

Exhibit No: _____
Application: A.22-09-015
Witness: Frank Seres
Chapter: 17

PREPARED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF
FRANK SERES
ON BEHALF OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY
AND SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

(EMBEDDED COSTS)

July 28, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION1

II. REBUTTAL TO INTERVENORS ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:.....2

 A. Embedded Cost Escalation Proposal for Transmission and Storage2

 1. Long Beach2

 2. SCGC2

 3. TURN.....3

 B. Reallocation of Backbone to Local Transmission4

 1. SCGC4

 2. TURN.....6

 3. Embedded Cost Term7

 4. Latest Embedded Cost Data at the Time of Filing.....8

 5. TURN’s Proposed “Fairer” Approach for Embedded Cost
 Is Unsupported8

 6. Depreciation Expense and GRC Witness8

 C. Storage Functionalization Study Remains Valid9

 D. Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) are to be Included in the Embedded Cost
 Study per D.20-02-045.....10

 1. Understanding ARO: An In-Depth Analysis of Financial Obligations10

 2. Depreciation: A Key Revenue Requirement Component.....11

 3. Distribution: Largest Asset Category in SoCalGas’s Total Net
 Book Value12

1 **CHAPTER 17**

2 **PREPARED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF FRANK SERES**

3 **(EMBEDDED COSTS)**

4 **I. INTRODUCTION**

5 In my prepared rebuttal testimony, I address the arguments, positions, and
6 recommendations put forth in the intervenor testimonies provided by The Utility Reform
7 Network (TURN), Southern California Generation Coalition (SCGC), and Long Beach Utility
8 (Long Beach)¹. These intervenors specifically focused on the cost allocation proposal outlined in
9 Chapter 8 (Seres). While the intervenors' testimonies cover a wide range of technical details,
10 their primary objective is to advocate for a smaller share of the cost allocation on behalf of their
11 respective constituents. To support their stance, each intervenor appears to endeavor to
12 demonstrate that the Applicants' cost allocation proposal is inconsistent with certain data,
13 operational realities, or what they perceive as superior methodologies.

14 For instance, TURN criticizes the Applicants' proposal and offers corresponding
15 recommendations that, if adopted, would result in a smaller portion of the costs being allocated
16 to core customers compared to what the Applicants have proposed. On the other hand, SCGC
17 and Long Beach oppose the cost escalation adjustment to storage and transmission embedded
18 costs. Their viewpoint is that if this adjustment were to be adopted, it would lead to a higher
19 allocation of costs to noncore customers than what the Applicants suggest.

¹ Given the volume of the various arguments, positions, and proposals raised by intervenors, Applicants have prioritized which issues to address in rebuttal testimony. Silence on any issue should not be construed as agreement with, or non-opposition to, that issue, as Applicants reserve the right to address additional issues not specifically mentioned in this rebuttal testimony at a later opportunity, such as evidentiary hearings and briefs.

1 **II. REBUTTAL TO INTERVENORS ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:**

2 **A. Embedded Cost Escalation Proposal for Transmission and Storage**

3 **1. Long Beach**

4 Long Beach stated the following in its testimony:

5 "I am expressing concern about the proposal's deviation from Commission policy, as
6 outlined in D.20-02-045. According to this policy, the embedded cost study should be
7 founded on actual recorded costs, avoiding the use of escalated costs."²

8 It is important to note that the Applicants' embedded cost study is grounded in actual recorded
9 costs and does not rely on escalated costs, as implied by Long Beach.

10 Additionally, it should be clarified that the Applicants do not assume that all costs
11 increase proportionally.³ The escalation adjusted factors for O&M and Capital utilized in this
12 study are derived from IHS/Markit Global Insight, aligning with Scott Wilder's 2024 General
13 Rate Case (GRC) Cost Escalation testimony (Ex. SCG-36 at SRW-5) and the escalation rates
14 included in the Post-Test Year (PTY) testimony. These inflation factors contribute to the
15 accuracy and consistency of Applicants' approach.

