> Commission: | California Public Utilities Commission |
| D.: | Decision |
| EEI: | Edison Electric Institute |
| GCT: | Gas Company Tower |
| GEMS: | General Rate Case |
| GRC: | Integrity Management Program |
| IMP | National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners |
| NARUC: | Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration |
| PHMSA | Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition |
| SCADA: | San Diego Gas \& Electric Company |
| SDG\&E: | Southern California Gas Company |
| SCG: | Southern California Gas Company |
| SoCalGas or <br> Company: | Square |
| SQ: | Test Year |
| TY: |  |

## ATTACHMENT B

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY COMPARISON OF AUTHORIZED VS PROPOSED DEPRECIATION PARAMETERS (LIFE-YEARS / NET SALVAGE-PERCENT)

## Southern California Gas Company <br> Comparison of Authorized vs Proposed Depreciation Parameters <br> (Life-Years / Net Salvage-Percent)

| Account | Account <br> Description | 2019 Authorized |  | 2024 Proposed |  | Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Life/ Curve <br> (1) | Future Net Salvage | Life/ Curve <br> (3) | Future Net Salvage <br> (4) | Life <br> (3)- <br> (1) | Future Net Salvage $(4)-(2)$ |
| Underground Storage Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 350x | Rights-of-Way | 40 Amort | 0 | 50 Amort | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 351x | Structures and Improvements | 48 R 1.5 | -70 | 51 R 1.5 | -70 | 3 | 0 |
| 351.2 | Storage Solar and Fuel Cell | NA | NA | 10 SQ | -5 | NA | NA |
| 352x | Wells | 49 R 2.5 | -70 | 49 R2.5 | -95 | 0 | -25 |
| 353x | Lines | 54 R3 | -40 | 50 R 4 | -65 | -4 | -25 |
| 354 | Compressor Station Equipment | 41 L 0.5 | -15 | 41 L 0.5 | -25 | 0 | -10 |
| 355 | Meas and Reg Equipment | 22 L 0 | 5 | 30 L1 | -5 | 8 | -10 |
| 356x | Purification Equipment | 39 R 2.5 | -30 | 44 R 2.5 | -30 | 5 | 0 |
| 357x | Other Equipment | 37 R 2.5 | -100 | 38 R3 | -100 | 1 | 0 |
| Transmission |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 365.29 | Rights-of-Way | 40 Amort | 0 | 40 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 366x | Structures and Improvements | 47 R 2 | -40 | 47 R 2 | -65 | 0 | -25 |
| 366.2 | Transmission Solar and Fuel Cells | NA | NA | 10 SQ | -5 | NA | NA |
| 367x | Mains | 64 R3 | -60 | 70 R2 | -85 | 6 | -25 |
| 367.6 | Hydro Test Costs | NA | NA | 21 SQ | 0 | NA | NA |
| 368x | Compressor Station <br> Equipment | 50 R 1 | -15 | 48 R 1 | -40 | -2 | -25 |
| 369 | Meas and Reg Equipment | 46 S0 | -50 | 48 R 0.5 | -75 | 2 | -25 |
| 370 | Communication Equipment | 15 SQ | 0 | 15 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 371x | Other Equipment | 21 L0.5 | -10 | 20 L2 | -10 | -1 | 0 |
| 371.1 | Temporary Assembly Test Head | NA | NA | 10 SQ | 0 | NA | NA |
| Distribution |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 374.2 | Land Rights | 40 Amort | 0 | 70 Amort | 0 | 30 | 0 |
| 375 | Structures and Improvements | 40 S0 | -10 | 39 S0.5 | -20 | -1 | -10 |
| 375.2 | Distribution Solar and Fuel Cells | NA | NA | 10 SQ | -5 | NA | NA |


| 376 x | Mains | 68 R 2.5 | -80 | 68 R 2.5 | -105 | 0 | -25 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 378 | Meas and Reg Equipment | 47 S 0.5 | -95 | 47 S 1.5 | -120 | 5 | -25 |
| 380 x | Services | 67 R 2 | -115 | 67 R 2 | -140 | 0 | -35 |
| 381 x | Meters | 25 S 0.5 | 5 | 25 S 0.5 | 2 | 0 | -3 |
| 381.15 | AMI Modules | 20 SQ | 0 | 20 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |


| Account | Account <br> Description | 2019 Authorized |  | 2024 Proposed |  | Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Life/ Curve (1) | Future Net Salvage | Life/ <br> Curve <br> (3) | Future Net Salvage <br> (4) | Life <br> (3)- <br> (1) | Future Net Salvage $(4)-(2)$ |
| 382x | Meter Installations | 30 S1 | -10 | 28 S1 | 0 | -2 | 10 |
| 382.6 | Meter Installations (Other) | 15 SQ | 0 | 15 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 382.15 | AMI Module Installations | 20 SQ | 0 | 20 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 383 | House Regulators | 33 L 5 | 5 | 33 L 5 | 4 | 0 | -1 |
| 387x | Other Equipment | 21 SC | 5 | $20 \mathrm{L0.5}$ | 0 | 1 | -5 |


| General Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 303.10 | Cloud Computing | NA | NA | 5 Amort | 0 | NA | NA |
| 389.2 | Land Rights | 40 Amort | 0 | 50 Amort | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 390 | Structures and Improvements | 33 R 1.5 | -15 | 46 R 0.5 | -15 | 13 | 0 |
| 390.1 | Gas Company Tower Lease | 15 EL | -15 | 15 EL | -15 | 0 | 0 |
| 390.2 | Solar and Fuel Assets | 33 R 1.5 | -15 | 10 SQ | -5 | -23 | 10 |
| 391.1 | Office Furniture \& Equipment | 14 SQ | 0 | 14 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.2 | Computer Equipment | 5 SQ | 0 | 5 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.3 | Software 2-4 Yrs (3yr ASL) | 3 Amort | 0 | 3 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.35 | Software 5 Yrs (AMI) | 5 Amort | 0 | 5 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.4 | Software 5-8 Yrs (6yr ASL) | 6 Amort | 0 | 6 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.5 | Software 9-12 Yrs (10yr ASL) | 10 Amort | 0 | 10 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.55 | Software 15 Yrs (15yr ASL) | 15 Amort | 0 | 15 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 391.6 | Software 20 Yrs (20yr ASL) | 20 Amort | 0 | 20 Amort | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 392x | Transportation Equipment | 7 SQ | 5 | 7 SQ | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 392.3 | Drones | NA | NA | 5 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 393 | Stores Equipment | 20 SQ | 0 | 20 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 394x | Shop and Garage Equipment | 29 SQ | 0 | 20 SQ | 0 | -9 | 0 |
| 394.19 | Large Portable Tools | 24 SQ | 0 | 24 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 395 | Laboratory Equipment | 25 SQ | 0 | 15 SQ | 0 | -10 | 0 |
| 396.1 | Construction Equipment | 12 SQ | 25 | 12 SQ | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| 397x | Communication Equip | 15 SQ | 0 | 15 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 397.1 | General Network Equip-5yr ASL | 5 SQ | 0 | 5 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 397.2 | PBX and Voice Equip-7yr ASL | 7 SQ | 0 | 7 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 397.3 | Microwave and Radio-10yr | 10 SQ | 0 | 10 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |


| Account | Account <br> Description | 2019 Authorized |  | 2024 Proposed |  | Change |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Life/ Curve <br> (1) | Future Net Salvage <br> (2) | Life/ Curve (3) | Future Net Salvage <br> (4) | Life <br> (3)- <br> (1) | Future Net Salvage $(4)-(2)$ |
|  | ASL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 397.4 | Communication Structures | 15 SQ | -5 | 15 SQ | -5 | 0 | 0 |
| 397.55 | AMI Communication Poles | 40 SQ | 0 | 47 SQ | -25 | 7 | -25 |
| 398 | Miscellaneous Equipment | 20 SQ | 0 | 20 SQ | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## ATTACHMENT C

 DEPRECIATION RATE STUDY
# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS <br> NATURAL GAS OPERATIONS DEPRECIATION RATE STUDY 

AT DECEMBER 31, 2021

http://www.utilityalliance.com

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS <br> NATURAL GAS OPERATIONS <br> DEPRECIATION RATE STUDY <br> EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 

Southern California Gas ("SoCalGas" or "Company") engaged Alliance Consulting Group to conduct a depreciation study of the Company's natural gas operations depreciable assets as of December 31, 2021. This study was conducted under the traditional depreciation study approach.

The Company is filing this depreciation study in May 2022. Given year end reporting for 2021 is not complete until February 2022, the Company and I determined that the life and net salvage parameters for the depreciation study would be based on activity through December 31, 2020. To compute rates for the general rate case, the rates were recomputed at December 31, 2021, based on parameters estimated through December 2020.

Overall, the lives of the accounts have moved longer. There are 14 accounts that have increasing lives and nine accounts that have decreasing lives. Net salvage has also moved more negative in many accounts. Eighteen accounts had decreasing (i.e., more negative) net salvage and one account had increasing (i.e., less negative) net salvage. The accounts with the largest decreases of 25 percent are: Account 352 Wells, Account 353 Lines, Account 366 Structures and Improvements, Account 367 Mains, Account 368 Compressor Station Equipment, Account 369 Measuring and Regulating Equipment, Account 376 Mains, Account 378 Measuring and Regulating Equipment, Account 380 Services, and Account 397.55 Poles AMI. The account with increasing (less negative) net salvage is Account 382, Meter Installations.

Based on plant as of December 31, 2021, this study recommends an increase of $\$ 65.3$ million in annual depreciation expense compared to the depreciation rates currently in effect. Appendix A to this study provides the change in depreciation expense.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS

NATURAL GAS OPERATIONS
DEPRECIATION RATE STUDY
AT DECEMBER 31, 2021
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## PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to develop depreciation rates for the depreciable property as recorded on SoCalGas's books at December 31, 2020. The account-based depreciation rates were designed to recover the total remaining undepreciated investment, adjusted for net salvage, over the remaining life of SoCalGas's property on a straight-line basis. Nondepreciable property was excluded from this study. For amortized software, the Company proposes to retain the same life estimates, net salvage, and amortization rates for those accounts.

SoCalGas is the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility. The Company serves to 21.8 million consumers through 5.9 million meters in more than 500 communities. The Company's service territory encompasses approximately 24,000 square miles in diverse terrain throughout Central and Southern California, from Visalia to the Mexican border.

SoCalGas owns transmission mains, distribution mains, underground storage, and various other plant assets. SoCalGas's assets consist of a complex system of high and intermediate pressure transmission, underground storage, and intermediate and low pressure distribution networks located across the service area. More than 101,000 miles of transmission and distribution pipes and four natural gas storage facilities make up the natural gas infrastructure needed to provide natural gas throughout SoCalGas' service territory. The Aliso Canyon storage facility, which is the largest such facility in the western United States, supports natural gas deliveries to homes and businesses throughout the Los Angeles Basin and directly supports 17 natural gas-powered electric plants needed to provide reliable generation and delivery of electricity

There are numerous receipt points or city gates, throughout the system where gas is delivered by the transmission system. Once gas is metered into individual cities, the pressure is reduced through regulators in order to meet system requirements as determined by pressure and volume needs. The gas is then delivered to customers for burner tip consumption.

## STUDY RESULTS

Overall depreciation rates for all SoCalGas depreciable property are shown in Appendix A to this study. These rates translate into an annual depreciation accrual of $\$ 796.0$ million based on SoCalGas's depreciable investment at December 31, 2021. The annual equivalent depreciation expense calculated by the same method using the approved rates was $\$ 730.8$ million at December 31,2021 . A summary of the results by function at December 31, 2021 is shown in the table below.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS <br> COMPARISON OF CURRENT AND PROPOSED DEPRECIATION RATES

|  | Plant <br> In Service | Current <br> Accrual | Proposed <br> Accrual |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Function | (12/31/2021 | Expense | Expense | Difference |
| Underground Storage | $1,679,942,666$ | $61,063,971$ | $66,619,178$ | $5,555,208$ |
| Transmission | $4,250,727,067$ | $114,311,206$ | $123,878,858$ | $9,567,652$ |
| Distribution | $12,115,018,771$ | $351,430,031$ | $401,764,014$ | $50,333,983$ |
| General wo Software | $810,150,645$ | $75,511,721$ | $75,313,810$ | $(197,911)$ |
| Software Amortized | $828,993,588$ | $128,452,120$ | $128,452,120$ | 0 |
| Total | $19,684,192,422$ | $730,768,359$ | $796,027,980$ | $65,259,621$ |

General plant excludes amortized software accounts which retain current rates.
Appendix A to this study demonstrates the development of the annual depreciation rates and accruals. Appendix $B$ to this study presents a comparison of approved rates versus proposed rates by account. Appendix $C$ to this study presents a comparison of mortality and net salvage estimates by account. Appendix $D$ to this study shows net salvage experience for the Company's depreciable assets from 1999 through 2020. Removal costs were included throughout the life of the project. For projects where retirements had not yet been recorded, an adjustment was recorded to reflect the proper balance.

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

## Definition

The term "depreciation" as used in this study is considered in the accounting sense, that is, a system of accounting that distributes the cost of assets, less net salvage (if any), over the estimated useful life of the assets in a systematic and rational manner. It is a process of allocation, not valuation. This expense is systematically allocated to accounting periods over the life of the properties. The amount allocated to any one accounting period does not necessarily represent the loss or decrease in value that will occur during that particular period. The Company accrues depreciation on the basis of the original cost of all depreciable property included in each functional property group. On retirement the full cost of depreciable property, less the net salvage value, is charged to the depreciation reserve.

## Basis of Depreciation Estimates

The straight-line, broad (average) life group, remaining-life depreciation system was employed to calculate annual and accrued depreciation in this study. In this system, the annual depreciation expense for each group is computed by dividing the original cost of the asset less allocated depreciation reserve less estimated net salvage by its respective average life group remaining life. The resulting annual accrual amounts of all depreciable property within a function were accumulated, and the total was divided by the original cost of all functional depreciable property to determine the depreciation rate. The calculated remaining lives and annual depreciation accrual rates were based on attained ages of plant in service and the estimated service life and salvage characteristics of each depreciable group. The computations of the annual account level depreciation rates are shown in Appendix A to this study and remaining life calculations are shown in the study's workpapers.

