

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



March 21, 2007

Advice Letter 2104-E

Akbar Jazayeri  
Director of Revenue and Tariffs  
Southern California Edison Company  
P O Box 800  
Rosemead, CA 91770

Subject: Request for Commission Authorization to Enhance the 2006 Energy Assistance Fund  
Rate Relief Program to Allow Residential Customers Impacted by the January 2007  
Freeze to Receive Additional Utility Payment Assistance

Dear Mr. Jazayeri:

Advice Letter 2104-E is effective March 22, 2007. A copy of the advice letter is included herewith for your records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean H. Gallagher".

Sean H. Gallagher, Director  
Energy Division

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February 20, 2007

**ADVICE 2104-E**  
**(U 338-E)**

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY DIVISION

**SUBJECT:** Request for Commission Authorization to Enhance the  
2006 Energy Assistance Fund Rate Relief Program to Allow  
Residential Customers Impacted by the January 2007 Freeze  
to Receive Additional Utility Payment Assistance

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this advice filing is to request California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) authorization to enhance the Energy Assistance Fund (EAF) Rate Relief Program for the benefit of residential customers impacted by the January 2007 freeze.

**BACKGROUND**

SCE's EAF is a non-mandated assistance program designed to help SCE's income-qualified customers pay their electric bills. The United Way of Greater Los Angeles (United Way) works with approximately 135 non-profit, community-based organizations to help distribute the money to qualified customers throughout SCE's service territory.

In Advice 2040-E, filed on September 8, 2006, SCE requested:<sup>1</sup>

- 1) Commission approval to use up to \$10 million of Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) over-collection to fund a 2006 EAF rate relief program for the benefit of SCE's residential customers hit hard by high electric bills in the summer of 2006; and
- 2) Commission authority to establish a sub-account of ERRA to track the difference between the \$10 million of ERRA over-collection allocated to the

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<sup>1</sup> In a letter to SCE, the Commission approved Advice 2040-E, effective October 8, 2006.

2006 EAF rate relief program, and amounts disbursed through the EAF process to eligible residential customers.

In Advice 2078-E, filed on December 26, 2006, SCE requested Commission authority to extend its EAF rate relief program for the benefit of its residential customers through December 31, 2007. SCE recognized that its customers continued to be impacted by rate increases implemented in 2006, and the extension of the program through the end of 2007 will continue to assist its low and middle-income residential customers. The Commission approved Advice 2078-E, effective January 1, 2007, in a letter from the Energy Division dated January 19, 2007.

The major components of the current Commission-authorized EAF Rate Relief Program are as follows:

- Any unused portion of the \$10 million will be returned to the ERRRA.
- EAF funds are disbursed through the EAF process to residential customers with household incomes within 400% of federal poverty guidelines.
- Eligible residential customers under the expanded EAF program can receive electric bill relief of up to \$150 one time in a 12-month period.
- A portion of the \$10 million earmarked for the EAF Rate Relief Program is used for administrative fees assessed by the United Way.
- SCE's shareholders contribute up to \$200,000 of administrative fees to the United Way of Los Angeles associated with the EAF Rate Relief Program. United Way of Los Angeles charges 7% of funds disbursed through this program.<sup>2</sup>

### **SCE's REQUEST**

Unusually cold weather in January 2007 resulted in extensive freeze damage to California's crops. Per the Department of Food and Agriculture, crop losses are estimated at \$1.24 billion. In January, Governor Schwarzenegger proclaimed a state of emergency related to severe freezing conditions in the following counties: Tulare, Ventura, Kern, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, Fresno, Madera, Kings, and Imperial. As a result of the crop losses, thousands of SCE customers have lost their jobs and are in dire need of assistance with basic services. In an effort to assist these impacted customers, SCE would like to modify two components of the EAF Rate Relief Program as follows:

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<sup>2</sup> If all \$10 million is disbursed to eligible residential customers, \$700,000 would be the maximum amount paid to United Way for administrative fees. SCE's shareholders will contribute up to \$200,000 for the additional United Way of Los Angeles administrative fees.