16 **2. SCGC**

17 SCGC states in testimony that "The Commission Should Reject the Applicants' Proposal
18 to Escalate 2021 Embedded Costs Using Percentage Escalation Factors that Would Introduce
19 Error into the Embedded Cost Study (Applicants Chapter 8, Seres)."⁴

20 Applicants acknowledge Ms. Yap's concerns and would like to clarify our position on
21 this matter.

22 First and foremost, it is essential to emphasize that Applicants' intention with the
23 proposal is not to introduce errors, but rather to provide a comprehensive approach in addressing
24 external inflationary effects on O&M and Capital costs related to transmission and storage. The
25 proposed escalation factors are sourced from IHS/Markit Global Insight, and it is important to

² Long Beach Testimony Ch. 4 (Neal) at 4-5:8-10.

³ *Id.* at 4-6:1-2.

⁴ Ex. SCGC-01 (Yap) at 25:1-7.

1 note that these factors have been selected to maintain consistency with Scott Wilder's 2024 GRC
2 Cost Escalation testimony⁵ and the escalation rates utilized by the PTY testimony⁶.

3 To ensure an accurate reflection of external inflation and align O&M and Capital costs
4 with current market conditions, Applicants employ escalation factors. Neglecting to adjust for
5 inflation during PTY years would mean utilizing 2021 nominal costs without accounting for
6 changes in purchasing power over time. We are dedicated to upholding the study's validity and
7 precision by incorporating dependable escalation factors.

8 3. TURN

9 The Applicants have proposed an inflation adjustment to the embedded storage and
10 transmission costs from 2025-2027,⁷ while Mr. Florio suggests basing the post-test year increase
11 on 2024 authorized transmission and storage requirements.⁸

12 Applicants submit that this is not possible due to the unavailability of authorized revenue
13 requirement data by function from 2024 GRC decision, and the problem of double counting
14 since TURN recommends using authorized 2024 GRC revenue requirements which include
15 Pipeline Safety Enhancement (PSEP) costs. It is important to know that the embedded cost study
16 excludes PSEP. PSEP costs are either allocated directly to customer classes through balancing
17 account amortization or are removed from the GRC base margin and reallocated functionally
18 based on the GRC PSEP costs. When they are added to the embedded backbone transmission
19 cost functionally, the resulting total is then utilized as the numerator in the calculation of the
20 Backbone Transportation Service (BTS) rate.⁹ Adopting TURN's method results in double
21 counting of PSEP costs in the BTS rate for which customers pay to transport natural gas from
22 receipt to delivery points in Applicants' transmission system. This double counting of PSEP
23 costs would also be replicated in Applicants' local transmission cost and storage cost.

⁵ A. 22-05-015, Ex. SCG-36 Direct Testimony of Scott R. Wilder (Cost Escalation) at SRW-5.

⁶ A. 22-05-015, Ex. SCG-40-WP Khai Nguyen Post Test Year Ratemaking.

⁷ Applicants' Ch.8a (Seres) at 19, n.61 and n.62.

⁸ Ex. TURN-01 (Florio) at 32:16-18 states "The SEUs should, as I have discussed above, follow PG&Es lead and set transmission and storage rates for the attrition years based on the actual revenue requirements authorized in the GRF for those years."

⁹ See SoCalGas Schedule No. G-BTS – Backbone Transportation Service, available at: <https://tariff.socalgas.com/regulatory/tariffs/tm2/pdf/G-BTS.pdf>.

1 **B. Reallocation of Backbone to Local Transmission**

2 **1. SCGC**

3 SCGC’s testimony claims that “The Applicants Make an Error in Calculating Their
4 Proposed Reallocation of Backbone Transmission to Local Transmission (Applicants Chapter 8,
5 Seres)”¹⁰

6 In this regard, Applicants would note that SCGC does not challenge the reallocation of
7 the backbone to local transmission. However, SCGC suggests an alternative methodology,
8 deviating from the methodology adopted by the Applicants in A.08-02-001.¹¹ Furthermore, in
9 the context Firm Access Rights (FAR) Update D.11-04-032 it should be noted that the comment
10 on page 22 does not question the methodology, but rather the weather data utilized.¹²

11 *“It is not possible to verify SDG&E’s/SoCalGas’ assumption that*
12 *customers served directly from the backbone comprise the same*
13 *percentage of system demand under both average and cold year*
14 *peak day demand conditions. However, that this assumption*
15 *cannot be verified does not justify allocating zero transmission*
16 *system costs to local transmission. To do so will continue to*
17 *include local transmission costs that should not be included in the*
18 *backbone transmission revenue requirement.”¹³*

19 The methodology employed by the Applicants was updated to incorporate cold year
20 annual average throughput for years 2024-2027. This update was necessary because we now
21 have available data to confirm the assumption stated in FAR Update decision. By incorporating
22 this updated information, we have enhanced the reliability and accuracy of our methodology.