Actuarial analysis was used with each account within a function where sufficient data was available, and judgment was used to some degree on all accounts.

## Survivor Curves

To fully understand depreciation projections in a regulated utility setting, there must be a basic understanding of survivor curves. Individual property units within a group do not normally have identical lives or investment amounts. The average life of a group can be determined by first constructing a survivor curve, which is plotted as a percentage of the units surviving at each age. A survivor curve represents the percentage of property remaining in service at various age intervals. The chart below shows a typical generalized survivor curve, as well as some of the life characteristics that can be derived from the survivor curve.

GENERALIZED SURVIVOR CURVE


The lowa Curves are the result of an extensive investigation of life characteristics of physical property made at Iowa State College Engineering Experiment Station in the first half of the twentieth century. Through common usage, revalidation and regulatory acceptance, these curves have become a descriptive standard for the life characteristics of industrial property.

There are four families in the lowa Curves that are distinguished by the relation of the age at the retirement mode (largest annual retirement frequency) and the average life. For distributions with the mode age greater than the average life, an "R" designation (i.e., Right modal) is used. The family of " $R$ " moded curves is shown below.

R-TYPE IOWA SURVIVOR CURVES


Similarly, an "S" designation (i.e., Symmetric modal) is used for the family whose mode age is symmetric about the average life. The higher the number of the curve, the greater the peak. A graph showing the $S$ curves is shown below.

S-TYPE IOWA SURVIVOR CURVES


For distributions with the mode age less than the average life, an "L" designation (i.e., Left modal) is used. The family of "L" moded curves is shown below.

## L-TYPE IOWA SURVIVOR CURVES



A special case of left modal dispersion is the "O" or origin modal curve family, which was developed in the 1950s.

## O-TYPE IOWA SURVIVOR CURVES



Given how long the O curves live, the O curves are seldom used in analyzing utility property in Alliance Consulting Group's experience, other than for intellectual property in unregulated settings.

Within each curve family, numerical designations are used to describe the relative magnitude of the retirement frequencies at the mode. A "6" indicates that the retirements are not greatly dispersed from the mode (i.e., high mode frequency), while a "1" indicates a large dispersion about the mode (i.e., low mode frequency). For example, a curve with an average life of 30 years and an "L3" dispersion is a moderately dispersed, left modal curve that can be designated as a 30 L3 Curve. An SQ, or square, survivor curve occurs where no dispersion is present (i.e., units of common age retire simultaneously).

Most property groups can be closely fitted to one lowa Curve with a unique average service life. The blending of judgment concerning current conditions and future trends, along with the matching of historical data, permits the depreciation analyst to make an informed selection of an account's average life and retirement dispersion pattern.

## Actuarial Analysis

Actuarial analysis (retirement rate method) was used in evaluating historical asset retirement experience where vintage data were available and sufficient retirement activity was present. In actuarial analysis, interval exposures (total property subject to retirement at the beginning of the age interval, regardless of vintage) and age interval retirements are calculated. The complement of the ratio of interval retirements to interval exposures establishes a survivor ratio. The survivor ratio is the fraction of property surviving to the end of the selected age interval, given that it has survived to the beginning of that age interval. Survivor ratios for all of the available age intervals were chained by successive multiplications to establish a series of survivor factors, collectively known as an observed life table. The observed life table shows the experienced mortality characteristic of the account and may be compared to standard mortality curves such as the lowa Curves. Where data was available, accounts were analyzed using this method. Placement bands were used to illustrate the composite history over a specific era, and experience bands were used to focus on retirement history for all vintages during a set period. The results from these analyses for those accounts which had data sufficient to be analyzed using this method are shown in the Life Analysis section of this report.

## Judgment

Any depreciation study requires informed judgment by the analyst conducting the study. A knowledge of the property being studied, company policies and procedures, general trends in technology and industry practice, and a sound basis of understanding in depreciation theory are needed to apply this informed judgment. Judgment was used in areas such as survivor curve modeling and selection, depreciation method selection, simulated plant record method analysis, and actuarial analysis.

Judgment is not defined as being used in cases where there are specific, significant pieces of information that influence the choice of a life or curve. Those cases would simply be a reflection of specific facts in the analysis. Where there are multiple factors, activities, actions, property characteristics, statistical inconsistencies, implications of applying certain curves, property mix in accounts or a multitude of other considerations that impact the analysis (potentially in various directions), judgment is used to take all of these factors and synthesize them into a general direction or understanding of the characteristics of the property.

Individually, no one factor in these cases may have a substantial impact on the analysis. But overall, they may shed light on the utilization and characteristics of assets. Judgment may also be defined as deduction, inference, wisdom, common sense, or the ability to make sensible decisions. There is no single correct result from statistical analysis; hence, there is no answer absent judgment. At the very least for example, any analysis requires choosing which bands to place more emphasis on.

The establishment of appropriate lives, interim retirement dispersions, and interim net salvage for SDGE's generation accounts requires judgment to incorporate the understanding of the operation of the system with the available accounting information. The appropriateness of lives and curves depends not only on statistical analyses, but also on how well future retirement patterns will match past retirements.

Current applications and trends in use of the equipment also need to be factored into life and survivor curve choices to allow appropriate mortality characteristics to be chosen.

## Average Life Group Depreciation

SoCalGas was authorized to use the average life group ("ALG") depreciation procedure with the remaining life technique in California Public Utilities Commission A.17-10-008. At the request of SoCalGas, this study continues to use the ALG depreciation procedure to group the assets within each account. After an average service life and dispersion were selected for each account, those parameters were used to estimate what portion of the surviving investment of each vintage was expected to retire. The depreciation of the group continues until all investment in the vintage group is retired. ALG groups are defined by their respective account dispersion, life, and salvage estimates. A straight-line rate for each ALG group is calculated by computing a composite remaining life for each group across all vintages within the group, dividing the remaining investment to be recovered by the remaining life to find the annual depreciation expense and dividing the annual depreciation expense by the surviving investment. The resultant rate for each ALG group is designed to recover all retirements less net salvage when the last unit retires. The ALG procedure recovers net book cost over the life of each account by averaging many components.

## Theoretical Depreciation Reserve

The book depreciation reserve was derived from Company records and was reallocated from a functional level to individual accounts level. As a point of comparison, a theoretical depreciation reserve model was computed for each account. This study used a reserve model that relied on a prospective concept relating future retirement and accrual patterns for property, given current life and salvage estimates. The theoretical reserve of a group is developed from the estimated remaining life, total life of the property group, and estimated net salvage.

The theoretical reserve represents the portion of the group cost that would have been accrued if current forecasts were used throughout the life of the group for future depreciation accruals. The computation involves multiplying the vintage balances within the group by the theoretical reserve ratio for each vintage. The average life group method requires an estimate of dispersion and service life to establish how much of each vintage is expected to be retired in each year until all property within the group is retired. Estimated average service lives and dispersion determine the amount within each average life group.

The straight-line remaining-life theoretical reserve ratio at any given age ( $R R$ ) is calculated as:

$$
R R=1-\frac{(\text { Average Remaining Life) }}{(\text { Average Service Life) }} *(1-\text { Net Salvage Ratio })
$$

## DETAILED DISCUSSION

## Depreciation Study Process

This depreciation study encompassed four distinct phases. The first phase concerned data collection and field interviews. The second phase involved initial data analysis. The third phase encompassed information and analysis evaluation. Once the first three stages were complete, the fourth phase began. This phase involved the calculation of deprecation rates and the documentation of the corresponding recommendations.

During the Phase 1 data collection process, historical data was compiled from continuing property records and general ledger systems. Data was validated for accuracy by extracting and comparing to multiple financial system sources. An audit of this data was validated against historical data from prior periods, historical general ledger sources, and field personnel discussions. This data was reviewed extensively to put in the proper format for a depreciation study. Further discussion on data review and adjustment is found in the Salvage Considerations Section of this study.

Also, as part of the Phase 1 data collection process, numerous discussions were conducted with Company engineers and field operations personnel to obtain information that would assist in formulating life and salvage recommendations in this study. One of the most important elements of performing a proper depreciation study is to understand how the Company utilizes assets and the environment of those assets. Interviews with engineering and operations personnel are important steps to allow the analyst to obtain information that is beneficial when evaluating the output from the life and net salvage programs in relation to the Company's actual asset utilization and environment. Information that was gleaned in these discussions is found both in the Detailed Discussion of this study in the life analysis and salvage analysis sections and in the accompanying workpapers.

Phase 2 is where the actuarial and SPR analysis is performed. Phase 2 and Phase 3 overlap to a significant degree. In Phase 2, the detailed property records information is used develop observed life tables for life analysis. These tables are visually compared to industry standard tables to determine historical life characteristics. It is possible that the analyst would cycle back to this phase based on the evaluation process performed in Phase 3. Net salvage analysis consists of compiling historical salvage and removal data by functional group to determine values and trends in gross salvage and removal cost. This information is then carried forward into Phase 3 for the evaluation process.

Phase 3 is the evaluation process, synthesizing analysis, interviews, and operational characteristics into a final selection of asset lives and net salvage parameters. The historical analysis from Phase 2 is further enhanced by the incorporation of recent or future changes in the characteristics or operations of assets that were revealed in Phase 1. Phases 2 and 3 allow the depreciation analyst to validate the asset characteristics as seen in the accounting transactions with actual Company operational experience.

Finally, Phase 4 involves the calculation of accrual rates, developing recommendations, and documenting the conclusions in the study. The calculation of accrual rates is found in Appendix A to this study. Recommendations for the various accounts are contained within Section VI. The depreciation study flow diagram shown as Figure $1^{1}$ below also documents the steps used in conducting this Study. Depreciation SYSTEMS ${ }^{2}$, at page 289, documents the same basic processes in performing a depreciation study, which are: statistical analysis, evaluation of statistical analysis, discussions with management, forecast assumptions, and document recommendations.

[^8]

Source: Introduction to Depreciation for
Public Utilities and Other Industries,
AGA EEI , 2013
*Although not specifically noted, the mathematical analysis may need some level of input from other sources (for example, to determine analysis bands for life and adjustments to data used in all analysis).

Figure 1

> SOUTHERN CALIFONRIA GAS DEPRECIATION STUDY PROCESS

## Depreciation Rate Calculation

Annual depreciation expense amounts for the depreciable accounts of SoCalGas were calculated by the straight line, ALG, remaining life procedure. With this approach, remaining lives were calculated according to standard ALG group expectancy techniques, using the lowa Curves noted in the calculation. For each plant account, the difference between the surviving investment, adjusted for estimated net salvage, and the allocated book depreciation reserve was divided by the average remaining life to yield the annual depreciation expense. These calculations are shown in Appendix A.

## Remaining Life Calculation

The establishment of appropriate average service lives and retirement dispersions for each account within a functional group was based on engineering judgment that incorporated available accounting information analyzed using the Retirement Rate actuarial method. After establishment of appropriate average service lives and retirement dispersion, remaining life was computed for each account. Theoretical depreciation reserve with zero net salvage was calculated using theoretical reserve ratios as defined in the theoretical reserve portion of the General Discussion section. The difference between plant balance and theoretical reserve was then spread over the ALG depreciation accruals. Remaining lives for each account are found in Appendix A, and the computations are shown in the workpapers.

## GRADUALISM

In recent proceedings, the California Public Utilities Commission has expressed concerns about growing cost burdens associated with increasing cost trends for negative net salvage and applied a principle of gradualism for these rates. ${ }^{3}$ The Commission explained that
[t]he principle of gradualism applies where there is a recognized need to revise estimated parameters, but where the change is allowed to occur incrementally over time rather than all at once. Applying gradualism thus limits the approved increase that would otherwise be warranted, all else being equal and mitigates the shortterm impact of large changes in depreciation parameters. Also, it is advisable to be cautious in making large changes in estimates of service lives and net salvage for

[^9]property that will be in service for many decades, as future experience may show the current estimates to be incorrect. ${ }^{4}$

The Commission gave specificity to this directive in PGE's 2014 general rate case to "adopt no more than 25 percent of the estimated net salvage increase from current [net salvage] rates." ${ }^{5}$ The Commission gave specificity to this directive in PGE's 2014 general rate case by allowing "no more than 25 percent of the estimated net salvage increase from current [net salvage] rates." ${ }^{6}$ The Commission has then applied this principle to Southern California Edison in D.15-11-0217 and D.19-05-020. ${ }^{8}$

By contrast, the Company's last GRC, the depreciation rates, lives, and net salvage parameters from the A.14-11-003 GRC were retained. ${ }^{9}$ As such, since the Company's depreciation rates were set in D.16-06-054, no changes in authorized life or net salvage rates have been made. That is, even with the CPUC's guidance for gradualism, the Company was not allowed to gradually increase net salvage estimates (impacted by increased removal costs) or increase lives in the last GRC.

This exacerbated the gap between the Company's actual life and net salvage experience and the amount authorized by the CPUC. Because of this, the Company is behind in the recovery of the removal cost for its investment in property, plant, and equipment. The gradualism principle only exacerbates this issue. Nevertheless, study follows these directives in the selections for life and net salvage parameters for SoCalGas's depreciable and amortized assets.

Table 1 below shows the change in life from 2012 to 2019 GRC for the Company's largest accounts, as measured by plant investment at December 31, 2020.

[^10]Table 1
SoCalGas Changes in Life Largest Accounts

| Acct | 2012 Life | 2019 Life | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G352- Wells | 29 | 49 | 20 |
| G354 Compressor Station <br> Equipment | 45 | 41 | -4 |
| G367 Transmission Mains | 57 | 64 | 7 |
| G376 Distribution Mains | 55 | 68 | 13 |
| G380 Services | 51 | 67 | 14 |

Over the period 2012 through 2019, the Commission's decisions have moved lives more than 25 percent. Account G352 Wells had an increase of $69 \%$ in life, and Account G380 Services and an increase of 27.4 \% in life. Due to the gradualism directive, net salvage has only been allowed to move by a maximum of 25 percent. In fact, the Company's case retained the existing life and net salvage parameters with no change. Net salvage has been allowed, but the rate of change is not keeping up with the Company's experience. The table below shows how net salvage has changed over the past nine years.

