

Company: San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 M)  
Proceeding: 2020 Cost of Capital  
Application: A.19-04-XXX  
Exhibit No.: SDG&E-05

**SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
CONCENTRIC ENERGY ADVISORS  
WILDFIRE RISK PREMIUM**

**PUBLIC VERSION**

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



**APRIL 2019**

Company: San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 M)  
Proceeding: 2020 Cost of Capital  
Application: A.19-04-XXX  
Exhibit No.: SDG&E-05 Chapter 1

**SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOHN J. REED  
AND JAMES M. COYNE  
CHAPTER 1**

**PUBLIC VERSION**

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



**APRIL 2019**

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## EXHIBITS

Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-1	Résumés of John J. Reed and James M. Coyne
Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric -2	Testimony listings of John J. Reed and James M. Coyne
Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric -3	Risk Premium Analyses ( <b>Public Version</b> )

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 **Q. Please state your names, affiliation, and business address.**

3 A. My name is John J. Reed. I am Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
4 (“CEO”) of Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc. (“Concentric”) and CE  
5 Capital, Inc.

6 My name is James M. Coyne, and I am Senior Vice President of  
7 Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc.

8 Concentric is a management consulting and economic advisory  
9 firm, focused on the North American energy and water industries. Based in  
10 Marlborough, Massachusetts, and Washington, D.C., Concentric  
11 specializes in regulatory and litigation support, financial advisory services,  
12 energy market strategies, market assessments, energy commodity  
13 contracting and procurement, economic feasibility studies, and capital  
14 market analyses.

15 CE Capital is a fully-registered broker-dealer securities firm and  
16 FINRA member.

17 Our business address is 293 Boston Post Road West, Suite 500,  
18 Marlborough, MA 01752.

19 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?**

20 A. We are submitting this testimony on behalf of San Diego Gas & Electric  
21 Company (“SDG&E” or the “Company”), a subsidiary of Sempra Energy  
22 (“Sempra”), a publicly-traded holding company.

1 **II. QUALIFICATIONS**

2 **Q. Mr. Reed, please describe your educational background and**  
3 **professional experience in the energy and utility industries.**

4 A. I have more than 40 years of experience in the energy industry and have  
5 worked as an executive in, and consultant and economist to, the energy  
6 industry. Over the past 30 years, I have directed the energy consulting  
7 services of Concentric, Navigant Consulting, and Reed Consulting Group.  
8 I have served as Vice Chairman and co-CEO of the nation's largest  
9 publicly-traded consulting firm and as Corporate Economist for the nation's  
10 largest gas utility (Southern California Gas Company). I have provided  
11 regulatory policy and regulatory economics support to more than 100  
12 energy and utility clients and have provided expert testimony on regulatory,  
13 economic, and financial matters on more than 150 occasions before the  
14 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), Canadian regulatory  
15 agencies, state utility regulatory agencies, various state and federal courts,  
16 and before arbitration panels in the United States and Canada. I have also  
17 been involved in numerous utility acquisitions, mergers and asset sales over  
18 the past 20 years and have advised clients in these assignments on utility  
19 valuations, due diligence matters, risk issues, financing, capital market  
20 access, credit rating matters, and the structure and execution of competitive  
21 sales processes. As CEO of CE Capital, I hold a number of securities  
22 licenses and am fully licensed to engage in investment banking activities,  
23 and the sale of all types of securities. I am a graduate of the Wharton School  
24 of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, and previously attended the

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University of Kansas. My background is presented in more detail in Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-1 to my testimony.

**Q. Mr. Coyne, please describe your educational background and professional experience in the energy and utility industries.**

A. I am among Concentric’s professionals who provide expert testimony before federal, state and Canadian provincial agencies on matters pertaining to economics, finance, and public policy in the energy industry. This work includes calculating the cost of capital for the purpose of ratemaking and providing expert testimony and studies on matters pertaining to rate policy, valuation, capital costs, and performance-based regulation. In addition, I work for regulators, utilities, and independent developers on issues pertaining to the management and development of power generation, distribution, and transmission facilities. I have authored numerous articles on the energy industry, lectured on utility regulation for regulatory commission staff, and provided testimony before FERC as well as state and provincial jurisdictions in the U.S. and Canada. I hold a B.S. in Business Administration from Georgetown University and a M.S. in Resource Economics from the University of New Hampshire. My educational and professional background is summarized more fully in Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-1 to my testimony.