23 SCGC also raises a question regarding the application of the percentage of EG volumes
24 served from the backbone.¹⁴ Specifically, Ms. Yap asks why it is applied as a percentage of total
25 system throughput rather than total EG throughput.¹⁵ In response, the Applicants explain that the
26 percentage applied to the total system throughput accurately represents the demand supported

10 Ex. SCGC-01 (Yap) at 21:6-7.

11 A.08-02-001 Phase 2, Prepared Direct Testimony of Rodger Schwecke at 31-33.

12 D.11-04-032 at 22.

13 *Id.*

14 Ex. SCGC-01 (Yap) at 22:10-11.

15 *Id.*

1 directly from the backbone. This methodology is also unchanged from when it was introduced by
 2 SoCalGas in A.08-02-001.¹⁶

3 SCGC has proposed the revision of calculations to include the 2022 CGR, page 23, lines
 4 5 through 6 “The calculation should be updated to the 2022 CGR which was available prior to the
 5 Applicants filing their cost allocation testimony....” Following this recommendation, the Applicants
 6 have subsequently incorporated the 2022 CGR into the calculation, yielding the following
 7 preliminary results¹⁷:

Table 21- Updated to 2022CGR				
% of Backbone Allocated to Local Transmission Function				
(A)	(B)	C = A x B	(D)	(E)= C /D
Cold Year Annual Average Demand (MMcfd) 2024 -2027	Demand Served Directly from Backbone (%) ¹⁸	Demand Served Directly from Backbone (MMcfd)	Envoy Total Backbone Receipt Capacity (MMcfd)	% of Backbone Allocated to Local Transmission Function
2,348	22%	522	3,435	15%

% of Backbone Allocated to Local Transmission Function Table 21 A				
	(A)	(B)	C = (A) + (B)	Remaining BB costs minus 15% out of Combined BB costs.
	SoCalGas	SDG&E	Combined Backbone Costs	15%
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	
Backbone Transmission Costs	357,483	67,819	425,302	360,624

Illustrative Firm BTS Rate				
PSEP costs	Total BB costs	Throughput Assumption	Annual Throughput Assumption	Illustrative BTS Rate
		MDth/d	MDth	\$/Dth
\$99,322	459,946	2,532	924,292	0.4976

¹⁶ A.08-02-001 Phase 2, Prepared Direct Testimony of Rodger Schwecke at 31.

¹⁷ Applicants’ Ch. 17 Rebuttal Frank Seres 2022 CGR update to BB to LT, which is attached hereto as Attachment A.

¹⁸ This value remains unchanged because the Applicants’ testimony for the specific percentage relied on the 2022 CGR, not 2020 CGR.

1 Applicants would like to note that the 2022 CGR was available only two months before
2 the official filing of the CAP and acknowledge the potential challenges and implications
3 associated with updating such a study within a two-month timeframe. Given the intricacies
4 involved, it is advised against undertaking such an update due to its potential impact on various
5 other chapters.

6 2. TURN

7 Addressing the re-allocation of Backbone to Local Transmission Section VI. B, pg.42
8 Mr. Florio appears to misinterpret the relocation study by pointing out Applicants' eight
9 transmission lines that are already separated into Backbone and Local Transmission and
10 allocated accordingly.

11 However, it is crucial to recognize that there is a certain percentage of backbone
12 transmission assets that are performing the local transmission function, and it is right for
13 Applicants to allocate a percentage of the costs of those assets to the local transmission
14 plant. And while it is true that all customers are ultimately responsible for the full backbone and
15 local transmission costs, it is not true that all gas supplies are brought into the system by end-use
16 customers. Shippers may transport supplies with backbone-only costs to the SoCalGas City Gate
17 for use by end-use customers that are unable or unwilling to subscribe for backbone transmission
18 capacity. Therefore, the backbone transmission costs need to reflect no more than the functional
19 purpose those assets provide.