Table 2
SoCalGas Changes in Net Salvage Largest Accounts

| Acct | 2012 Net <br> Salvage | 2019 Net <br> Salvage | Change |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| G352- Wells | -45 | -70 | 25 |
| G354 Compressor Station <br> Equipment | -5 | -15 | 10 |
| G367 Transmission Mains | -30 | -60 | 30 |
| G376 Distribution Mains | -55 | -80 | 25 |
| G380 Services | -95 | -115 | 20 |



So Cal Gas
Account G354 Net Salvage \%


Account 354 experienced a moderate amount of net salvage in prior periods, but indications in recent years are showing increasing negative net salvage. This is also true for the Company's largest account in Mains and Services.



Given that the 2019 GRC continued the Company's previous depreciation rates, combined with the Commission's gradualism limitation, it is even more urgent that the CPUC adopt these net salvage proposals in this study.

## Programs Impacting Life and Net Salvage of SCG Assets

SoCalGas has been focused on various Integrity Management Programs ("IMP") in recent years that impact various functional groups—Storage, Facilities, Transmission, and Distribution. These ongoing programs will impact the life of various asset groups now and going forward.

SIMP ("Storage Integrity Management Program") is primarily focused on well and well head reservoirs, as well as tubing. There have been some replacement of well heads and tubing and some remediation of casing (e.g., installation of new inner strings) as well as some abandonment of assets. The program began in 2016 and 2017. Many wells were abandoned at the beginning of the program, but abandonment declined as the program went forward and will continue to decline in the future. With the level of inspection and analysis that is now required, the overall life for various storage assets would be expected to decrease. CalGEM (California Geologic Energy Management Division) and Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration ("PHMSA") are the primary driver of the regulations.

FIMP ("Facilities Integrity Management Program") is another program impacting SoCalGas assets. Unlike other IMP programs, there is no underlying regulatory driver for facility management programs. The Company is adopting a phased approach to develop the program. Certain equipment has been selected in the first phase, such as pressure vessels, tanks, and curtained piping. The program is in the early stages of development.

In these early stages, the focus of FIMP is on assets such as fixed equipment, rotating equipment, and electrical equipment. Some replacement of pressure vessels has already taken place, and more is to come. There will be some retirements, but they will be fewer than the number of retirements seen in the SIMP program. In Account 356, some pressure vessels may be slated for retirement. Visual inspections are done every five years and internal inspections will be done at intervals not exceeding 10 years, depending on the condition of the vessel. There are a substantial number that will be replaced in the next few years as part of a modernization program at the compressor stations. Each equipment type will have its own plans but those are still in flux. Tanks and pressure vessels are similar. Certain pipes at the storage facilities are inspected every two years, and the Company will typically replace short segments. Other facilities that are included in the program are NGV (Natural Gas Vehicle) and RNG (Renewable Natural Gas).

Transmission Integrity Management Program ("TIMP") is focused on transmission function assets. It uses the same process as other IMP programs. PHMSA is the main regulatory driver for this program. TIMP began around 2004. There is a 7-year cycle for inspection, evaluation, etc. for most assets, although some may be on a 5-year cycle. The assets will either get reconditioned (e.g., repaired and recoated) or replaced, with replacements varying from a few feet to miles. There was a comprehensive retrofitting of the system to be able to pig lines. There were initially a larger number of replacements in the early years. Pigging, pressure testing, and physical inspections are the primary activities in TIMP.

Distribution Integrity Management Program ("DIMP") is focused on distribution assets. DIMP is similar in process and scope as the other IMP programs, but began earlier, in the 2011-2012 time frame. PHMSA is the main driver for this program. There is an active pipeline replacement program for medium pressure (<60 psig), which is replacing around 120 miles ( $30 \%$ steel and $70 \%$ plastic). The DIMP program targets plastic pipe prior to 1986 and steel prior to 1971. The mains and services have roughly 42 thousand
miles of "modern" plastic and 24 thousand miles of vintage plastic combined. SoCaIGas is at 100+ years at its current replacement level.

## Life Analysis

The retirement rate actuarial analysis method was applied to all accounts for SoCalGas. For each account, an actuarial retirement rate analysis was made with placement and experience bands of varying width. The historical observed life table was plotted and compared with various lowa Curves to obtain the most appropriate match. A selected curve for each account is shown in the Life Analysis Section of this report. The observed life tables for all analyzed placement and experience bands are provided in workpapers.

For each account on the overall band (i.e., placement from earliest vintage year, which varied for each account, through 2020), approved survivor curves from D.19-09-051 were used as a starting point. Then, using the same average life, various dispersion curves were plotted. Frequently, visual matching would confirm one specific dispersion pattern (e.g., L, S, or R) as an obviously better match than others.

The next step would be to determine the most appropriate life using that dispersion pattern. Then, after looking at the overall experience band, different experience bands were plotted and analyzed in increments of approximately ten years, for instance 19912020, 1981-2020, etc. Next, placement bands of varying width were plotted with each experience band discussed above. Repeated matching usually pointed to a focus on one dispersion family and small range of service lives. The goal of visual matching was to minimize the differential between the observed life table and lowa Curve in the top and mid range of the plots. These results are used in conjunction with all other factors that may influence asset lives.

## Underground Storage

There are four underground storage facilities: Aliso Canyon, Playa Del Rey, La Goleta, and Honor Rancho. Aliso Canyon is centrally located in the Santa Susana Mountains. Playa del Rey storage facility (PDR) has a central location in the heart of the Company's metropolitan service area.

La Goleta natural gas storage is one of the Company's oldest facilities, having been in service since the 1940s. The La Goleta storage facility encompasses the porous sandstone of the Vaqueros Formation at an average depth of 4,200 feet. Honor Rancho is located in Santa Clarita and has been in operation since 1976. The site is a naturally occurring underground storage reservoir. The four facilities are modeled together for each account discussed below with a common life assigned for each account.

## Account 350.31 Storage Rights (50 SQ)

This account includes the cost of storage rights used in connection with underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 17.4$ million in this account. After removing fully accrued assets, the plant balance in this account is $\$ 667$ thousand.

Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with an SQ dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 49.71 years. There is limited data on which to perform actuarial analysis.

After discussing Right of Way and storage rights with Company personnel, the determination is that the life of rights of way and storage rights should be at least equal to the life of the underlying assets. The status of owned land versus leased land various by site. Since the lives of many accounts in the underground storage function are increasing, this study recommends increasing the life to 50 years and retaining the SQ dispersion.

## Account 350.32 Recoverable Oil ( $\mathbf{5 0}$ SQ)

This account includes the cost of recoverable oil used in connection with underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 571$ thousand in this account. This account is fully accrued, and no additional depreciation is requested.

Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with an SQ dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 45.50 years. There is limited data on which to perform actuarial analysis. This account is fully accrued, and it is similar to Account 350.31
(discussed above). Since the lives of many accounts in the underground storage function are increasing, this study recommends increasing the life to 50 years and retaining the SQ dispersion in the event of any new assets capitalized to this account.

## Account 350.40 Rights of Way (50 SQ)

This account includes the cost of land rights used in connection with underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 25$ thousand in this account. After removing fully accrued assets, the plant balance in this account is $\$ 20$ thousand. Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with a SQ dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 31.28 years. There is limited data on which to perform actuarial analysis. This account is similar to Account 350.31 (discussed above). Since the lives of many accounts in the underground storage function are increasing, this study recommends increasing the life to 50 years and retaining the SQ dispersion.

## Account 351 Structures and Improvements (51 R1.5)

This account consists of compressor station structures associated with underground storage sites. There is approximately $\$ 113.8$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 48 years with an R1.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 10.30 years. Company personnel expect the operational life for these assets to be long. The assets in this account consist of long-lived items such as buildings, structures, site prep, electrical, roads, and foundations, as well as shorter lived assets such as security and fencing. Operations personnel support a slight increase in the life of this account from the approved 48 years. Based on actuarial analysis and input from Company experts, this study recommends moving to a 51 year life with the R1.5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 351.20 Storage Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (10 SQ)

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. Currently, there is no plant in this account. However, SCG expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future. There is no similar asset on SoCalGas's books at this time. Similar assets used by SDGE currently have a 10 -year life. Based on the judgment and SDGE's similar assets, this study recommends a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion for this account. No graph is shown.

## Account 352 Wells (49 R2.5)

This account consists of assets created in the construction of well sites used in the underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 542.9$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 49 years with an R2.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 11.32 years. Company personnel report that there are current programs that are impacting lives in this account in the short run. An example of this is well replacement, which is both multi-year and multi-million dollar (\$40M per year). The well replacement program aims to replace storage well capacity that
have been abandoned (Honor Rancho) and will continue into 2023. Other activity will continue to 2030 at other sites.

Company experts report that the regulatory requirements have significantly increased. For a number of wells, the cost-benefit ratio of on-going compliance with those regulations meant that it was not justifiable to keep older wells in service. The retired assets were generally (but not always) some of the oldest wells in the system. The regulation change began in 2016 and was finalized in 2018. The related retirements began in 2016 and ended around 2020. A second round of retirements started in 2020 and 2021. The first round retired 60+ wells and the second round will retire 10-12. Company experts do not anticipate that level of retirements going into the future, only for the next 2-5 years.

Longer term historical indications of a life close to 50 years are still valid. The large retirements are somewhat of an anomaly. Generally, the technology has improved over the decades, and Company personnel do not see any reason for the life to decrease in the long-term. Cementing the well to the surface (which is a new requirement) may help to extend the life in the future. This will offset some of the historical aging mechanisms. The shorter-lived assets in the account include tubing string and packers (down hole assembly), which may only have a 7 -year life, and well head, which may only have a 15 -year life.

Analytical results include the recent years reflect the 2016-2019 abandonment retirements. Even though that shows a decline to life, Company engineers recommend holding a current life. Based on the input from Company experts and judgment, this study recommends retention of a 49-year life with an R2.5 dispersion for this account. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.

## Account 353 Lines (50 R4)

This account consists of well lines used in the underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 177.3$ million of investment in this account. The current approved life for this account is 54 years with an R3 dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 13.10 years. Actuarial analysis shows a decline in life to 50 years.

Company personnel believe that the decrease in life seen in the analysis could be related to well abandonments, since surface facilities are removed. Lines are carbon steel and, depending on the field, the pipe is wrapped, buried, and catholically protected. If the lines are above ground, they do not need cathodic protection.

Company experts expect a shorter life for buried pipe than above ground pipe from an operational perspective. At one site (Honor Rancho), the coating is failing on underground pipe. Company subject matter experts believe a 50-year life for this account is reasonable. Based on input from Company personnel and judgment, this study recommends moving to a 50-year life and the R4 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.

## Account 354 Compressor Station Equipment (41 L0.5)

This account consists of compressor station equipment used in the underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 457.2$ million of investment in this account. The current approved curve for this account is 41 years with an L0.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 8.21 years. A program of compressor modernization is underway, with $\$ 600 \mathrm{M}$ at Honor Rancho, the second largest of the Company's four underground sites, and a smaller program at Playa Del Ray. Company personnel report that this modernization effort is driven by aging equipment and air quality regulations by Air Quality Management District ("AQMD").

The Company is also adding emissions controls at some sites. Honor Rancho is installing a new compressor station and will remove the old one once the new station is in place. The completion date for that project is estimated for 2027. Honor Rancho was converted to storage in 1975, and the original compressors are being replaced. The life of reciprocating compressors and turbine driven compressors are similar. Aliso Canyon has been replaced in the same way that Honor Rancho will be at an estimated cost of $\$ 300 \mathrm{M}$. This project only replaced one portion of the original injection system. Turbine driver
compressors require more capital replacements than reciprocating compressors, and where maintenance costs are higher.

Company personnel recommend retaining the current service life and dispersion. Based on the actuarial matching of history and input from Company experts, this study recommends retaining the existing 41-year life and L0.5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 355 Measuring and Regulating Station Equipment (30 L1)

This account consists of measuring and regulating station equipment used in the underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 18.4$ million of investment in this account. The current approved life for this account is 22 years with an L0.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 6.91 years. Company personnel report that technology change is the biggest force of retirement that impacts this account. The Company is changing from older technology to digital equipment. For example, the Company is still using dial-up modems to collect data. Assets that will be replaced frequently are measurement related, such as flow elements (turbine meter and orifice
plates), flow computers, and transmitters. Regulators and similar equipment are more robust and last longer. Unless there is change in process requirements, there is not often a need to change regulators. Flow meters can last longer than the current life of 22 years and will have a life similar to dehydrators.

Company personnel believe the 22-year life seems short from an operations perspective. Company personnel support moving the life longer, perhaps to 30 years, based on operational considerations. Based on input from Company operations personnel, this study recommends moving to 30-year life with an L1 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 356 Purification Equipment (44 R2.5)

This account consists of purification equipment used in the underground storage operations. There is approximately $\$ 161.3$ million of investment in this account. The current approved life for this account is 39 years with an R2.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 16.49 years. Company experts report that there have recently been some changes in the dehydration equipment, with changing vessels and modifying internals of existing vessels. The Company is changing technology (e.g., structured packing instead of bubble trays). In the past, the Company moved to hot oil heaters from steam. Analytics show a slight increase of 5 or 6 years, which Company engineers believe is reasonable based on current conditions. This study recommends a slight increase to a 44 year life and moving to an R2.5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 357 Other Equipment (38 R3)

This account consists of communication equipment, miscellaneous equipment, and purification equipment used in the underground storage operations. There is approximately
$\$ 74.9$ million of investment in this account. The current approved life for this account is 37 years with an R2.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 7.73 years. Company personnel report that there are significant amounts of electrical assets, roads, and non-DOT piping in this account. PLCs and pumps would be components with shorter lives, while other assets tend to have fairly long lives. Operationally, there is no trigger seen to change the life significantly. Based on input from Company personnel and the actuarial matching of history, this study recommends a slight increase to a 38 -year life and moving to an R3 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Transmission Function

## Account 365.29 Rights of Way (40 SQ)

This account includes the cost of land rights used in connection with transmission operations. There is approximately $\$ 129.2$ million in this account. After removing fully accrued assets, the plant balance in this account is $\$ 123.0$ million. Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with an SQ dispersion. The average age of survivors in this
account is 6.43 years.
There have been few retirements in this account. In 2018, the Company signed an agreement with the Morongo Indian Tribe to lease various gas transmission easements across the tribe's reservation. The agreement is for 40 years. Over $\$ 100$ million was placed in service related to this agreement in transaction year 2020 for lines 2000 and 5000. Given the large amount of investment is tied to this 40-year agreement, this study recommends retaining the 40 year life and SQ dispersion. As such, no graph is shown.