**Q. Have you previously testified on utility financial matters, capital market issues, valuations, and the cost of capital before regulatory commissions?**

A. Yes. Both of us have testified extensively on these issues for regulated utilities and other parties in numerous proceedings. This testimony has

1 covered a broad range of issues ranging from traditional cost of capital  
2 models and resulting recommendations for Return on Equity (“ROE”) and  
3 capital structure, to corporate and asset valuations, evaluations of business  
4 and financial risk and specialized applications to higher-risk businesses.  
5 We have testified in hundreds of cases in North American proceedings on  
6 energy industry financial matters for electric, gas, or electric transmission  
7 companies. A summary of our collective testimony experience is provided  
8 in SDG&E-Concentric-2. However, our work goes well beyond providing  
9 expert testimony, and involves advising energy industry clients across  
10 North America on financial matters, often involving the commitment of  
11 hundreds of millions to tens of billions of dollars. This work provides us  
12 with very broad exposure to and experience with the development of  
13 investment hurdle rates, risk assessments and expected returns both within  
14 and outside of the ratemaking process.

### 15 **III. PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW OF TESTIMONY**

#### 16 **Q. What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony?**

17 A. The purpose of our Direct Testimony is to present evidence and provide a  
18 recommendation regarding the risk premium applicable to SDG&E’s  
19 authorized ROE. This risk premium is attributable to the Company’s  
20 unmitigated financial exposure to wildfires.<sup>1</sup> We have calculated this risk

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<sup>1</sup> In this Testimony we refer to “unmitigated” wildfire risk in financial terms, reflecting the residual exposure to shareholders under the current California regulatory and legislative framework. We recognize that SDG&E has taken steps to limit the likelihood of and damage caused by wildfires, and those mitigation measures are factored into our analysis.

1 premium above the ROE recommended by Dr. Morin, which is based on a  
2 traditional proxy-group based cost of equity analysis.<sup>2</sup>

3 California’s utilities are operating in a unique environment with  
4 elevated planning, operating, and financial risks. The recurrence of  
5 devastating wildfires and risks associated with inverse condemnation  
6 require special consideration in the rate setting process. There is almost no  
7 precedent for a utility facing this degree of financial risk. Traditional  
8 approaches to the cost of capital for utility ratemaking, which rely heavily  
9 on “comparable” utilities’ market data – and that assume that past non-  
10 diversifiable risk is indicative of future risk – is inadequate for these  
11 circumstances. We propose to address the cost of capital issues in this  
12 proceeding with a comprehensive approach to the examination of cost of  
13 capital, informed by the traditional approaches used by Dr. Morin, while  
14 also examining the unique risks facing SDG&E’s equity investors. Our  
15 analyses and recommendations are supported by the data presented in  
16 Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3 to this testimony, which has been prepared  
17 by us or under our direction.

18 **Q. What is your conclusion regarding the required wildfire risk premium**  
19 **for the Company?**

20 **A.** We have conducted an analysis of the extraordinary wildfire risks faced by  
21 SDG&E and estimated the resulting impacts on its cost of equity. The

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<sup>2</sup> See Prepared Direct Testimony of Roger A. Morin, PhD., Return on Equity (April 2019) (“Ex. SDG&E-04 (Morin)”).

1 wildfire risks facing SDG&E and the other California electric utilities are  
2 the direct result of the devastating California wildfires and the potential  
3 imposition of the resulting liabilities on shareholders. Depending on the  
4 method, our analysis identifies a wildfire risk premium in the range of 1.87  
5 to 6.50 percent. We ultimately conclude that a risk premium of 3.4 percent  
6 best represents the wildfire risk currently borne by SDG&E's shareholders.  
7 The results of our analyses are presented in Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3,  
8 accompanying this testimony.

9 Our estimated risk premium reflects the current state of legal,  
10 regulatory, and financial issues that pertain to the portion of SDG&E's  
11 unmitigated risk of wildfire liabilities. It is our understanding that there are  
12 several potential legislative and regulatory solutions that may ultimately  
13 reduce the risk of wildfire liabilities to California's utilities. Any remedies  
14 that mitigate that risk must be analyzed to determine the degree to which  
15 they reduce investors' return requirements.

16 **Q. Please provide a brief overview of the analyses that you conducted to**  
17 **support your wildfire risk premium recommendation.**

18 A. Our recommendation is based on the analyses produced from multiple  
19 alternative approaches designed to measure greater shareholder risk  
20 generally, and the specific wildfire risks of SDG&E, and the impacts of  
21 these risks on SDG&E's cost of equity. These approaches are based on  
22 economic and financial theory, market data (where available), and tools  
23 familiar to the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC" or  
24 "Commission") where possible. We are mindful that the typical cost of

1 capital models and approaches relied upon by the Commission are ill-suited  
2 for these extraordinary circumstances. We also recognize that most market  
3 data for California’s utilities are “biased” by the market’s expectation that  
4 the California legislature or Commission will act to mitigate these risks for  
5 California’s utilities. We further recognize that the current level of risk for  
6 California’s electric utilities represents essentially “uncharted waters.” Our  
7 challenge is to work with these approaches and tools and look for  
8 confirmation from alternate sources to gauge an appropriate risk  
9 adjustment.