20 Additionally, Mr. Florio's argument against the utilization of a 1-in-10 year cold day in
21 the relocation study pg. 45-46 is misguided. Indeed, a review of Applicants' workpaper
22 demonstrates that Applicants did not end up using a 1-in-10-year cold day approach.¹⁹ Instead,
23 the Applicants based their analysis on the new data encompassing the daily Electric Generation
24 (EG) cold year demand, commonly referred to as the cold year annual average throughput. This
25 data serves as substantial evidence supporting the Applicants' position and invalidates Mr.
26 Florio's critique.

¹⁹ Applicants' Ch.8a Workpapers at 17 (Table 21). See averages used from Daily EG Cold Year Demand Forecast Data.

1 **3. Embedded Cost Term**

2 Mr. Florio presents a conceptual framework and understanding derived from his
3 experience. Nonetheless, the Applicants assert that a significant disparity exists between the
4 theoretical propositions advanced by Mr. Florio and the pragmatic realities pertaining to cost
5 allocation. This disparity encompasses the inherent variation in cost allocation timing, as well as
6 the availability and reliability of relevant data and methodologies.

7 In Section III, B., beginning on page 6, Mr. Florio introduces an anecdotal interpretation
8 of the meaning of embedded cost.²⁰ The Applicants, however, employ the term "embedded" cost
9 in a different manner. It is crucial to emphasize that the Applicants have been utilizing the
10 concept of embedded cost since 1986, as stated in D. 86-12-009. Mr. Florio's reluctance to
11 acknowledge this fact contributes to the prevailing confusion regarding the divergent usage of
12 embedded cost term and method between the Applicants and his own definition.

13 Here, it bears emphasizing that this clarification is provided given that the existing Cost
14 Allocation Proceeding (CAP) framework has its origins dating back to the late 1980s. During
15 this time, the Commission adopted a "hybrid" form of embedded cost, which impartially
16 distributes costs across all market segments.

17 Thus, note that embedded cost of service for Applicants pertains to historical or existing
18 costs associated with the provision of utility services, encompassing costs that have already been
19 incurred by the utility company. *The Applicants have relied on historical costs as the foundation*
20 *for calculating embedded cost*, a practice that has been recognized as a reasonable approach for
21 allocating costs between market segments since the issuance of D.86-12-009.²¹ “Temporary use
22 of historical embedded costs is reasonable basis for cost allocation between market segments.”

²⁰ “It is called “embedded” cost because its starting point is the set of costs embedded in the current or proposed revenue requirement, including return, depreciation and taxes on the past undepreciated investments reflected in the utility’s rate base, as well as currently authorized (or proposed) Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and Administrative and General (A&G) expenses. These costs are functionalized and allocated, such that the final result is an allocation of costs to customer classes that *matches the revenue requirement* that was the starting point of the exercise.” Ex. TURN-01 (Florio) at 6-10.

²¹ D.86-12-009 at 75 (FOF 2).

1 **4. Latest Embedded Cost Data at the Time of Filing.**

2 Applicants based their transmission and storage costs on the most recent data available at the
3 time of their application, which was the 2021 FERC Form 2 & Form 1 data. This Application
4 was filed on September 30, 2022. However, it should be noted that the 2022 FERC data was not
5 released until April 2023, which means the Applicants could not utilize this data. Instead,
6 Applicants used 2021 embedded cost, actual historical data for transmission and storage costs.

7 Although Mr. Florio expressed concerns about the utilization of older data, calling it
8 “stale” on pages 21 and 33, it is essential to highlight that the Applicants diligently incorporated
9 the most current information available throughout the Application process. Currently, the CAP
10 process often necessitates the use of data that is approximately 2.3 years old or older, given the
11 CAP filing date of September 30, 2022, with base year 2021 data and the projected decision date
12 to the CAP is in January 2024.

13 **5. TURN’s Proposed “Fairer” Approach for Embedded Cost Is**
14 **Unsupported**

15 Mr. Florio's conceptual framework proposes a “fairer” approach on pages 14-16, but the
16 Applicants point out two main difficulties. Firstly, Applicants lack a 2024 GRC decision to
17 utilize an approved revenue requirement during the 2024 Cost Allocation Proceedings. Secondly,
18 the Results of Operations (RO) model does not allow for the separation of transmission and
19 storage revenue requirements at the required level of granularity, i.e., converting GRC filing data
20 based on specific “cost centers” into FERC accounts that form the basis for embedded cost
21 analysis.