## Account 366 Structures and Improvements (47 R2)

This account includes the cost of structures and improvements such as buildings, gas pumping, and regulating stations and other items used in connection with distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 84.5$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 47 years with an R2 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 12.91 years. Company experts report that operating rules, maintenance practices, and other forces of retirement impacting this account have been the same for the past several years. Thus, they do not believe there would be a change in life for this account. Based on actuarial analysis and input from Company experts, this study recommends retention of the 47-year life with an R2 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 366.20 SCG Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (10 SQ)

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. Currently, there is no plant in this account. However, SCG expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future.

There is no similar asset on SoCalGas's books at this time. Similar assets used by SDGE currently have a 10-year life. Based on the judgment and SDGE's similar assets, this study recommends a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion for this account. No graph is shown.

## Account 367 Mains (70 R2)

This account includes the cost of transmission mains, primarily coated and wrapped steel. The current approved life for this account is 64 years with an R3 dispersion. There is approximately $\$ 2.7$ billion in plant in this account. The average age of survivors in this account is 13.64 years.

The Company is seeing some class changes as population density increases. Typically, it is much more rectifier based, which would have a life from between 20 and 25
with anodes around 15 years or less. IMP forced the retirement of some valves. The Company has been adding more instrumentation and automation (remote control) in recent years. For the most part, the automation could be added to existing assets (such as valves) in the majority of instances. But in about $40 \%$ of cases, the Company would have to replace the full valve assembly.

The 70-year average life suggested by some of the actuarial analysis is on the high side of expectations for the life of transmission mains. But it is still within a reasonable range. Given the young age of the investment and the effects of the TIMP program, this study recommends moving to a 70-year life and an R2 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 367.6 Hydro Test Costs (21 SQ)

PHMSA) has issued new regulations effective July 1, 2020 that will impact pipelines compliance costs for existing assets. The rule, known as the Mega Rule, combines previous regulations for onshore gas transmission regarding pipeline safety and environmental risk. The new mega rule operates with the goal of improving pipeline safety.

With new regulations for operations and increased requirements for reporting, pipeline operators expand Integrity Management Programs, verify Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure ('MAOP'), and test previously untested pipe to ensure they are in compliance. ${ }^{10}$ Company experts believe this will focus on vintage years 1970s and older. Costs incurred to comply the with Mega Rule will be treated as a capital item. After examining the remaining life of vintages 1970 and older, those assets will have an average remaining life of about 21 years, assuming the proposed life and curve for Account 376 . Since these costs are not directly tied to specific mains, auto retirement is recommended. The testing costs are proposed to be depreciated over 21 years with an SQ curve.

## Account 368 Compressor Station Equipment (48 R1)

This account includes the cost of compressor station equipment used in connection with transmission operations. There is approximately $\$ 309.3$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 50 years with an R1 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 16.27 years. Company personnel report that the Company has a modernization program driven by emissions compliance and decarbonization initiatives. SoCalGas is focused on replacing old technology with new turbines and adding hydrogen production to use on site. SoCalGas has used low speed reciprocating engines. But it is moving more to turbine compressors in the future, which have a shorter life than reciprocating compressors.

Several replacement projects are underway: Ventura replacements will have a reciprocating engine; and Honor Rancho is replacing compressors which have been cycled more frequently causing more deterioration, and more environmental compliance equipment will be installed. The project at Honor Rancho has an estimated cost of $\$ 500 \mathrm{M}$ for one station and replaces assets from the 1950s to 1990s.

[^11]From a technical standpoint, operations personnel report that reciprocating compressors operated at high speed have issues. There is a transition where the longerlived reciprocating compressors are being replaced with shorter lived turbines and electric motor driven compressors. Storage operations are requiring the cycling of compressors more than in the past, which shortens the life of the compressors. The program is just beginning with in service planned for 2024-2026. Marino and Honor Rancho compressor stations will not be used and useful until 2025 or 2026. After examining the technical issues with this account, this study recommends a slight reduction in life to 48 years and retaining the R1 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 369 Measuring and Regulating Station Equipment (48 R0.5)

This account includes the cost of measuring and regulating station equipment used in connection with transmission operations. There is approximately $\$ 253.0$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 46 years with an S0 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 7.84 years. Company subject matter experts report that there has been a lot of investment related to IMP to retrofit for pigging. They have been adding more instrumentation and automation (remote control) in recent years. For the most part, the automation could be added to existing assets (such as valves) in the majority of instances. But about $40 \%$ of the time, the Company has to replace the full valve assembly. There have been activities to change out actuating equipment that might release methane.

As communities become more developed, increasing population density can trigger class location changes and the need for more accurate regulating equipment. A slight change in life is reasonable, but there are no forces of retirement that would cause a significant change. Based on input from Company personnel, this study recommends moving to a 48 year life while retaining the R0.5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.


## Account 370 Communication Equipment (15 SQ)

This account includes the cost of communication equipment used in connection with transmission operations. There is approximately $\$ 69.2$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 15 years with an SQ dispersion.

The assets in this account are a combination of all forms of communication (4-wire, radio, fiber, cell, satellite). Company personnel report that there is an ongoing project to replace cell equipment. New control equipment installed as part of the Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plant ("PSEP').

The average age of survivors in this account is 3.04 years. Company operations personnel report that technology may decrease the life of this equipment. Cyber threats also may provide reasons to replace with updated equipment.

Operationally, the life of 15 years is still reasonable but may decrease in future years. Based on input from Company personnel, this study recommends retaining the approved 15 year life with an SQ dispersion. No graph is shown.

## Account 371 Other Equipment (20 L2)

This account includes the cost of other equipment used in connection with transmission operations. There is approximately $\$ 9.1$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 21 years with an L0.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 12.10 years. This equipment has had little change over time, and subject matter experts do not expect a large change. Based on actuarial analysis and judgment, this study recommends moving from the approved 21-year life to a 20 year life with an L2 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed for this account with the recommended life and curve below.

Account: 371x-Other Eqt
Scenaria: So California Gas Actuarial © 2020
4 Actual Data $\quad$ - $\llcorner 20.00$


## Account 371.1 Temporary Assemblies and Test Heads (10 SQ)

This account includes the cost of temporary assemblies and test heads used in connection with transmission operations. This is a new account that will be separated from Account 371. There is no plant investment at present.

Company subject matter experts state that the assets in this account will differ from Account 371. They believe that these assets will be used during a period of at least 10 years. As such, a 10-year life with an SQ dispersion is proposed for this account based on the recommendation of Company operations personnel. The 10-year depreciation is chosen due to the nature of how these assets are used and their service life, after which they are sent to salvage. Because these assets are used to conduct post construction strength test on pipelines, there are only so many test that can be performed with a test head before it could no longer be utilized. No graph is shown.

## Distribution Plant

## Account 374.2 Rights of Way (70 SQ)

This account includes the cost of land rights used in connection with distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 2.9$ million in this account. After excluding fully accrued assets, the current balance in this account is $\$ 1.9$ million. Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with an SQ dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 34.64 years. There have been few retirements in this account. Company personnel state the life of the right of way should be equal to the underlying life of the asset. Since the longest life proposed for any account in this function is 70 years, this study recommends moving to a 70 -year life and retaining the SQ dispersion. No graph is shown.

## Account 375 Structures and Improvements (39 S0.5)

This account includes the cost of structures and improvements used in connection with distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 329.6$ million in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with an S 0 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 13.92 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 22.97 years. Operations personnel state that there are no obvious changes in the usage or characteristics of these assets that would suggest a material change in life.

There are a number of shorter life assets within the group: roofs, HVAC, generators, parking lot replacements, etc. that would moderate the building lives. The analysis shows lives holding in the 40-year range. Lives of the assets in this account are expected to be shorter than assets in Account 390, which have more robust systems like general office facilities. Actuarial analysis shows a life close to the current 40-year life parameter. Based on actuarial analysis and input from Company experts, this study recommends a slight change to a 39-year life while retaining the S0.5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 375.20 SCG Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (10 SQ)

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. Currently, there is no plant in this account. But SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future. Although, there is no similar asset on SoCalGas's books at this time, similar assets used by SDGE currently have a 10 year life. Based on the judgment and SDGE's similar assets, this study recommends a 10 year life with an SQ dispersion for this account. No graph is shown.

## Account 376.Mains (68 R2.5)

This account includes the cost of mains used in connection with distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 5.8$ billion in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 68 years with an R2.5 dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 17.35 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 28.63 years. This account combines three sub-accounts into one group. The table below shows the various components of this group.

| Description | Plant at 12/31/2020 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Steel Mains | $2,920,110,083.01$ |
| Plastic Mains | $2,844,782,527.82$ |
| Anodes | $7,091,529.38$ |
| Total | $5,771,984,140.21$ |

Integrity management program is replacing (\$280M per year) bare steel and early vintage plastic (pre-1973 and 1973-1985) for both mains and services. This program is a continuing effort that has been ongoing over time but has escalated over the last few years. Over the last 4 years, the replacements have tripled-in addition to normal replacements.

Operations personnel recommend retaining the 68 year life and the R2.5 dispersion. They would have expected the life to decrease with the level of retirements that are occurring. Given the situation with climate change and decarbonization, this study retains the existing service life. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 378 Measuring and Regulating Equipment (47 S1.5)

This account consists of measuring and regulating equipment used in distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 135.8$ million of investment in this account. The current approved life for this account is 47 years with an S 0.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 13.38 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 23.60 years. Higher risk regulating stations are being targeted for replacement.

The regulations for regulating stations have changed more than the regulations for mains and services. The Company has also been upgrading stations. They are also more aggressively targeting regulating stations that they have in the past.

Operationally, there is no reason that the life should increase. There are drivers that would decrease the life, such as Risk Assessment and Mitigation Phase ("RAMP") and Control Center Modernization programs. This study recommends retaining the 47 -year life while moving to an S 1.5 dispersion for this account. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 380 Services (67 R2)

This account consists of services used in distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 3.3$ billion of investment in this account. The current approved life for this account is 67 years with an R2 dispersion.

This group is made up of four subgroups shown below. The average age of survivors in this account is 19.47 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 22.25 years.

| Description | Plant at 12/31/2020 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Steel Services | $309,657,510.30$ |
| Plastic Services | $2,911,783,893.30$ |
| Copper Services | $1,518,313.00$ |
| Stub Labor and Non Labor | $81,926,227.50$ |
| Total | $3,304,885,944.10$ |

Company personnel report that if a service is cut, the Company will generally repair the service. If a service has a leak, the Company would likely replace it. When a steel main is replaced with plastic, the service would typically be replaced if it was also steel. Company personnel expect the life of services to be slightly shorter than the life of mains, as there are a number of factors that would cause services to retire earlier than mains. This study recommends retaining the 67 year life with an R2 dispersion for this account. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 381 Meters (25 S0.5)

This account includes the cost of meters used in measuring gas to residential. commercial, and industrial customers. There is approximately $\$ 648.0$ million in plant in this account. The current approved life of the meter account is 25 years with an S0.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 11.45 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 24.69 years. Operations personnel report that meters would have historically lasted longer. SoCalGas has six million meters in service. Operations personnel report that they target replacing aging meters that were approaching the 30-year life and will request more capital in this GRC. When SoCalGas installed meters under the Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI"), they would also replace older meters.

Company experts anticipate an operational life of about 25 years for SoCalGas. Two years ago, SoCalGas made a change to their sampling program that will likely extend the life of meters on average. Now, if a meter fails, they will take $2 \%$ off the bill for the family until the AMI battery fails.

In the future, they may expect to see a slight increase in life as this goes forward. Meters that are not in the residential sampling program must be tested every 10 years or replaced (with a few exceptions for very large meters). Meters that weigh less than 50 pounds will be taken to the meter shop to see if repair and rebuilding is possible. While under repair, the meters remain in service.

Meter costs have escalated, as there are now only two manufacturers in United States. Based on the visual matching and input from operations personnel, retention of a 25 S0.5 curve is recommended for this account. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 381.15 Modules- AMI (20 SQ)

This account includes the cost of module installations for domestic meter installations. The current approved life for this account is 20 years with an SQ dispersion. There is approximately $\$ 316.2$ million in plant in this account.

The average age of survivors in this account is 6.04 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 5.06 years. These assets have only been in service since 2012, so there is insufficient history to analyze the data. Operations personnel believe that
the life of this account will be the same as the current estimate. Based on input from Company personnel, this study recommends retention of the 20 year life with an SQ dispersion. No graph is shown.

## Account 382 Meter Installations (28 S1)

This account includes the cost of domestic meter installations (excluding the meters). The current approved life for this account is 30 years with an S 1 dispersion. There is approximately $\$ 453.7$ million in plant in this account. The average age of survivors in this account is 10.70 years.

The average age of retirements in this account is 15.03 years. Operations personnel report that the Company has started using a pre-manufactured Meter Set Assembly (MSA). If there is no over-pressure protection on a regulator, they will replace the regulator. Normally they replace one regulator for every two meters they replace. Typically, the MSA would not be replaced before the meter, but the MSA may be replaced at the same time as a meter. Actuarial analysis shows a slightly shorter life. Based on actuarial analysis and judgment, this study recommends moving from the 30 S 1 to the 28 S1 for this account. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 382.15 Module Installs-AMI (20 SQ)

This account includes the cost of module installations for domestic meter installations (excluding the meters). The current approved life for this account is 20 years with an SQ dispersion. There is approximately $\$ 151.9$ million in plant in this account.