10 We have examined six methods to estimate the appropriate risk  
11 adjustment and resulting cost of equity for SDG&E:

- 12 1. an industry risk assessment for a range of high-risk industries,  
13 indicating the market-required compensation for capital at risk (even  
14 though these risks are symmetrical for these industries, in contrast  
15 to SDG&E’s one-sided wildfire risk);
- 16 2. an analysis of recent stock declines for California utilities, and an  
17 examination of the earnings and dividends necessary to restore  
18 shareholders to their pre-wildfire rate of returns;
- 19 3. an Estimated Loss Approach based on a probabilistic estimate of  
20 wildfire liabilities and the required ROE premium necessary to  
21 offset the earnings loss;

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4. an Insurance Approach, which examines the costs to insure against the current shareholder portion of the Company’s wildfire risks, relying on recent insurance costs;
5. A CAT Bond Approach, relying on the market for catastrophic (“CAT”) insurance bonds for California’s utilities – with both the Insurance Approach and CAT Bond Approach indicating the cost of placing the risk with a third party; and
6. the incremental return on equity required to restore SDG&E’s credit rating to its pre-wildfire level if the risks are left as currently allocated.

We understand that under ordinary circumstances, ROE models are tools to be used in the ROE estimation process, and that strict adherence to any single approach, or the specific results of any single approach, can lead to flawed conclusions. No model can exactly pinpoint the correct return on equity. Instead, each approach brings its own perspective and set of inputs that inform the estimate of ROE. Therefore, our analysis considers the range of results produced by these six methods.

Our recommendation is ultimately derived from the Estimated Loss, Insurance, and CAT Bond Approaches. In our view, these Approaches most reliably indicate the incremental cost of equity for SDG&E for its risks that are not reflected in Dr. Morin’s analysis for the proxy group utilities.

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**Q. Have you relied upon the testimonies of other Company witnesses in developing your evidence?**

A. Yes. We have relied upon the testimony of Dr. Morin (Exhibit SDG&E-04) for his recommendation of an appropriate ROE based on standard approaches, the testimony of Todd Shipman (Exhibit SDG&E-05, Chapter 2), who has assessed the impacts of wildfire risks on the California utilities' credit ratings, along with other testimony served concurrently in this proceeding by SDG&E.

**Q. How is the remainder of your Direct Testimony organized?**

A. The remainder of our Direct Testimony is organized as follows:

Section IV briefly describes the guiding principles used in establishing the cost of capital for a regulated utility, the standards applied in, and precedent for, determining the cost of capital for California's utilities.

Section V considers the additional factors that must be considered when determining the Company's cost of equity and uses several approaches to estimate an appropriate risk premium.

Section VI discusses potential resolutions to mitigate the Company's financial exposure to wildfire liability risks.

Section VII summarizes our results, conclusions, and recommendation.

1 **IV. REGULATORY PRINCIPLES AND CALIFORNIA PRECEDENT**

2 **Q. Please describe the guiding principles used in establishing the cost of**  
3 **capital for a regulated utility.**

4 A. The foundations of public utility regulation require that utilities receive a  
5 fair rate of return sufficient to attract needed capital to maintain important  
6 infrastructure for customers at reasonable rates. The basic tenets of this  
7 regulatory doctrine originate from several bellwether decisions by the  
8 United States Supreme Court, notably *Bluefield Water Works &*  
9 *Improvement Co. v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n of W. Va.*, 262 U.S. 679 (1923)  
10 (“*Bluefield*”), and *Fed. Power Comm'n v. Hope Nat'l Gas Co.*, 320 U.S.  
11 591 (1944) (“*Hope*”). These standards are discussed in the direct testimony  
12 of Bruce Folkmann (Exhibit SDG&E-01) and Dr. Morin, and we agree with  
13 their presentation of those standards.

14 **Q. Does the CPUC abide by these same standards?**

15 A. Yes. The CPUC references these same legal standards in setting the cost of  
16 capital for utilities under its jurisdiction. In doing so, the Commission  
17 summarizes:

18 We attempt to set the ROE at a level of return commensurate  
19 with market returns on investments having corresponding  
20 risks, and adequate to enable a utility to attract investors to  
21 finance the replacement and expansion of a utility’s facilities  
22 to fulfill its public utility service obligation. To accomplish  
23 this objective, we have consistently evaluated analytical  
24 financial models as a starting point to arrive at a fair ROE.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Decision (“D.”) 12-12-034 at 18; *see generally* D.18-03-035 at 6.