22 **6. Depreciation Expense and GRC Witness**

23 In section V.C., pages 19-21, Mr. Florio makes reference to GRC witness Dane A.
24 Watson - Depreciation (Ex. SCG-32-2R at DAW-1), which appears to present conflicting
25 messages. Notably, in the GRC Rebuttal depreciation testimony of Dane A. Watson, TURN
26 expresses significant criticism, particularly pertaining to the process, principles, and
27 mathematical aspects of the depreciation forecast. These concerns are specifically highlighted in
28 SCG-232 Rebuttal Testimony of Dane A Watson (Depreciation), page DAW-7. Furthermore, it
29 is crucial to note that Mr. Florio's testimony omits the significant variation in total depreciation
30 expense for the test year 2024, ranging from \$69,068 million to \$174,333 million, as indicated in

1 the Rebuttal Testimony of Dane A. Watson, page DAW-1, Table DAW-1 - Summary of
2 Differences.

3 While acknowledging the potential for a higher range in total depreciation expense, it is
4 worth emphasizing that the magnitude of the difference within the range is significant, thereby
5 supporting the preference for embedded cost analysis.

6 Furthermore, on page 20, lines 17-19, and page 21, line 1, Mr. Florio appears to conflate
7 hypotheses with facts when asserting that the rate of growth in depreciation for transmission and
8 storage significantly surpasses that of distribution and general plant. It should be emphasized that
9 depreciation is a forecasted projection, as highlighted in the rebuttal testimony of Dane A.
10 Watson. Additionally, there exists a notable degree of variation in the total depreciation figures
11 presented, as evidenced in the rebuttal provided by Dane A. Watson.

12 **C. Storage Functionalization Study Remains Valid**

13 Applicants disagree with TURN's proposal in Section VI, C to adjust the allocation
14 factors based on TURN's study. There are several reasons supporting this disagreement, as
15 detailed below:

- 16 1. The Applicants maintain that their current method of allocating storage costs to
17 inventory, injection, and withdrawal functions is justified. Storage operations
18 experts analyzed the various activities and compiled information required to form
19 the basis for the functionalization and allocation of costs on cost causation
20 principles. The summarized study can be referenced in A.18-07-24, Appendix G.
21 specifically on pages G-3 through G-7.
- 22 2. Wells & Lines (Capital 352 & 353 & O&M 816, 817, 832, and 833): The
23 Applicants presently allocate 50% to withdrawal, 25% to injection, and 25% to
24 inventory. In contrast TURN proposes an allocation of 60% to withdrawal, 30%
25 to injection, and 10% to inventory. The Applicants argue that withdrawal cost
26 allocation should be double that of injection, considering that twice as many wells
27 are required for withdrawal. The proposed allocation of 25% for inventory and
28 25% to injection is appropriate as the field requires a sufficient number of wells to
29 achieve the required working inventory. For practical purposes, to achieve the
30 required working inventory in the storage field, one needs to have a sufficient
31 number of wells. Although one well could be used to increase the inventory, the

1 field requires a sufficient number of wells to reach and minimally cycle a working
2 inventory; a 10% allocation of wells and lines to inventory is too low to perform
3 this. The numbers of wells and lines benefits injection and inventory equally and;
4 thus, well costs should be allocated equally between these two
5 categories/functions.

- 6 3. Accounts 351 and 357: The capital assets associated with Account 351 (Structures
7 and Improvements) and Account 357 (Other Equipment) primarily serve the
8 purpose of providing a working gas inventory. Therefore, the Applicants contend
9 that the allocation of costs associated with these accounts and the associated
10 O&M accounts should be 100% attributed to inventory.
- 11 4. Account 117.1: The purpose of cushion gas is to maintain sufficient pressure in
12 the field for minimum deliverability at zero inventory and to enable the complete
13 utilization of the working inventory. Hence, the Applicants propose an equal
14 allocation of cushion gas costs between deliverability and inventory, with a
15 balanced 50/50 split.