The average age of survivors in this account is 5.95 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 5.96 years. These assets have only been in service since 2012, so there is insufficient history to analyze the data. Operations personnel believe that the life of this account will be the same as the current estimate. Based on input from Company personnel, this study recommends retention of the 20 year life with a SQ dispersion. No graph is shown.

## Account 382.60 Meter Installations-Other (15 SQ)

This account includes the cost of modules for meter installations (excluding the meters). The current approved life for this account is 15 years with an SQ dispersion. There is approximately $\$ 10.6$ million in plant in this account.

The average age of survivors in this account is 7.94 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 15.03 years. Operations personnel agree with the current life and see no force of retirement that would cause a change. Based on input from Company experts and judgment, this study recommends retention of the 15-year life with an SQ dispersion for this account. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 383 Regulators (33 L5)

This account includes the cost of domestic regulators. There is approximately $\$ 182.5$ million of plant in this account. The current approved life for this account is 33 years with an L5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 16.55 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 31.16 years. The retirement data is very limited for this account; and the data that does exist does not produce actuarial results that are reasonable for this type of assets. Company subject matter experts recommend leaving the life account at its current parameter, and accordingly this study recommends retention of 33 years with an L5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 387 Other Equipment (20 LO.5)

This account includes the cost of natural gas vehicle charging stations and related equipment. There is approximately $\$ 67.4$ million of plant in this account. The current approved life for this account is 21 years with an SC dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 10.53 years.

The average age of retirements in this account is 10.91 years. This study recommends moving from the 21-year life to a 20-year life with an L0.5 dispersion. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.

## General Plant

## Account 389.2 Rights of Way (50 SQ)

This account includes the cost of land rights used in connection with distribution operations. There is approximately $\$ 74.1$ thousand in this account. Currently, the approved life for this account is 40 years with an SQ dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 22.32 years. There have been few retirements in this account. Since the life of the largest account in this group (Account 390 Structures and Improvements) is moving to 46 years, the land that those assets rest upon should also have a longer life. Based on judgment and the proposed longer life for Account 390, this study recommends moving to a 50 year life and SQ dispersion.

## Account 390 Structures and Improvements (46 R0.5)

This account includes the cost of general structures and improvements used for utility service. There is approximately $\$ 193.1$ million in this account. The current life for this account is 33 years with an R1.5 dispersion.

The average age of survivors in this account is 15.32 years. The average age of retirements in this account is 18.96 years. Company experts believe that the current 33
year life seems short for buildings from an operations perspective.
They report that they would expect a life in the mid 40 -year range. There are a number of shorter-lived assets within the group: roofs, HVAC, Generators, parking. Pico Rivera (built in 1955) and Monterey Park (built in 1962) are the only sites in Account 390. Everything else is in other functions.

The Company is planning to do a campus wide revitalization for Pico Rivera, including adding a new building. The Company is also performing some upgrades at Monterey Park. They are in the early phases of a master plan for the two campuses. The average age of the assets is in the 40+ year range. Based on the actuarial analysis and judgment, this study recommends moving to a 46 -year life and moving to an R0.5 dispersion for this account. An observed life table is graphed with the proposed life and dispersion curve below.


## Account 390.10 Leasehold Improvements (Life Span, Retire 2026)

This account includes the cost of general structures and improvements leasehold assets used for utility service. There is approximately $\$ 41.2$ million in this account. Currently this account is treated as life span property with a 15 year life.

The tower lease expires in December 2026. The average age of survivors in this account is 8.06 years. Based on judgment, this study recommends retention of the existing life span and retirement curve. No graph is shown.

## Account 390.20 SCG Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (10 SQ)

This account includes the cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. Previously these items were booked in Account 390. There is approximately $\$ 8.2$ million in this account.

The current life for this account (in Account 390) is 33 years with an R 1.5 dispersion. The average age of survivors in this account is 0.50 years. There is no similar asset on SoCalGas's books at this time. Similar assets used by SDGE currently have a 10 year life. Based on the judgment and SDGE's similar assets, this study recommends a 10 year life with an SQ dispersion for this account. No graph is shown.

## Account 391.10 Office Furniture and Equipment (14 SQ)

This account consists of miscellaneous office furniture such as desks, chairs, filing cabinets, and tables used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 9.0$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 14 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 14-year amortization life for this account.

## Account 391.20 Computer Equipment (5 SQ)

This account consists of computer equipment used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 193.5$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 5 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 5-year amortization life for this account.

## Account 392 Transportation Equipment Autos (7 SQ)

This account consists of transportation equipment used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 269$ thousand million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 7 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not
possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 7-year amortization life.

## Account 392.3 Drones (5 SQ)

This account consists of drones that will be used to monitor company assets. This is a new account that will be added during the forecast period. Drone technology changes quickly and Company experts recommend a 5-year life. This study recommends using that 5-year amortization life.

## Account 393.0 Stores Equipment (20 SQ)

This account consists of stores equipment used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 113$ thousand in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 20 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 20-year amortization life for this account.

## Account 394.0 Capital Tools and Shop Equipment (20 SQ)

This account consists of various items or small tools used in shop and garages such as air compressors, grinders, and mixers. There is approximately $\$ 8.1$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 29 years.

Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. Given the small and portable nature of these assets, this study recommends a reduction in life for this account. This study recommends moving to a 20 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 394.19 Large Portable Tools (24 SQ)

This account consists of large items or tools used in shop and garages such as hoists, and cranes. There is approximately $\$ 96.2$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 24 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 24 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 395.0 Laboratory Equipment (15 SQ)

This account consists of laboratory equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 7.9$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 25 years.

Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. Company personnel state the life of this equipment is changing as laboratory equipment becomes more technology driven, with electric components. This study recommends moving to a 15 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 396.0 Construction Equipment (12 SQ)

This account consists of bulldozers, forklifts, trenchers, and other power operated equipment that cannot be licensed on roadways. The current approved life for this account is 12 years with an SQ dispersion. There is approximately $\$ 12$ thousand in plant in this account. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 12 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 397.0 Communication Equipment (15 SQ)

This account consists of miscellaneous communication equipment such as fiber optics, and various upgrades to equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 134.7$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 15 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 15 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 397.1 General Communication Equipment (5 SQ)

This account consists of general communication equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 34.7$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 5 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 5 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 397.2 PBX \& Other Voice Equipment (7 SQ)

This account consists of miscellaneous communication equipment related to PBX and other voice equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 785,000$ in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 7 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 7 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 397.30 Microwave and Radio Equipment (10 SQ)

This account consists of microwave and radio equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 10.0$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 10 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 10 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 397.40 Communication Structure (15 SQ)

This account consists of miscellaneous structures used for communication equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 5.3$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 15 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 15 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 397.55 Poles AMI (47 SQ)

This account consists of poles used with AMI metering equipment. There is approximately $\$ 19.0$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 40 years.

SoCalGas has no similar investment to these poles. This account is more like SDGE's Account 364 Poles, Towers and Fixtures. The current life for SDGE's Account 364 is 47 years. Retention of the 47 year life is recommended in SDGE's concurrent GRC. Based on SDGE's experience, this study recommends moving to a 47 year amortization life for this account.

## Account 398.0 Miscellaneous Equipment (20 SQ)

This account consists of miscellaneous equipment used in general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 1.3$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 20 years. Since this account has been amortized, it is not possible to perform actuarial analysis to estimate the life for this account. This study recommends retaining the 20 year amortization life for this account.

## Salvage Analysis

Terminal retirement occurs when a capital asset is retired, physically removed from service and finally disposed of. The residual value of a terminal retirement is called gross salvage. Net salvage is the difference between the gross salvage (what the asset was sold for) and the removal cost (cost to remove and dispose of the asset). Salvage and removal cost percentages are calculated by dividing the current cost of salvage or removal by the original installed cost of the asset. Some plant assets can experience significant negative removal cost percentages due to the timing of the original addition versus the retirement.

For example, a Distribution asset in FERC Account 367 with a current installed cost of $\$ 500$ (2020) would have had an installed cost of $\$ 27.99^{11}$ in 1950 . If one were to calculate removal cost as a percent of current cost, a removal cost of $\$ 50$ for the asset would only have a -10 percent removal cost ( $\$ 50 / \$ 500$ ). This would be incorrect. A correct removal cost calculation would show a negative 179 percent removal cost for that asset (\$50/\$27.99). Inflation from the time of installation of the asset until the time of its removal must be taken into account in the calculation of the removal cost percentage because the depreciation rate, which includes the removal cost percentage, will be applied to the original installed cost of assets.

Below are the rules surrounding SoCal Gas' removal of gas mains.

## Gas Main Abandonment Procedures

While gas mains for distribution are usually abandoned in place, the following removal costs are incurred per 49 CFR 192.727 (entitled "Abandonment or deactivation of facilities"). This regulation provides as follows:

[^12](a) Each operator shall conduct abandonment or deactivation of pipelines in accordance with the requirements of this section.
(b) Each pipeline abandoned in place must be disconnected from all sources and supplies of gas; purged of gas; in the case of offshore pipelines, filled with water or inert materials; and sealed at the ends. However, the pipeline need not be purged when the volume of gas is so small that there is no potential hazard.
(c) Except for service lines, each inactive pipeline that is not being maintained under this part must be disconnected from all sources and supplies of gas; purged of gas; in the case of offshore pipelines, filled with water or inert materials; and sealed at the ends. However, the pipeline need not be purged when the volume of gas is so small that there is no potential hazard.

Over time, the Company has been experiencing increasing costs to remove assets from service. There are many factors that contribute to this increasing cost. Some general factors are described below.

## Time Value of Money

Many gas main assets have a life cycle of 60 years or more. Some of the assets being removed were installed nearly 60 years ago when materials, labor, and cost of goods were cheaper.

## Urban Areas

The majority of the construction and reconstruction projects are in urban areas. Many cities require permits. These permits may impose fees and certain limitations such as the closure of roads during high traffic times. These permits may also require construction to occur in the evening or on weekends, which requires overtime of crews and additional equipment. Some municipalities are increasingly requiring companies to repave more of the road than just the paving disturbed by excavation activity.

## Contract Labor

In the last decade, investment in utility gas main renewal projects has increased substantially across the country. In addition, the same skills and resources are needed in
the larger oil and gas industry. This has created a high demand for the limited number of qualified personnel available to construct the work. Therefore, the cost of external contracts has increased due to supply and demand factors.

## Safety Requirements

The industry, and specifically SoCalGas, strives to provide a very high level of safe working practices. The equipment and provisions required today have increased substantially from 50 years ago. SoCalGas uses work safety practices that align with modern industry practice. These policies have increased the cost of doing business but are an important part of the strong safety principles at SoCalGas.

## Net Salvage Characteristics

For each function, data for retirements, gross salvage, and cost of removal for each functional group, adjusted as discussed above, was derived from 1993-2020. Moving averages, which remove timing differences between retirement and salvage and removal cost, were analyzed over periods varying from one to 10 years.

## Underground Storage Plant

## Account 350.31 Storage Rights (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to storage rights used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage for this account is 0 percent. Generally, little or no removal cost is incurred, and no salvage is received at the retirement of land rights. Therefore, this study recommends retaining the approved 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 350.32 Recoverable Oil (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to recoverable oil. The current authorized net salvage for this account is 0 percent. Generally, little or no removal cost is incurred, and no salvage is received at the retirement of land rights. Therefore, this study recommends retaining the approved 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 350.41 Rights of Way (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to rights of way used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage for
this account is 0 percent. Generally, little or no removal cost is incurred, and no salvage is received at the retirement of land rights. Therefore, this study recommends retaining the approved 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 351 Structures and Improvements (Negative 70\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to structures used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage for this account is negative 70 percent. Net salvage has been erratic in recent years, with the five-year and ten-year average net salvage for this account being negative 143 and 141 percent respectively. There was lower net salvage in 2018 and 2019 than prior periods. Given the pattern of data, this study recommends retaining 70 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 351.20 Storage Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (-5\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and/or removal cost related to cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future, and it is assumed that they will be incorporated into existing structures. However, since these assets are very different from buildings, the existing net salvage parameter for Account 351 is not representative of the future. There are costs of disposal, and SDGE is estimating negative 5 percent net salvage based on a disposal study performed by a consultant. Based on the proposed parameter requested by SDGE, this study recommends moving to negative 5 percent net salvage for this account

## Account 352 Wells (Negative 95\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to wells used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 70 percent. Experience during 2012-2020 show negative net salvage well in excess of 100 percent annually driven by the well abandonment projects. The cost to abandon wells has increased significantly due to new regulations. Some abandonment work done for retired assets many years ago must be redone to current regulation compliance, which will increase removal cost. Company experts provided average costs to abandon wells for each underground storage costs as shown in the table below.

| Storage Site | Avg Cost to Abandon Well | No of Wells | Estimated Removal Cost Inflated |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Goleta | 1,700,000 | 15 | \$ 55,200,992 |
| Honor Rancho | 1,321,441 | 32 | \$ 91,538,640 |
| Playa del Rey | 1,500,000 | 32 | \$ 103,907,749 |
| Aliso Canyon | 1,688,040 | 110 | \$ 401,959,333 |
| Total Wells |  | 189 | \$ 652,606,714 |
| Total Plant at 2020 |  |  | \$ 542,879,812 |
| Net salvage \% |  |  | -120.21\% |

The composite estimate from those amounts shows an estimated negative 120 percent net salvage. Based on the above estimates and remaining population of wells, this study proposes negative 95 percent net salvage for this account, based on the Commission's 25 percent gradualism precedent.