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**Q. Please discuss how the cost of capital has previously been set by the Commission.**

A. The Commission has adopted a consolidated approach to establishing the cost of capital for California’s major energy utilities. Each utility files a separate application, but the Commission generally consolidates these applications while still considering unique factors facing each utility. These decisions establish the test year authorized rate of return, including ROE, and capital structure individually for Southern California Edison Company (“SCE”), SDG&E, Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas”) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (“PG&E”). In this testimony, our focus is on the following California electric utilities: SDG&E, SCE, and PG&E (collectively “California Utilities” or “Utilities”).

The CPUC’s authorized ROEs over the past decade for the three Utilities are summarized below in Table 1.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> California Public Utilities Commission, Cost of Capital Proceedings for the Major Utilities, available at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/general.aspx?id=10458>.

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**Table 1: Authorized ROR and ROE for California's Major Electric Utilities**

SCE	Year							
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
SCE Authorized ROE	11.50%	11.50%	10.45%	10.45%	10.45%	10.45%	10.45%	10.30%
SCE Authorized ROR	8.74%	8.74%	7.90%	7.90%	7.90%	7.90%	7.90%	7.69%
PG&E								
PG&E Authorized ROE	11.35%	11.35%	10.40%	10.40%	10.40%	10.40%	10.40%	10.25%
PG&E Authorized ROR	8.79%	8.79%	8.06%	8.06%	8.06%	8.06%	8.06%	7.61%
SDG&E								
SDG&E Authorized ROE	11.10%	11.10%	10.30%	10.30%	10.30%	10.30%	10.30%	10.20%
SDG&E Authorized ROR	8.40%	8.40%	7.79%	7.79%	7.79%	7.79%	7.79%	7.55%

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**Q. What methods has the Commission relied upon in reaching its cost of equity determinations?**

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A. The Commission has placed reliance on the traditional proxy-based models commonly used for estimation of the cost of equity in regulatory proceedings: the Capital Asset Pricing Model (“CAPM”); the Risk Premium Model (“RPM”); and the Discounted Cash Flow (“DCF”) Model. The Commission observed, however, that “[i]n the final analysis, it is the application of informed judgment, not the precision of financial models, which is the key to selecting a specific ROE estimate.”<sup>5</sup>

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**Q. Did the Commission reach certain conclusions in its 2012 Cost of Capital Decision that require re-examination in the current proceeding?**

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A. Yes, there are findings from the Commission’s 2012 cost of capital decision

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<sup>5</sup> D.12-12-034 at 28.

1 that warrant reconsideration in light of the specific circumstances in this  
2 proceeding.

3 **A. Business Risk**

4 Under the topic of “Business Risk”, the Commission noted in its  
5 2012 decision:

6 Business risk pertains to *new* uncertainties resulting from  
7 competition and the economy. An increase in business risk  
8 can be caused by a variety of events that include capital  
9 investments, electric procurement, and catastrophic events.  
10 Each of these business risks overlap into financial and  
11 regulatory risk. Capital investment risk is addressed in our  
12 subsequent authorized ROE risk discussion (Section  
13 5.3.3.1.) and Electric procurement risk in our cost recovery  
14 risk discussion (Section 5.3.3.2.).

15 SCE and SDG&E identified the 2007 Southern  
16 California wildfire as an example of a catastrophic event  
17 resulting in a need to further compensate investors through a  
18 higher ROE because of heightened perceived business risk.  
19 However, none of the credit agencies reporting on the  
20 creditworthiness of either SCE or SDG&E mentioned any  
21 risks associated with wildfires.

22 While the anticipation of catastrophic events may  
23 expose investors to added risks, such events are not limited  
24 to California. These business risks are already captured in  
25 the parties’ financial modeling results. Any upward  
26 adjustment to the financial modeling results being adopted  
27 due to business risks would be redundant and possibly  
28 excessive.<sup>6</sup>

29 As documented in this evidence, and that of Bruce MacNeil (Exhibit  
30 SDG&E-06), Don Widjaja (Exhibit SDG&E-03), and Mr. Shipman, the

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<sup>6</sup> D.12-12-034 at 30 (footnotes omitted).

1 credit ratings for California’s utilities have subsequently been significantly  
2 impacted by the wildfires. We will further demonstrate that the business  
3 risks captured by traditional utility proxy groups are no longer  
4 representative of the unique risks faced by the California’s Utilities’  
5 shareholders.