1. Eligible residential customers, in the impacted counties listed above, would be allowed to receive utility payment assistance through this program two times in a 12-month period.
2. The maximum additional assistance amount for eligible residential customers in impacted counties would be \$200.

SCE does not propose to change other components of the EAF Rate Relief Program, other than those listed above.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

SCE requests that this advice filing become effective on March 22, 2007, the 30<sup>th</sup> calendar day after the date filed.

### **NOTICE**

Anyone wishing to protest this advice filing may do so by letter via U.S. Mail, facsimile, or electronically, any of which must be received by the Energy Division and SCE no later than 20 days after the date of this advice filing. Protests should be mailed to:

CPUC, Energy Division  
Attention: Tariff Unit  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102  
E-mail: [inj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:inj@cpuc.ca.gov) and [mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)

Copies should also be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004 (same address above).

In addition, protests and all other correspondence regarding this advice letter should also be sent by letter and transmitted via facsimile or electronically to the attention of:

Akbar Jazayeri  
Vice President, Revenue and Tariffs  
Southern California Edison Company  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Rosemead, California 91770  
Facsimile: (626) 302-4829  
E-mail: [AdviceTariffManager@sce.com](mailto:AdviceTariffManager@sce.com)

Bruce Foster  
Senior Vice President of Regulatory Operations  
c/o Karyn Gansecki  
601 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 2040  
San Francisco, California 94102  
Facsimile: (415) 673-1116  
E-mail: [Karyn.Gansecki@sce.com](mailto:Karyn.Gansecki@sce.com)

There are no restrictions on who may file a protest, but the protest shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which it is based and shall be submitted expeditiously.

In accordance with Section III, Paragraph G, of General Order No. 96-A, SCE is serving copies of this advice filing to the interested parties shown on the attached GO 96-A service list. Address change requests to the GO 96-A service list should be directed to [AdviceTariffManager@sce.com](mailto:AdviceTariffManager@sce.com) or at (626) 302-2930. For changes to any other service list, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or at [Process\\_Office@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:Process_Office@cpuc.ca.gov).

Further, in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 491, notice to the public is hereby given by filing and keeping the advice filing open for public inspection at SCE's corporate headquarters. To view other SCE advice letters filed with the Commission, log on to SCE's web site at <http://www.sce.com/AboutSCE/Regulatory/adviceletters> .

For questions, please contact Phillip Durgin at (626) 302-6344 or by electronic mail [Phillip.Durgin@sce.com](mailto:Phillip.Durgin@sce.com).

**Southern California Edison Company**

Akbar Jazayeri

AJ:pd:sq  
Enclosures

# CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

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

Company name/CPUC Utility No.: Southern California Edison Company (U 338-E)

Utility type:

- ELC       GAS  
 PLC       HEAT       WATER

Contact Person: James Yee

Phone #: (626) 302-2509

E-mail: James.Yee@sce.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

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

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 2104-E

Subject of AL: Request for Commission Authorization to Enhance the 2006 Energy Assistance Fund Rate Relief Program to Allow Residential Customers Impacted by the January 2007 Freeze to Receive Additional Utility Payment Assistance

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): LIRA/Low-Income Ratepayer Assistance

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Requested effective date: 3/22/07      No. of tariff sheets: -0-

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated system average rate effect (%): \_\_\_\_\_

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

Tariff schedules affected: None

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

CPUC, Energy Division  
Attention: Tariff Unit  
505 Van Ness Ave.,  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
[inj@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:inj@cpuc.ca.gov) and [mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)

Akbar Jazayeri  
Vice President, Revenue and Tariffs  
Southern California Edison Company  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue  
Rosemead, California 91770  
Facsimile: (626) 302-4829  
E-mail: [AdviceTariffManager@sce.com](mailto:AdviceTariffManager@sce.com)

Bruce Foster  
Senior Vice President of Regulatory Operations  
c/o Karyn Gansecki  
Southern California Edison Company  
601 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 2040  
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