## Account 353.0 Lines (Negative 65\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to lines used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage is negative 40 percent. Moving averages in this account in the most recent year are negative 82 for both the 5 and 10 year periods. Based on judgment and Company history, this study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 65 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 354 Compressor Station Equipment (Negative 25\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to compressor station equipment used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent. Moving averages in this account in the most recent year are negative 27 percent and negative 33 percent for the 5 and 10 year periods. Based on recent experience, this study recommends moving from negative 15 percent net salvage to negative 25 percent for this account.

## Account 355 Measuring \& Regulating Equipment (Negative 5\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to measuring and regulating equipment used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is positive 5 percent. The most recent fiveyear and 10-year moving averages in this account are negative 9 and negative 8 percent, respectively. Based on recent experience, this study recommends moving to the trend in negative net salvage with a proposed negative 5 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 356 Purification Equipment (Negative 30\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to purification equipment used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 30 percent. There are environmental drivers that are increasing removal costs, including new asbestos and concrete regulations that impact the removal of asbestos in concrete foundations. Moving averages in this account in the most recent year are negative 46 and 59 percent for the 5 and 10 year periods respectively. For years 2018 and 2019, the net salvage indications were more in line with the existing negative 30 percent. Based on recent experience, this study recommends retaining negative 30 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 357 Other Storage Equipment (Negative 100\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to other storage equipment used in connection with underground storage operations. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 100 percent. Moving averages in this account range from negative 91 negative 110 percent in the 5 and 10 year period. Based on recent experience, this study recommends retaining negative 100 percent net salvage for this account.

## Transmission Plant

## Account 365.2 Rights of Way (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to land rights used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Generally, little or no removal cost is incurred, and no salvage is received at the retirement of land rights. Therefore, this study recommends retaining the approved 0
percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 366 Structures and Improvements (Negative 65\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to structures and improvements used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 40 percent. Negative net salvage has increased for this account, with the five year moving averages showing negative 245 percent and the 10 year average showing negative 242 percent. Based on judgment and Company history, this study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 65 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 366.20 Transmission Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (-5\% Net Salvage)

This account includes the any salvage and/or removal cost related to cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future, and it is assumed that they will be incorporated into existing structures. However, since these assets are very different from buildings, the existing net salvage parameter for Account 366 is not representative of the future. There are costs of disposal, and SDGE is estimating negative 5 percent net salvage based on a disposal study performed by a consultant. Based on the proposed parameter requested by SDGE, this study recommends moving to negative 5 percent net salvage for this account

## Account 367 Mains (Negative 85\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to mains used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 60 percent. The five and 10 year moving averages show negative 360 and negative 373 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company history, this study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 85 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 367.6 Hydro Test Costs (0\% Net Salvage)

This is a new account that will be used as the Company complies with new regulations. As noted, PHMSA has issued the Mega Rule effective July 1, 2020 that will impact pipeline of vintage 1970 and older. Costs incurred to comply with Mega Rule will be
treated as a capital item. These costs will have no residual value, so a $0 \%$ net salvage rate is recommended for this account.

## Account 368 Compressor Station Equipment (Negative 40\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to compressor station equipment used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent. The five and 10 year moving averages show negative 88 and negative 117 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company history, this study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 40 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 369 Measuring \& Regulating Equipment (Negative 75\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to measuring and regulating station equipment used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 50 percent. The five and 10 year moving averages show negative 187 and negative 198 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company history, this study recommends moving by negative 25 percent as allowed by the CPUC in recent proceedings to negative 75 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 370.0 Communication Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to communication equipment used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The retirement data since 2012 is very sparse with few retirements. While there are indications of higher negative net salvage, the data is not indicative of a pronounced trend. Based on recent data, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 371 Other Equipment (Negative 10\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to other equipment used in connection with transmission operations. The authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 10 percent. The retirement data since 2012 is very sparse with few retirements. While there are indications of higher negative net salvage, the data is not
indicative of a pronounced trend. Based on recent data, this study recommends retention of negative 10 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 371.1 Temporary Assemblies and Test Heads (0\% Net Salvage)

This account will include any gross salvage or cost of removal associated with temporary assemblies and test heads used in connection with transmission operations. This is a new account that will be separated from Account 371. Currently the authorized net salvage rate for the combined account is negative 10 percent. Company subject matter experts do not think there will be any residual net salvage for these assets at the end of their lives. Based on input from Company experts, this study recommends 0 percent net salvage for the new account.

## Distribution Function

## Account 374.2 Rights of Way (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to land rights used in connection with distribution operations. Generally, little or no removal cost is incurred, and no salvage is received at the retirement of land rights. The historical data also supports a 0 percent net salvage for this account. Therefore, this study recommends retaining the approved 0 percent net salvage.

## Account 375.0 Structures and Improvements (Negative 20\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and removal cost related to small structures and associated assets on the distribution system. The Commission has authorized a negative 10 percent net salvage rate for this account. The three-year, five-year, and 10year moving averages are negative 40 , negative 39 , and negative 39 percent, respectively. To move in the direction of this trend, a higher (more negative) net salvage is recommended. Based on judgment and Company experience, this study recommends moving to negative 20 percent net salvage.

## Account 375.20 Distribution Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (-5\% Net Salvage)

This account includes the any salvage and/or removal cost related to cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. SoCalGas expects to have these types of assets for this function in the future, and it is assumed that they will be incorporated into
existing structures. However, since these assets are very different from buildings, the existing net salvage parameter for Account 375 is not representative of the future. There are costs of disposal, and SDGE is estimating negative 5 percent net salvage based on a disposal study performed by a consultant. Based on the proposed parameter requested by SDGE, this study recommends moving to negative 5 percent net salvage for this account

## Account 376 Mains (Negative 105\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and removal cost related to distribution mains. The Commission has authorized a negative 80 percent net salvage rate for this account. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages show negative 243, negative 251, and negative 243 percent, respectively. To move in the direction of this trend, a higher (more negative) net salvage is recommended. Based on judgment and Company experience, this study recommends moving to negative 105 percent net salvage, based on the amount allowed by the CPUC for gradualism.

## Account 378.0 Measuring \& Regulating Station Equipment (Negative 120\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to installed equipment used in regulating gas at entry points to the distribution system. The current authorized net salvage is negative 95 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages show negative 375, negative 311, and negative 295 percent, respectively. Based on judgment and Company experience, this study recommends moving to negative 120 percent net salvage for this account, based on the amount allowed by the CPUC precedent regarding gradualism.

## Account 380 Services (Negative 140\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to services related to distribution operations. Service lines are the pipes and accessories leading from the main to the customers' premises. The material types in these accounts range from steel and plastic. The current authorized net salvage is negative 115 percent. The three-year, fiveyear, and 10-year moving averages show negative 181, negative 168, and negative 187 percent respectively. Based on judgment and Company experience, this study recommends moving to negative 140 percent net salvage for this account, based on the
amount allowed by the CPUC precedent regarding gradualism.

## Account 381.0 Meters (Positive 2\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to meters used in measuring gas to residential customers. The current authorized net salvage rate is positive 5 percent. Gross salvage proceeds as a percentage of retirements have declined in recent years. The current moving averages for 3 and 5 years are positive 2 for both periods. Based on judgment and Company experience, this study recommends moving to positive 2 percent net salvage for this account,

## Account 381.0 AMI Meters (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to AMI meters used in measuring gas to residential customers. The current authorized net salvage rate is 0 percent. These meter installations have net salvage history from 2018-2020, and there has been no net salvage received. Based on Company history and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 382.0 Meter Station Installation (0\% Net Salvage)

Account 382 includes any salvage and removal cost related to meter stations (excluding regulators). The current authorized net salvage percent is negative 10 percent. The overall 5 and 10 year moving averages show 0 and positive 2 percent. Based on Company experience, this study recommends moving in the direction of this trend to 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 382.15 Meter Station Installation-AMI (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to AMI meter installations. The current authorized net salvage rate is 0 percent. These meter installations have net salvage history from 2018-2020, and there has been no net salvage received. Based on Company history and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 382.60 Meter Station Installation Other (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to other meter installations used in measuring gas to customers. The current authorized net salvage rate
is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are 0 for all periods. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 383.0 House Regulators (Positive 4\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to house regulators. The current authorized net salvage rate is positive 5 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are 0,0 , and negative 6 percent, respectively. The six- and seven-year moving averages moderate the experience with a value of positive 4 percent for each time frame. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study moves in the direction of this trend and recommends positive 4 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 387.0 Other Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and removal cost related to other equipment such as CNG charging stations. The current authorized net salvage rate is positive 5 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 9 , negative 6 , and negative 5 percent, respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study moves in the direction of this trend and recommends 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## GENERAL PLANT

## Account 389.2 Rights of Way (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and/or removal cost related to land rights used in connection with general utility operations. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 0 percent. Generally, little or no removal cost is incurred, and no salvage is received at the retirement of land rights. Therefore, this study recommends retaining the approved 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 390 Structures and Improvements (-15\% Net Salvage)

This account includes the any salvage and/or removal cost related to cost of general structures and improvements used for utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 28 , negative 32 , and negative 15 percent, respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of negative 15 percent
net salvage for this account.

## Account 390.10 Leasehold Improvements (-15\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and/or removal cost related to cost of general office leasehold improvements used for utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent. Recent experience shows negative net salvage at a much higher level. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 282, negative 266, and negative 395 respectively. There has been limited data to support a change in the current net salvage parameter. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of negative 15 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 390.20 SCG Solar and Fuel Cell Assets (-5\% Net Salvage)

This account includes the any salvage and/or removal cost related to cost of solar and fuel cell assets used for utility service. These assets will be segregated going forward. Previously these items were booked in Account 390.

The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 15 percent, based on Account 390. Since these assets are very different from buildings, the existing net salvage parameter is not representative of the future. There are costs of disposal, and SDGE is estimating negative 6 percent net salvage based on a disposal study performed by a consultant. Based on the proposed parameter requested by SDGE, this study recommends moving to negative 5 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 391.10 Office Furniture and Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and/or removal cost related to miscellaneous office furniture such as desks, chairs, filing cabinets, and tables used for general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The threeyear, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 6, negative 8, and negative 10 percent respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 391.20 Computer Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer equipment used for general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are 0 percent for all periods. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retaining 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 392 Transportation Equipment Autos (5\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to transportation equipment and autos used for general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is positive 5 percent. Net salvage activity from 2016 forward has been very erratic, with no indication of trends going forward. Based on judgment, this study recommends retention of positive 5 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 392.3 Drones (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any gross salvage or cost of removal associated with drones that are used to monitor company assets. This is a new account that will add assets to plant during the forecast period. Drone technology changes quickly and Company experts do not believe there will be any value for these assets at the end of its life. Based on input from Company experts, this study recommends using 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 393.0 Stores Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to stores equipment used for general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. No gross salvage or cost of removal has been received in this account in many years. The 10-year moving average is 0 percent. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 394.0 Capital Tools and Shop Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to small tools used in shop and garages such as air compressors, grinders, and mixers. The current
authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10year moving averages are 0,1 , and 0 percent respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 394.19 Large Portable Tools (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to various large items or tools used in shop and garages such as hoists and cranes. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are 0 percent for all periods. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 395.0 Laboratory Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to laboratory equipment used in general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The five year and 10 year moving averages are 0 and negative 1 percent respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 396.0 Construction Equipment (25\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to bulldozers, forklifts, trenchers, and other power operated equipment that cannot be licensed on roadways. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is positive 25 percent. Retirements and net salvage activity has been sparce in recent years. Since recent data is not robust, no change in net salvage for this account seems reasonable. Accordingly, based on judgment this study recommends retention of positive 25 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 397.0 Communication Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to miscellaneous assets such as fiber optics, and various upgrades to communication equipment used in general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 7 , negative 6 , and negative 2 percent respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study
recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 397.1 General Communication Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to general network communication equipment used in general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are 0 percent for all periods. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 397.2 PBX \& Other Voice Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to PBX and other voice equipment used in general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are 0 percent for all periods. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 397.30 Microwave and Radio Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to microwave and radio equipment used in general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 2, negative 1, and 0 percent respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 397.40 Communication Structure (-5\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related communication structures used in general utility service. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is negative 5 percent. The three-year, five-year, and 10-year moving averages are negative 16, negative 15, and negative 10 percent, respectively. Based on Company history and judgment, this study recommends retention of negative 5 percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 397.55 Poles AMI (-25\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to poles used with AMI metering equipment. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0
percent. There has been no retirement or net salvage experience in this account as yet. These assets are similar to Account 364-Poles, Towers, and Fixtures in SDGE. The current authorized net salvage parameter for SDGE is negative 95 percent, which is what SDG\&E recommends retaining in its GRC. Given the net salvage position for this account for SDGE, this study recommends moving in the direction of negative net salvage for this account. Based on judgment, this study recommends moving to negative 25 percent net salvage for this account, based on the amount allowed by the CPUC's gradualism precedent.

## Account 398.0 Miscellaneous Equipment (0\% Net Salvage)

This account includes any salvage and/or removal cost related to miscellaneous equipment. The current authorized net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. No gross salvage or cost of removal has been received in this account since 2017. The three-year, five-year, and 10 -year moving averages are $0.00,0.05$, and 0.11 percent, respectively. Based on recent experience and judgment, this study recommends retention of 0 percent net salvage for this account.

## AMORTIZATION ACCOUNTS- COMPUTER SOFTWARE

## Life Parameters

## Account 303.1 Cloud Computing (5 SQ)

This account consists of assets related to cloud computing used software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 640$ thousand in this account. This is a new account. The Company is requesting a fixed life amortization of 5 years based on contract duration. This study recommends a 5-year amortization rate for this account.

## Account 391.30 Computer Software 3 Years ASL (3 SQ)

This account consists of computer software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 30.6$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 3 years. This study recommends retaining the 3 year amortization rate for this account.

## Account 391.35 Computer Software AMI (5 SQ)

This account consists of computer software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 8.0$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 5 years. This study recommends retaining the 5 year amortization rate for this account.

## Account 391.40 Computer Software 6 Years (6 SQ)

This account consists of computer software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 525.7$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 6 years. This study recommends retaining the 6 year amortization rate for this account.