6 **B. Regulatory Risk**

7 The Commission made several comments on regulatory risk that are  
8 particularly relevant today.

9 Regulatory risk pertains to new risks that investors may face  
10 from future regulatory actions that we, and other regulatory  
11 agencies, might take. Regulatory risk assessment is also  
12 used by rating agencies to set utility bond ratings. Each of  
13 the utilities maintains an investment grade bond rating. For  
14 example, SCE has an S&P bond rating of BBB, SDG&E an  
15 A, SoCalGas an A, and PG&E a BBB. The A ratings are  
16 considered by S&P to be upper medium investment grade  
17 level and BBB to be medium investment grade level. These  
18 investment grade ratings are a good indication that  
19 California regulatory risks are low.

20 The Commission added:

21  
22 An authorized ROE has risk when it does not adequately  
23 compensate a utility for the risk that investors must assume.  
24 California is generally perceived as having a constructive  
25 regulatory environment.<sup>7</sup>

26 As measured by these standards, circumstances and risks for  
27 California’s utilities have clearly changed. As documented by Mr. Widjaja

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<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 31 (footnotes omitted).

1 and Mr. Shipman,<sup>8</sup> PG&E is currently operating in bankruptcy, all of  
2 California’s major electric utilities have been subject to rating downgrades,  
3 and both credit rating agencies and equity analysts are no longer signaling  
4 that California’s regulatory environment is a “constructive regulatory  
5 environment.”<sup>9</sup>

6 **C. California Wildfires and Inverse Condemnation**

7 **Q. Please describe the risks that the California utilities face due to the**  
8 **wildfires.**

9 A. Wildfires present unique risks to the California investor-owned utilities for  
10 two main reasons. First, wildfires have become more frequent and larger in  
11 magnitude over time. Second, each time a California utility’s equipment is  
12 involved in the ignition of a fire that creates economic damages, that utility  
13 may face enormous uninsured, and potentially unrecoverable, liabilities.

14 **Q. Please elaborate.**

15 A. Under California state law, a legal standard known as inverse condemnation  
16 applies when utility equipment is a cause of a wildfire ignition. This  
17 doctrine makes utilities strictly liable for liability damages caused by their  
18 own facilities, regardless of negligence and other causes.<sup>10</sup> These liabilities  
19 may include homeowner insurance claims, uninsured property damage

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<sup>8</sup> Prepared Direct Testimony of Don Widjaja, Company Risk, (“Ex. SDG&E-03 (Widjaja)”) at 16 and Prepared Direct Testimony of Todd A. Shipman, CFA, Wildfire Risk Premium – Chapter 2 (April 2019) (“Ex. SDG&E-05, Ch. 2 (Shipman)”) at 13.

<sup>9</sup> S&P Global Ratings, RRA Evaluation (February 5, 2019); S&P Global Ratings, Credit FAQ: Discusses the Multi-notch Downgrade of PG&E (January 11, 2019).

<sup>10</sup> See *Barham v. S. Cal. Edison Co.*, 74 Cal. App. 4th 744, 752 (1999).

1 claims, business interruptions, agricultural damages, emotional harm,  
2 personal injuries, and other losses. Yet the CPUC, to date, has not taken  
3 inverse condemnation or the cost-sharing purposes behind the doctrine into  
4 account in the agency's prudence review of utility requests to recover  
5 wildfire-related liability. These diverging standards leave California  
6 utilities potentially responsible for those liabilities.

7 After the 2007 Witch, Guejito, and Rice fires, SDG&E settled  
8 approximately \$2.4 billion of the \$4 billion in total damage claims. While  
9 SDG&E was able to offset that liability with an insurance reimbursement  
10 of \$1.1 billion, settlements with third parties of \$827 million, and FERC-  
11 authorized recovery of \$80 million, the CPUC denied recovery of \$421  
12 million of wildfire costs incurred by SDG&E in the CPUC's Final Decision  
13 issued December 2017.<sup>11</sup>

14 **Q. What is the basis and estimate of the total exposure for California**  
15 **utilities?**

16 **A.** The losses incurred to-date and future potential liabilities are primarily due  
17 to how the courts and the CPUC have interpreted the doctrine of inverse  
18 condemnation. Without any changes in how inverse condemnation applies  
19 to utility wildfire liabilities, SDG&E faces substantial business and  
20 solvency risks in the future.

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<sup>11</sup> See D.17-11-033. The total liability of SDG&E's California-jurisdictional operations totaled \$421 million. After applying a voluntary Company contribution of 10%, or \$42 million, the net amount was \$379 million. None of these costs were deemed recoverable.