16 Based on these justifications, the Applicants firmly disagree with TURN's proposal to
17 adjust the allocation factor. Furthermore, it should be noted that adjusting the allocation factor
18 would negatively impact noncore customers. The current allocation methodology aligns with the
19 specific operational and cost causality associated with the storage operations.

20 **D. Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) are to be Included in the**
21 **Embedded Cost Study per D.20-02-045**

22 **1. Understanding ARO: An In-Depth Analysis of Financial Obligations**

23 TURN opposes the inclusion of ARO in the embedded cost analysis despite the fact that
24 AROs are an integral part of utility operations.²²

25 ARO is an obligation related to the retirement/decommissioning of an asset. Certain
26 assets cannot simply be abandoned but require special decommissioning. For example, a
27 hazardous waste site cannot just be abandoned in place. When a facility is decommissioned, the
28 company has the legal and financial obligation to clean up the site. The amount expected to be
29 spent on properly decommissioning the site (clean-up cost) will be the basis for the ARO.

²² Ex. TURN-01 (Florio) at 34:6-9.

1 An ARO is calculated as follows: First, assume a hazardous waste site will be closed in 2050
 2 and it will cost \$10 million to clean up the site then. The present value (PV) of this liability is
 3 calculated by dividing the 2050 future cost of \$10 million by $(1+\text{discount rate})^n$, using 6%
 4 discount rate for illustrative purposes. Also, the intervening 27 years between 2023 to 2050 are
 5 also factored into the calculation, in this illustration, $n = (2050 - 2023) = 27$. Based on these
 6 assumptions, the present value of this legal and financial obligation is approximately \$2 million.
 7 As the decommissioning date of an asset approaches, n decreases which then increases the
 8 illustrative present value of \$2 million ARO, based on the above formula.²³
 9 Therefore, a liability must be recorded on the company's balance sheet to reflect the cost of the
 10 company's obligation to properly dispose of the asset. The \$2 million present value of this
 11 liability is recorded as Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO) as follows:

12 Journal Entry for ARO Recognition:

13 Asset Retirement Cost (ARC) (Asset)	\$2,000,000	→	Depreciated monthly
14 ARO (Liability)	\$2,000,000	→	Amortized monthly

15 **2. Depreciation: A Key Revenue Requirement Component**

16 One of the components of SoCalGas/SDG&E's General Rate Case (GRC) revenue
 17 requirement is depreciation, which is the return *of* capital. The original investment minus
 18 accumulated depreciation equals the net book value of an asset. Likewise, as shown above in the
 19 journal entry for ARO recognition, the Asset Retirement Cost (ARC) is also depreciated monthly
 20 similar to any existing asset placed in service by SoCalGas/SDG&E to provide distribution,
 21 transmission services to customers and also storage services to SoCalGas's customers. As
 22 shown above, ARC is an asset that corresponds directly with ARO in the journal entry and
 23 matches exactly with ARO, a liability in financial statements to disclose the discounted cost of
 24 future legal and financial obligations upon the decommissioning an asset. TURN states that
 25 ARO does not earn a return on rate base and has no taxes associated with it.²⁴ That is true
 26 because no cost outlays have been incurred prior to decommissioning a specific asset. Once the
 27 asset is decommissioned, the associated ARO and Asset Retirement Cost (ARC) will be reduced

²³ The present value increases because it is based on the future value (numerator) being divided by a smaller number $(1+\text{discount rate})^n$ where n decreases as the decommissioning date of the project approaches.

²⁴ Ex. TURN-01 (Florio) at 39:1-3.

1 accordingly. However, in the interim, ARO should be included in SoCalGas/SDG&E's
 2 embedded cost analyses. ARO is indisputably a cost which is required to provide utility services
 3 to customers, similar to existing infrastructure and therefore is an integral part of utility
 4 operations. TURN correctly states that depreciation expense reflects costs of the ARO,
 5 therefore, the ARC (ARO) should be included in SoCalGas/SDG&E's embedded cost studies per
 6 Ordering Paragraph 4(d) of Decision 20-02-045.

7 **3. Distribution: Largest Asset Category in SoCalGas's Total Net Book**
 8 **Value**

9 As discussed in Section II.D.1, ARO is initially recorded in present value terms. This
 10 grows in a compounding fashion, reflecting its lower initial cost, when ARO is first recognized
 11 and recorded which later increases as the decommissioning date approaches.