## Account 391.50 Computer Software 10 Years (10 SQ)

This account consists of computer software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 286.0$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 10 years. This study recommends retaining the 10 year amortization rate for this account.

## Account 391.50 Computer Software 15 Years (15 SQ)

This account consists of computer software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 6.5$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 15 years. This study recommends retaining the 15 year amortization rate for this account.

## Account 391.60 Computer Software 20 Years (20 SQ)

This account consists of computer software used for general utility service. There is approximately $\$ 1.3$ million in this account. This account currently has a fixed life for amortization of 20 years. This study recommends retaining the 20 year amortization rate for this account.

## Net Salvage Parameters

## Account 303.10 Cloud Computing (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to cloud computing
assets used for general utility service. This is a new account with no net salvage parameter. Cloud computing and related software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using knowledge of the asset base, this study proposes zero percent net salvage for this account.

## Account 391.30 Computer Software 3 Years ASL (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer software with a life of three years used for general utility service. The current net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using judgment and experience, this study proposes retaining the current net salvage parameter of zero percent for this account.

## Account 391.35 Computer Software AMI (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer software with a life of 5 years used for general utility service. The current net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using judgment and experience, this study proposes retaining the current net salvage parameter of zero percent for this account.

## Account 391.40 Computer Software 6 Years ( $0 \%$ Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer software with a life of 6 years used for general utility service. The current net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using judgment and experience, this study proposes retaining the current net salvage parameter of zero percent for this account.

## Account 391.50 Computer Software 10 Years (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer software with a life of 10 years used for general utility service. The current net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using judgment and experience, this study proposes retaining the current net salvage parameter of zero percent for this account.

## Account 391.50 Computer Software 15 Years (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer software with a life of 15 years used for general utility service. The current net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using judgment and experience, this study proposes retaining the current net salvage parameter of zero percent for this account.

## Account 391.60 Computer Software 20 Years (0\% Net Salvage)

This account consists of any salvage and/or removal cost related to computer software with a life of 20 years used for general utility service. The current net salvage rate for this account is 0 percent. Software has no intrinsic net salvage value. Using judgment and experience, this study proposes retaining the current net salvage parameter of zero percent for this account.

## Amortization Rates

For these accounts, this study recommends retention of the existing rates, which are based on whole-life depreciation. The table below gives the current and proposed accrual rate for each account.

| Account | Current/ Proposed Amortization Rate |
| :--- | :---: |
| 391.30 Computer Software 3 yr Life | $33.33 \%$ |
| 391.35 Computer Software and 303.1 <br> Cloud Computing 5 yr Life | $20.00 \%$ |
| 391.40 Computer Software 6 yr Life | $16.67 \%$ |
| 391.50 Computer Software 10 yr Life | $10.00 \%$ |
| 391.55 Computer Software 15 yr Life | $6.67 \%$ |
| 391.60 Computer Software 20 yr Life | $5.00 \%$ |

## APPENDIX A

## Depreciation Rate Calculations

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS

| Account | Description | Plant In Service at $12 / 31 / 2021$ | Book Depreciation at 12/31/2021 |  | Net Salvage Amount | Amount to be Recovered | $\begin{gathered} \text { Remaining } \\ \text { Life } \end{gathered}$ | Annual Deprecation Amount | Accrual Rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Underground Storage Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 350.31 | Storage Rights | 1,769,562 | 280,655 | 0.00\% | 0 | 1,488,907 | 43.94 | 33,885 | 1.91\% |
| 350.32 | Recoverable Oil | 0 | 0 | 0.00\% | 0 | 0 |  | 0 | 2.00\% |
| 350.40 | Rights-of-Way | 19,998 | 13,433 | 0.00\% | 0 | 6,565 | 24.69 | 266 | 1.33\% |
|  | Structures \& |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 351.00 | Improvements | 130,243,659 | 35,146,485 | -70.00\% | $(91,170,562)$ | 186,267,736 | 43.48 | 4,283,804 | 3.29\% |
|  | Underground Storage |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 351.20 | Solar \& Fuel Cell |  |  | -5.00\% |  |  | 10.00 |  | 10.50\% |
| 352.00 | Wells | 598,590,798 | -107,213,422 | -95.00\% | (568,661,258) | 1,274,465,477 | 40.23 | 31,678,788 | 5.29\% |
| 353.00 | Lines | 196,882,073 | 60,795,938 | -65.00\% | $(127,973,348)$ | 264,059,483 | 38.55 | 6,848,933 | 3.48\% |
|  | Compressor Station |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 354.00 | Eqpt | 471,034,627 | 98,644,895 | -25.00\% | $(117,758,657)$ | 490,148,389 | 35.37 | 13,856,866 | 2.94\% |
|  | Measuring \& Regulating |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 355.00 | Eqpt | 18,374,050 | 4,438,712 | -5.00\% | $(918,703)$ | 14,854,041 | 24.47 | 607,059 | 3.30\% |
| 356.00 | Purification Equipment | 170,515,026 | 92,676,604 | -30.00\% | $(51,154,508)$ | 128,992,930 | 29.89 | 4,315,766 | 2.53\% |
| 357.00 | Other Equipment | 92,512,870 | 28,758,287 | -100.00\% | $(92,512,870)$ | 156,267,454 | 31.29 | 4,993,811 | 5.40\% |
|  |  | 1,679,942,666 | 213,541,587 |  | (1,050,149,905) | 2,516,550,984 |  | 66,619,178 |  |
| 365.29 | Transmission Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Rights-of-Way Structures \& | 122,996,702 | 14,964,261 | 0.00\% | 0 | 108,032,441 | 35.09 | 3,078,006 | 2.50\% |
| 366.00 | Improvements | 143,727,588 | 22,238,585 | -65.00\% | $(93,422,932)$ | 214,911,935 | 40.43 | 5,315,673 | 3.70\% |
|  | Transmission Solar \& |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 366.20 | Fuel Cell |  |  | -5.00\% |  |  | 10.00 |  | 10.50\% |
| 367.00 | Mains | 3,004,328,727 | 777,642,031 | -85.00\% | (2,553,679,418) | 4,780,366,115 | 59.11 | 80,868,001 | 2.69\% |
|  | Compressor Station |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 368.00 | Eqpt | 541,246,895 | 106,642,723 | -40.00\% | (216,498,758) | 651,102,930 | 41.24 | 15,786,525 | 2.92\% |
|  | Measuring \& Regulating |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 369.00 | Eqpt | 344,966,875 | 48,459,707 | -75.00\% | (258,725,156) | 555,232,324 | 44.06 | 12,600,764 | 3.65\% |
| 370.00 | Communication Eqpt | 81,964,952 | 16,923,474 | 0.00\% | 0 | 65,041,479 | 11.51 | 5,651,222 | 6.89\% |
| 371.00 | Other Equipment | 11,494,628 | 4,779,387 | -10.00\% | $(1,149,463)$ | 7,864,703 | 13.61 | 577,851 | 5.03\% |
| 371.10 | Temporary Assemblies |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | and Test Heads | 699 | -7,070 | 0.00\% | 0 | 7,769 | 9.50 | 818 | 116.96\% |
|  |  | 4,250,727,067 | 991,643,098 |  | -3,123,475,728 | 6,382,559,696 |  | 123,878,859 |  |
|  | Distribution Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 374.20 | Land Rights | 1,868,656 | 1,215,002 | 0.00\% | 0 | 653,654 | 24.49 | 26,695 | 1.43\% |
|  | Structures \& |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 375.00 | Improvements | 361,003,945 | 97,104,264 | -20.00\% | (72,200,789) | 336,100,470 | 28.69 | 11,714,662 | 3.25\% |
|  | Distribution Solar \& Fuel |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 375.20 | Cell |  |  | -5.00\% |  |  | 10.00 |  | 10.50\% |
| 376.00 | Mains | 6,152,508,423 | 2,816,036,120 | -105.00\% | $(6,460,133,844)$ | 9,796,606,146 | 53.00 | 184,836,390 | 3.00\% |
|  | Measuring \& Regulating |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 378.00 | Eqpt | 155,426,546 | 88,006,090 | -120.00\% | $(186,511,855)$ | 253,932,311 | 35.95 | 7,064,313 | 4.55\% |
| 380.00 | Services | 3,551,498,851 | 2,268,159,415 | -140.00\% | (4,972,098,391) | 6,255,437,827 | 51.29 | 121,969,999 | 3.43\% |
| 381.00 | Meters | 667,538,824 | 213,870,181 | 2.00\% | 13,350,776 | 440,317,867 | 16.32 | 26,979,582 | 4.04\% |
| 381.15 | Modules - AMI | 318,851,448 | 103,321,070 | 0.00\% | 0 | 215,530,378 | 13.07 | 16,493,537 | 5.17\% |
| 382.00 | Meter Installations | 480,153,801 | 174,367,848 | 0.00\% | 0 | 305,785,953 | 19.27 | 15,867,357 | 3.30\% |
| 382.15 | Module Installs-AMI | 150,549,481 | 49,429,948 | 0.00\% | 0 | 101,119,533 | 13.05 | 7,748,401 | 5.15\% |
|  | Meter Installations - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 382.60 | Other | 10,062,865 | 6,445,904 | 0.00\% | 0 | 3,616,961 | 7.01 | 516,188 | 5.13\% |
| 383.00 | House Regulators | 188,953,322 | 85,150,604 | 4.00\% | 7,558,133 | 96,244,586 | 17.72 | 5,431,707 | 2.87\% |
| 387.00 | Other Equipment | 76,602,610 | 30,416,583 | 0.00\% | 0 | 46,186,027 | 14.83 | 3,115,185 | 4.07\% |

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS
COMPUTATION OF DEPRECIATION ACCRUAL RATES AT COMPUTATION OF DEPRECIATION ACCRUAL RATES AT DECEMBER 31, 2021

| Account | Description | $\begin{gathered} \text { Plant } \\ \text { In Service } \\ \text { at } 12 / 31 / 2021 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Book Depreciation at $12 / 31 / 2021$ | Net Salvage \% | Net Salvage Amount | Amount to be Recovered | $\begin{gathered} \text { Remaining } \\ \text { Life } \end{gathered}$ | Annual Deprecation Amount | $\begin{gathered} \text { Accrual } \\ \text { Rate } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 12,115,018,771 | 5,933,523,028 |  | (11,670,035,969) | 17,851,531,712 |  | 401,764,014 |  |
|  | General Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 389.20 | 389.20-Land Rights | 74,149 | 43,774 | 0.00\% | 0 | 30,375 | 20.48 | 1,483 | 2.00\% |
| 390.00 | Improvements | 207,101,932 | 166,406,427 | -15.00\% | $(31,065,290)$ | 71,760,794 | 36.90 | 1,944,894 | 0.94\% |
|  | Structures \& |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 390.10 | Improvements-GCT SCG Solar \& Fuel Cell | 41,074,629 | 30,181,079 | -15.00\% | $(6,161,194)$ | 17,054,745 | 5.00 | 3,410,949 | 8.30\% |
| 390.20 | Assets | 8,167,775 | 327,384 | -5.00\% | $(408,389)$ | 8,248,780 | 8.50 | 970,445 | 11.88\% |
| 390.00 | Total 390 | 256,344,336 | 196,914,890 | -14.68\% | $(37,634,873)$ | 97,064,319 | 15.34 | 6,326,287 | 2.47\% |
| 391.10 | Office Furniture \& Eqpt | 4,568,078 | 938,216 | 0.00\% | 0 | 3,629,862 | 7.71 | 471,007 | 10.31\% |
| 392.00 | Autos | 149,370 | 77,425 | 5.00\% | 7,469 | 64,477 | 3.91 | 16,509 | 11.05\% |
|  | Transportation Eqpt- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 392.30 | Aviation |  |  | 0.00\% | 0 |  | 5.00 |  | 20.00\% |
| 393.00 | Stores Equipment | 112,635 | 80,923 | 0.00\% | 0 | 31,712 | 10.16 | 3,120 | 2.77\% |
|  | Capital Tools-KM/Shop |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 394.00 | Eqpt | 8,190,996 | 3,662,342 | 0.00\% | 0 | 4,528,655 | 6.08 | 745,030 | 9.10\% |
| 394.19 | Large Portable Tools | 115,086,593 | 29,929,377 | 0.00\% | 0 | 85,157,216 | 17.63 | 4,829,007 | 4.20\% |
| 395.00 | Laboratory Equipment | 8,399,288 | 1,822,398 | 0.00\% | 0 | 6,576,891 | 9.66 | 680,546 | 8.10\% |
| 396.00 | Construction Equipment | 1,124 | -1,828 | 25.00\% | 281 | 2,671 | 1.00 | 2,671 | 237.65\% |
| 397.00 | Communication Eqpt General Comn Eqpt-5 | 144,037,717 | 56,260,013 | 0.00\% | 0 | 87,777,704 | 8.78 | 9,997,425 | 6.94\% |
| 397.10 | yrs ASL PBX \& Other Voice | 36,986,145 | 20,240,703 | 0.00\% | 0 | 16,745,441 | 2.30 | 7,285,719 | 19.70\% |
| 397.20 | Eqpt - 7 yrs ASL Microwave \& Radio | 521,389 | 185,968 | 0.00\% | 0 | 335,422 | 4.90 | 68,460 | 13.13\% |
| 397.30 | Eqpt - 10 yrs ASL Communication | 9,689,743 | 6,430,057 | 0.00\% | 0 | 3,259,686 | 3.26 | 999,058 | 10.31\% |
| 397.40 | Structure | 5,302,685 | 2,808,664 | -5.00\% | $(265,134)$ | 2,759,156 | 7.34 | 376,136 | 7.09\% |
| 397.55 | Poles - AMI | 19,035,309 | 3,381,619 | -25.00\% | $(4,758,827)$ | 20,412,518 | 39.85 | 512,224 | 2.69\% |
|  | Miscellaneous |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 398.00 | Equipment | 1,444,836 | 288,478 | 0.00\% | -42,651,085 | 1,156,358 | 11.06 | 104,598 | 7.24\% |
|  |  | 810,150,645 | 419,923,690 |  |  | 432,878,040 | 75,313,810 |  |  |
| Amortization Accounts After retirement fully acrrued accounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 391.3 | Computer Sftwr - 3 yrs ASL | 34,752,030 | 21,478,525 | 0.00\% | 0 | 13,273,506 | 1.15 | 11,582,852 | 33.33\% |
|  | Cloud Computing and |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 303.10 \& 391.3 | Computer SW 5 Yr | 6,058,913 | 4,918,681 | 0.00\% | 0 | 1,140,232 | 0.94 | 1,211,783 | 20.00\% |
| 391.4 | Computer Sftwr - 6 yrs ASL | 556,616,872 | 251,018,059 | 0.00\% | 0 | 305,598,813 | 3.29 | 92,788,033 | 16.67\% |
| 391.5 | Computer Sttwr - 10 yrs ASL | 223,651,356 | 182,455,038 | 0.00\% | 0 | 41,196,318 | 1.84 | 22,365,136 | 10.00\% |
| 391.55 | Computer Sttwr - 15 yrs ASL | 6,502,820 | 3,860,552 | 0.00\% | 0 | 2,642,267 | 6.09 | 433,738 | 6.67\% |
| 391.6 | Computer Sttwr - 20 yrs ASL | 1,411,598 | 95,353 | 0.00\% | 0 | 1,316,245 | 18.65 | 70,580 | 5.00\% |
|  |  | 828,993,588 | 463,826,208 |  | 0 | 365,167,381 | 32 | 128,452,120 |  |