1                   Recent events in other parts of California illustrate how financially  
2 catastrophic wildfires can be for investor-owned utilities. PG&E’s  
3 transmission lines are suspected of igniting the 2018 Northern California  
4 wildfires. The California Department of Insurance has estimated plaintiff  
5 claims so far at \$11.4 billion.<sup>12</sup> The company recognized in its bankruptcy  
6 filing that the total damage claims from fires could be more than \$30  
7 billion.<sup>13</sup>

8                   Catastrophic wildfires also broke out in Southern California in 2017  
9 and 2018. After numerous lawsuits, SCE took a charge for the fire liabilities  
10 and estimated the plaintiff damage claims at approximately \$4.7 billion.  
11 After settlements, wildfire insurance reimbursements, and authorized FERC  
12 recovery, SCE’s after-tax liability is approximately \$1.8 billion.<sup>14</sup>

13           **Q.    What is SDG&E’s specific wildfire exposure and total potential**  
14           **liabilities?**

15           A.    SDG&E’s service territory includes San Diego County and parts of Orange  
16           County, which are prone to wildfire outbreaks. Overall, 57 percent of  
17           SDG&E’s service territory is classified as High Fire Threat by the CPUC.  
18           These risks, as well as a map of SDG&E’s high fire threat areas, are

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<sup>12</sup> California Department of Insurance, Insured Losses from the 2018 California Wildfires (January 28, 2019), available at <http://www.insurance.ca.gov/0400-news/0100-press-releases/2019/upload/nr14-2019Insured-Losses-2018-Wildfires.pdf>.

<sup>13</sup> See United States Securities and Exchange Commission, Pacific Gas and Electric Company Form 8-K, Bankruptcy or Receivership (January 13, 2019) at 4, available at [https://www.pge.com/pge\\_global/common/pdfs/about-pge/company-information/reorganization/reorganization-8-K.pdf](https://www.pge.com/pge_global/common/pdfs/about-pge/company-information/reorganization/reorganization-8-K.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> Edison International, Press Release: Edison International Reports Fourth Quarter and Full-Year 2018 Results (February 28, 2019), available at <https://newsroom.edison.com/releases/edison-international-reports-fourth-quarter-and-full-year-2018-results>.

1 described in greater detail in the testimony of Mr. Widjaja (Exhibit  
2 SDG&E-03).

3 SDG&E's 2007 wildfires were not isolated occurrences. SDG&E's  
4 service territory has experienced several other significant wildfires since  
5 2007, including the Bernardo, Cocos, and Poinsettia fires in May 2014, the  
6 Lilac Fire in December 2017, and the West Fire in June 2018. However,  
7 those fires were not linked to SDG&E equipment, so the utility did not incur  
8 any liabilities.

9 **Q. Has SDG&E attempted to mitigate the risk associated with wildfires in**  
10 **its service territory?**

11 A. Yes. As described in the testimonies of Messrs. Folkmann and  
12 Widjaja, we understand that SDG&E has engaged in a host of wildfire  
13 mitigation and prevention measures since SDG&E's 2007 wildfires. Most  
14 recently, in compliance with California legislation enacted in late 2018,  
15 SDG&E established a Wildfire Mitigation Plan ("WMP"), a comprehensive  
16 portfolio of SDG&E's mitigation programs and strategies. The programs  
17 and strategies set forth in the WMP, which will be requested for cost  
18 recovery as part of a future SDG&E general rate case, focus on system  
19 hardening, vegetation management, operational programs, situational  
20 awareness, and customer engagement. We recognize that SDG&E's WMP  
21 aims to mitigate potential ignitions and lessen the impacts should a fire  
22 occur (*i.e.*, response activities). It does not, however, address residual  
23 liabilities due to wildfire given the legal doctrine of inverse condemnation.

1           **Q.     Can insurance products mitigate the financial exposure to these risks?**

2           A.     Yes, to a point.  SDG&E currently has approximately \$1.5 billion in  
3           insurance and bond coverage for wildfire-specific liabilities.  SDG&E’s  
4           ability to purchase insurance at a reasonable cost is influenced by several  
5           factors, including state policy and future frequency of wildfires.

6           **Q.     What if the wildfire liabilities exceed the Company’s insurance  
7           coverage?**

8           A.     Any loss that exceeds the level of insurance coverage is subject to potential  
9           recovery in a regulatory process, either at the CPUC or FERC.  But recovery  
10          through these processes is subject to significant uncertainty and timing  
11          challenges.  This level of exposure is what we have labelled as SDG&E’s  
12          unmitigated financial risk.

13          **Q.     What Legislative actions have been taken to address this issue?**

14          A.     In August 2018, California passed Senate Bill 901 (“SB 901”), which  
15          introduced a series of changes relevant to investor-owned utilities but did  
16          not change the doctrine of inverse condemnation.