12 The fact that distribution ARO (FERC account 388) is higher than transmission ARO
 13 (FERC account 372) and storage ARO (FERC account 358) is primarily because distribution
 14 assets as a percentage of total net book value excluding ARO is also the largest component
 15 (52%) of total SoCalGas net book value. Therefore, it should not surprise anyone that future
 16 distribution ARO liabilities would follow a similar trend when ARO is included. See Table 1
 17 below:

Table 1			
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY			
2021 Utility Gas Plant in Service			
Functional Allocation of Net Book Value			
As a % of Total SoCalGasNet Book Value			
	Including ARO		Excluding ARO
Intangibles	0%		0
Storage	11%		15%
Transmission	22%		25%
Distribution	61%		52%
General Plant	6%		8%
Total	100%		100%

18
 19 As described earlier, ARO increases as the decommissioning date approaches to better
 20 reflect the costs to be incurred. Therefore, distribution ARO could also be larger than
 21 transmission and storage ARO because of its closer proximity to the decommissioning schedule
 22 relative to transmission's and storage's decommissioning schedule.

1 For all the reasons discussed above, the Commission should continue to adopt the
2 inclusion of ARO in SoCalGas/SDG&E's embedded cost studies as specified in D.20-02-045.²⁵
3 This concludes my prepared rebuttal testimony.

²⁵ D. 20-02-045 at 103 (OP 4(d)).

ATTACHMENT A

2022 CGR Update BB to LT

Ch.17 Frank Seres 2022 CGR Update

Daily EG Demand Forecast for the Year and Data from 2022 CGR

	2024		2025		2026		2027		Average	
	SoCalGas and SDG&E		SoCalGas and SDG&E		SoCalGas and SDG&E		SoCalGas and SDG&E			
EG Demand Served Directly from Backbone -->>	Percent Total	22.5%	Percent Total	22.3%	Percent Total	22.3%	Percent Total	21.9%	average	22%
A x B -->>	Cold-Year Annual Average Demand (MMcf/d)	2,404	Cold-Year Annual Average Demand (MMcf/d)	2,359	Cold-Year Annual Average Demand (MMcf/d)	2,328	Cold-Year Annual Average Demand (MMcf/d)	2,300	average	2,348
Envoy Total Backbone Receipt Capacity -->>	Direct from Backbone (MMcf/d)	541	Direct from Backbone (MMcf/d)	526	Direct from Backbone (MMcf/d)	519	Direct from Backbone (MMcf/d)	504	average	522
C / D -->>	Total Receipt Capacity (MMcf/d)	3,435	Total Receipt Capacity (MMcf/d)	3,435	Total Receipt Capacity (MMcf/d)	3,435	Total Receipt Capacity (MMcf/d)	3,435	average	3,435
	% of Backbone w/Local Transmission Function	15.7%	% of Backbone w/Local Transmission Function	15.3%	% of Backbone w/Local Transmission Function	15.1%	% of Backbone w/Local Transmission Function	14.7%	average	15%

Table 21- Updated to 2022CGR				
% of Backbone Allocated to Local Transmission Function				
(A)	(B)	C = A x B	(D)	(E)= C / D
Cold Year Annual Average Demand (MMcf/d) 2024-2027	Demand Served Directly from Backbone (%)	Demand Served Directly from Backbone (MMcf/d)	Envoy Total Backbone Receipt Capacity (MMcf/d)	% of Backbone Allocated to Local Transmission Function
2,348	22%	522	3,435	15%

% of Backbone Allocated to Local Transmission Function Table 21 A				
	(A)	(B)	C = (A) + (B)	Remainining BB costs minus 15% out of Combined BB costs.
	SoCalGas (\$000)	SDG&E (\$000)	Combined Backbone Costs (\$000)	15%
Backbone Transmission Costs	357,483	67,819	425,302	360,624

Illustrative Firm BTS Rate				
PSEP costs	Total BB costs	Throughput Assumption MDth/d	Annual Throughput Assumption MDth	Illustrative BTS Rate S/Dth
\$99,322	459,946	2,532	924,292	0.4976