## APPENDIX B

## Depreciation Expense Comparison


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[^13]$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$

$\begin{array}{ll} & \text { Distribution Plant } \\ \text { 374.20 } & \text { Land Rights } \\ \text { 375.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 375.20 } & \text { Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 376.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 378.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 380.00 } & \text { Services } \\ \text { 381.00 } & \text { Meters } \\ \text { 381.15 } & \text { Modules - AMI } \\ \text { 382.00 } & \text { Meter Installations } \\ \text { 382.15 } & \text { Module Installs-AMI } \\ \text { 382.60 } & \text { Meter Installations - Other } \\ \text { 383.00 } & \text { House Regulators } \\ \text { 387.00 } & \text { Other Equipment }\end{array}$


## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS

COMPARISON OF CURRENT AND PROPOSED DEPRECIATION RATES

| Account | Description | Plant In Service at $12 / 31 / 2021$ | Current Accrual Rate | Current <br> Accrual <br> Expense | Proposed Accrual Rate | Proposed Accrual Expense | Difference |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | General Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 389.20 | 389.20-Land Rights | 74,149 | 1.57\% | 1,164 | 2.00\% | 1,483 | 319 |
| 390.00 | Structures \& Improvements | 207,101,932 | 1.57\% | 3,250,382 | 0.94\% | 1,944,894 | $(1,305,488)$ |
| 390.10 | Structures \& Improvements-GCT | 41,074,629 | 9.23\% | 3,789,943 | 8.30\% | 3,410,949 | $(378,994)$ |
| 390.20 | SCG Solar \& Fuel Cell Assets | 8,167,775 | 3.49\% | 285,373 | 11.88\% | 970,445 | 685,072 |
| 391.10 | Office Furniture \& Eqpt | 4,568,078 | 10.31\% | 470,969 | 10.31\% | 471,007 | 38 |
| 391.20 | Computer Equipment | 200,206,251 | 21.42\% | 42,888,089 | 21.43\% | 42,894,529 | 6,440 |
| 392.00 | Transportation Eqpt - Autos | 149,370 | 11.05\% | 16,505 | 11.05\% | 16,509 | 4 |
| 392.30 | Transportation Eqpt-Aviation |  |  |  | 20.00\% |  |  |
| 393.00 | Stores Equipment | 112,635 | 2.77\% | 3,120 | 2.77\% | 3,120 | (0) |
| 394.00 | Capital Tools-KM/Shop Eqpt | 8,190,996 | 3.88\% | 317,811 | 9.10\% | 745,030 | 427,219 |
| 394.19 | Large Portable Tools | 115,086,593 | 4.20\% | 4,829,007 | 4.20\% | 4,829,007 | 0 |
| 395.00 | Laboratory Equipment | 8,399,288 | 4.11\% | 345,211 | 8.10\% | 680,546 | 335,335 |
| 396.00 | Construction Equipment | 1,124 | 475.30\% | 5,342 | 237.65\% | 2,671 | $(2,671)$ |
| 397.00 | Communication Eqpt | 144,037,717 | 6.94\% | 9,997,458 | 6.94\% | 9,997,425 | (32) |
| 397.10 | General Comn Eqpt - 5 yrs ASL | 36,986,145 | 19.70\% | 7,285,719 | 19.70\% | 7,285,719 | 0 |
| 397.20 | PBX \& Other Voice Eqpt - 7 yrs ASL | 521,389 | 13.13\% | 68,460 | 13.13\% | 68,460 | 0 |
| 397.30 | Microwave \& Radio Eqpt - 10 yrs ASL | 9,689,743 | 10.31\% | 999,058 | 10.31\% | 999,058 | 0 |
| 397.40 | Communication Structure | 5,302,685 | 7.09\% | 376,136 | 7.09\% | 376,136 | 0 |
| 397.55 | Poles - AMI | 19,035,309 | 2.50\% | 476,678 | 2.69\% | 512,224 | 35,546 |
| 398.00 | Miscellaneous Equipment | 1,444,836 | 7.24\% | 104,606 | 7.24\% | 104,598 | (8) |
|  | Total | 810,150,645 |  | 75,511,031 |  | 75,313,810 | $(197,221)$ |
| Amortization Accounts After retirement fully acrrued accounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 391.30 | Computer Sftwr - 3 yrs ASL | 34,752,030 | 33.33\% | 11,582,852 | 33.33\% | 11,582,852 | 0 |
| 303.10 \&: | : Cloud Computing \& Computer SW 5 Yr | 6,058,913 | 20.00\% | 1,211,783 | 20.00\% | 1,211,783 | 0 |
| 391.40 | Computer Sftwr - 6 yrs ASL | 556,616,872 | 16.67\% | 92,788,033 | 16.67\% | 92,788,033 | 0 |
| 391.50 | Computer Sftwr - 10 yrs ASL | 223,651,356 | 10.00\% | 22,365,136 | 10.00\% | 22,365,136 | 0 |
| 391.55 | Computer Sftwr - 15 yrs ASL | 6,502,820 | 6.67\% | 433,738 | 6.67\% | 433,738 | 0 |
| 391.60 | Computer Sftwr - 20 yrs ASL | 1,411,598 | 5.00\% | 70,580 | 5.00\% | 70,580 | 0 |
|  | Total | 828,993,588 |  | 128,452,120 |  | 128,452,120 | 0 |
|  | Total Depreciable | 19,684,832,737 |  | 730,768,359 |  | 796,027,980 | 65,259,621 |

## APPENDIX C

## Depreciation Parameter Comparison

Southern California Cas
Current and Proposed Depreciation and Amortization Parameters
at December 31, 2021

| Account | Description | Current Parameters |  |  |  | Proposed Parameters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Life |  | Curve | Net Salvage \% | Life | Curve | Net Salvage \% |
| 303.10 | Cloud Computing | NA |  | NA | NA | 5 | SQ | 0.00\% |
|  | Underground Storage Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 350.31 | Storage Rights |  | 40 | SQ | 0.00\% | 50 |  | 0.00\% |
| 350.32 | Recoverable Oil |  | 40 | SQ | 0.00\% | 50 | SQ | 0.00\% |
| 350.40 | Rights-of-Way |  | 40 | SQ | 0.00\% | 50 | SQ | 0.00\% |
| 351.00 | Structures \& Improvements |  | 48 | R1.5 | -70.00\% | 51 | R1.5 | -70.00\% |
| 351.20 | Underground Storage Solar \& Fuel Cell |  | 48 | R1.5 | -70.00\% | 10 | SQ | -5.00\% |
| 352.00 | Wells |  | 49 | R2.5 | -70.00\% | 49 | R2.5 | -95.00\% |
| 353.00 | Lines |  | 54 | R3 | -40.00\% | 50 | R4 | -65.00\% |
| 354.00 | Compressor Station Eqpt |  | 41 | L0.5 | -15.00\% | 41 | L0.5 | -25.00\% |
| 355.00 | Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt |  | 22 | L0 | 5.00\% | 30 | L1 | -5.00\% |
| 356.00 | Purification Equipment |  | 39 | R2.5 | -30.00\% | 44 | R2.5 | -30.00\% |
| 357.00 | Other Equipment |  | 37 | R2.5 | -100.00\% | 38 | R3 | -100.00\% |
|  | Transmission Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 365.29 | Rights-of-Way |  | 40 | SQ | 0.00\% | 40 | SQ | 0.00\% |
| 366.00 | Structures \& Improvements |  | 47 | R2 | -40.00\% | 47 | R2 | -65.00\% |
| 366.20 | Transmission Solar \& Fuel Cell |  | 47 | R2 | -40.00\% | 10 | SQ | -5.00\% |
| 367.00 | Mains |  |  | R3 | -60.00\% | 70 | R2 | -85.00\% |
| 367.60 | Hydro Test costs |  |  | NA | NA | 21 | SQ | 0.00\% |
| 368.00 | Compressor Station Eqpt |  | 50 | R1 | -15.00\% | 48 | R1 | -40.00\% |
| 369.00 | Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt |  | 46 | So | -50.00\% | 48 | R0.5 | -75.00\% |
| 370.00 | Communication Eqpt |  | 15 | SQ | 0.00\% | 15 | SQ | 0.00\% |
| 371.00 | Other Equipment |  | 21 | L0.5 | -10.00\% | 20 | L2 | -10.00\% |
| 371.10 | Temporary Assemblies and Test Heads |  |  |  | NA | 10 | SQ | 0.00\% |
|  | Distribution Plant |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 374.20 | Land Rights |  | 40 | SQ | 0.00\% | 70 | SQ | 0.00\% |
| 375.00 | Structures \& Improvements |  | 40 | So | -10.00\% | 39 | S0.5 | -20.00\% |
| 375.20 | Distribution Solar \& Fuel Cell |  |  | S0 | -10.00\% | 10 |  | -5.00\% |
| 376.00 | Mains |  | 68 | R2.5 | -80.00\% | 68 | R2.5 | -105.00\% |
| 378.00 | Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt |  | 47 | S0.5 | -95.00\% | 47 | S1.5 | -120.00\% |
| 380.00 | Services |  |  | R2 | -115.00\% | 67 | R2 | -140.00\% |

Southern California Cas
Current and Proposed Depreciation and Amortization Parameters



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## APPENDIX D

## Net Salvage Analysis



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SoCalGas 2024 GRC Testimony Revision Log - November 2022

| Exhibit | Witness | Page | Line or Table | Revision Detail |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SCG-32-R | Dane A. <br> Watson | DAW-1 | Figure <br> DW-1 | Revised table |


[^0]:    Depreciation expense excludes non-General Rate Case (GRC) items (incremental projects).

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ W.C. Fitch and F.K. Wolf, Depreciation Systems, at page 289 (Iowa State Press, 1994).

[^2]:    Source: Introduction to Depreciation for
    Public Utilities and Other Industries,
    AGA EEI, 2013.

[^3]:    3 This is the case for Accounts 367, 376 and 380, as discussed in the account level results section.

[^4]:    4 NARUC, Public Utility Depreciation Practices (1996) at 126 (emphasis added).

[^5]:    5 Decision (D.)14-08-032 at 598.
    Id.
    Id. at 600 .
    D.15-11-021 at 413, 421, and 425 .
    D.19-05-020 at 315-320.
    D.19-09-051 at 623 .

[^6]:    12 The removal costs in this account have been so high that accumulated depreciation at December 31, 2020 is (\$46.996.177).

[^7]:    13 DynamicRisk.net, The PHMSA Gas "Mega Rule" in Practice (November 14, 2020) available at https://dynamicrisk.net/2020/11/14/phmsa-mega-rule-inpractice/\#:~:text=PHMSA's\%20Mega\%20Rule\%20is\%20now,management\%20programs\%20and\%2 Ooperating\%20practices.

[^8]:    ${ }^{1}$ INTRODUCTION TO DEPRECIATION FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES \& OTHER INDUSTRIES, AGA EEI (2013).
    ${ }^{2}$ W. C. Fitch and F.K.Wolf, DEPRECIATION SYSTEMS, Iowa State Press, at page 289 (1994).

[^9]:    ${ }^{3} \mathrm{D}-14-08-032$ at 597.

[^10]:    ${ }^{4} / d$.
    ${ }^{5} / d$, at 600.
    ${ }^{6}$ Id., at 600.
    ${ }^{7}$ Id. at 413, 421, 425.
    ${ }^{8}$ A19-05-020 at 315 and 329.
    ${ }^{9}$ D-19-09-051 020 at 623;

[^11]:    10 https://dynamicrisk.net/2020/11/14/phmsa-mega-rule-in-
    practice/\#:~:text=PHMSA's\%20Mega\%20Rule\%20is\%20now,management\%20programs\%20and\%20ope rating\%20practices.

[^12]:    ${ }^{11}$ Using the Handy-Whitman Bulletin No. 194, G-6, line 27, $\$ 27.99=\$ 500 \times 37 / 661$.

[^13]:    Transmission Plant
    $\begin{array}{ll}\text { 365.29 } & \text { Rights-of-Way } \\ \text { 366.00 } & \text { Structures \& Improvements } \\ \text { 366.20 } & \text { Transmission Solar \& Fuel Cell } \\ \text { 367.00 } & \text { Mains } \\ \text { 367.60 } & \text { Hydro Test costs } \\ \text { 368.00 } & \text { Compressor Station Eqpt } \\ \text { 369.00 } & \text { Measuring \& Regulating Eqpt } \\ \text { 370.00 } & \text { Communication Eqpt } \\ \text { 371.00 } & \text { Other Equipment } \\ \text { 371.10 } & \text { Temporary Assemblies and Test }\end{array}$
    371.00 Other Equipment
    371.10 Temporary Assemblies and Test Heads