17          **Q.     Does SB901 help mitigate the risk for the Utilities?**

18          A.     At this time, it is not clear how the CPUC will apply SB 901 and how this  
19          legislation will impact the California Utilities’ ability to recover certain  
20          costs and expenses in cases where a utility’s equipment is determined to be  
21          a cause of a fire.

1           **Q.     How are financial market analysts interpreting the legislative actions?**

2           A.     In its September 6, 2018 report, Moody’s noted that SB 901 offers some  
3           constructive tools for the CPUC to use going forward in conducting its  
4           reasonableness review when considering whether to allow the California  
5           Utilities to recover catastrophic wildfire related costs.<sup>15</sup>

6                         S&P indicated that SDG&E’s negative outlook reflects its view that  
7           it may further lower the Company’s rating if the severity of California’s  
8           wildfires persists without a longer-term reform to inverse condemnation.  
9           S&P additionally noted that it could lower SDG&E’s credit rating within  
10          the next two years if the CPUC interprets SB 901 in a manner that does not  
11          limit the risks to the California Utilities.<sup>16</sup>

12          **Q.     What is the status of recovery of wildfire liabilities at FERC?**

13          A.     FERC authorized SDG&E to recover the FERC-jurisdictional portion of the  
14          costs arising from the 2007 wildfires. For instance, after the 2007 wildfires,  
15          FERC used a labor allocator of 16 percent to determine that SDG&E could  
16          recover \$80 million (of the \$501 million in net liabilities) through  
17          transmission rates.<sup>17</sup> Notably, the CPUC did not allow any recovery of these  
18          same costs.

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<sup>15</sup> See Moody’s Investors Service, Moody’s downgrades San Diego Gas & Electric to A2 from A1; outlook stable (September 6, 2018) at 1.

<sup>16</sup> See S&P Global Ratings, San Diego Gas & Electric Co. Downgraded to ‘A-’ on Unaddressed Longer-Term Wildfire Risks; Outlook Negative (September 5, 2018).

<sup>17</sup> The Company’s current labor allocator is 18.4 percent.

1           **Q.     How is this situation different in California than in other states?**

2           A.     Utilities in other states are not subject to the same level of catastrophic  
3                 wildfire risk as the California Utilities. Nor do they face the same risks  
4                 associated with recovery of the liabilities that California Utilities are subject  
5                 to under the combination of the doctrine of inverse condemnation and the  
6                 CPUC’s reasonableness review. These risks are unique to the California  
7                 Utilities. In the following section, we address the issue of whether the  
8                 unique risks faced by California Utilities are, or can be, captured in the  
9                 traditional financial models used to determine the cost of capital.

10       **V.     ESTIMATES OF THE EQUITY RISK ADJUSTMENT FOR WILDFIRE**  
11       **LIABILITY RISK**

12           **Q.     How is the required ROE determined for SDG&E?**

13           A.     Several models have been developed to estimate the cost of equity, and Dr.  
14                 Morin has used multiple approaches to estimate the cost of equity for the  
15                 average utility and SDG&E. As a practical matter, all the models available  
16                 for estimating the cost of equity are subject to limiting assumptions or other  
17                 methodological constraints.

18                         In the analytical approaches Dr. Morin applies to estimate the cost  
19                         of equity, he has relied on a proxy group that is representative of the average  
20                         utility industry risk profile nationwide. However, additional factors must  
21                         be taken into consideration when determining the Company’s cost of equity  
22                         relative to the proxy group, given the unique risks facing California  
23                         Utilities. Dr. Morin’s proxy group does not include any other companies  
24                         that are subject to the same level of catastrophic wildfire risk as the

1 Company,<sup>18</sup> nor the risk associated with inability to recover liabilities that  
2 California Utilities are subject to under the doctrine of inverse  
3 condemnation.

4 **Q. How have you estimated the risk associated with the liabilities related**  
5 **to catastrophic wildfires for SDG&E?**

6 A. We have used multiple approaches based on market data to estimate how  
7 investors and third parties view the incremental risk for liabilities associated  
8 with catastrophic wildfires. To the extent possible, we have considered the  
9 analytical methodologies Dr. Morin applies in developing his ROE estimate  
10 and considered those risks outside of Dr. Morin's applied proxy group. We  
11 have also considered other available market data that provide a meaningful  
12 estimate of the premium investors would require to make an equity  
13 investment in the Company, given the substantial level of unmitigated  
14 financial risks associated with catastrophic wildfires. Specifically, we have  
15 considered: (1) an industry-risk approach to understand the risk premiums  
16 reflected across a spectrum of industrial risk levels; (2) a stock price decline  
17 approach that looks at the recent stock performance of the California  
18 Utilities; (3) the estimated loss to SDG&E based on probabilistic estimates  
19 of wildfire events and the return premium required to compensate investors  
20 for these losses; (4) costs from the insurance market that indicate the

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18 While Dr. Morin's proxy group includes Sempra, this is but one of 17 companies in the group. Further, the Company's CPUC jurisdictional operations represent only 19 percent of Sempra's total assets across its diversified holdings. Sempra's other business segments are not subject to the same catastrophic wildfire risks, and therefore have a different risk profile than the Company. In effect, Sempra's cost of equity represents a combination of those risks, and the benefits of diversification.

1 required premium to place wildfire risk with a third-party; (5) costs from  
2 the CAT bond market for California's Utilities; and (6) the incremental  
3 return on equity required to restore SDG&E's credit rating to its pre-wildfire  
4 level.

5 **A. Industry Risk Approach**

6 **Q. Please briefly describe your Industry Risk approach.**

7 A. As described in more detail by Dr. Morin, the CAPM is a risk premium  
8 approach that estimates the cost of equity for a given security as a function  
9 of a risk-free return plus a risk premium to compensate investors for the  
10 non-diversifiable or "systematic" risk of that security. This second  
11 component is the product of the market risk premium and the Beta  
12 coefficient, which measures the relative riskiness of the security being  
13 evaluated. The CAPM model can reflect an alternative Beta coefficient that  
14 represents the risks associated with an investment that is significantly riskier  
15 than the typical utility reflected in Dr. Morin's proxy group. The use of  
16 alternate Betas to reflect greater risks is the focus of our Industry Risk  
17 approach.

18 **Q. Have you considered what Beta coefficient would represent the risk**  
19 **premium associated with catastrophic wildfires?**

20 A. Yes. Dr. Morin has presented a CAPM analysis with a Beta coefficient of  
21 0.60 for his proxy companies. This Beta coefficient represents the average  
22 utility risk. Since the risk of catastrophic wildfires represents an  
23 incremental risk relative to the average utility company, the appropriate

1 Beta coefficient that captures that risk must be higher than that for the  
2 average utility. The full range of utility proxy group Beta coefficients is an  
3 inadequate risk measure when we are estimating the risk associated with  
4 catastrophic wildfires, because no member of that proxy group reflects the  
5 level of wildfire risk that is borne by SDG&E's shareholders. Therefore,  
6 we have expanded our risk assessment to include other industries.

7 **Q. What is the range of Beta coefficients in other industries that represent**  
8 **higher risks?**

9 A. To estimate the spectrum of potential risk premia that can be applied to the  
10 Company, we analyzed the Beta coefficients for all companies that are  
11 included in the Value Line universe and report a Beta coefficient through  
12 the Screener. There are more than 5,000 companies grouped into  
13 approximately 100 industries. Utility companies, along with the Thrift  
14 (Savings and Loan) industry, are at the low end of the spectrum with median  
15 Beta coefficients generally in the range of 0.55 to 0.60. Some industries  
16 tend to perform in-line with the market, for example, Information Services,  
17 Entertainment, and Life Insurance industries have a median Beta coefficient  
18 of approximately 1.00. Capital-intensive industries such as Oilfield  
19 Services and Equipment, Natural Gas (Diversified Operations), Petroleum  
20 (Producing), Maritime, and Steel industries represent the high-end of the  
21 spectrum. The median Beta coefficients for these industries range from 1.35  
22 to 1.55.

1           **Q.     What is the range of risk premia that would be required to invest in**  
2           **these riskier industries relative to the average utility company?**

3           A.     Investing in a company that performed in-line with the broader market,  
4           assuming a Beta coefficient of 1.00, would require a risk premium over  
5           utilities of 276 basis points.<sup>19</sup> At the high-end of the range, investing in an  
6           industry like Oilfield Services or Steel would require a risk premium of  
7           518<sup>20</sup> basis points to 656<sup>21</sup> basis points.

8                         However, even this range of estimates will not fully capture the risk  
9           profile of a utility that, like SDG&E, is subject to catastrophic wildfire risks.  
10          Such companies are exposed to the potential of massive losses due to  
11          liabilities that may exceed the value of the utilities' equity, representing a  
12          significant downside risk that is essentially unbounded. Wildfire financial  
13          risk is also entirely one-sided. While it represents an extraordinarily large  
14          downside risk, there is no upside opportunity associated with this risk.  
15          Other industries tend to have more symmetrical risks. For example, an  
16          oilfield services company is exposed to the potential for substantial losses  
17          if significant investments are made and potential revenues are never  
18          realized. However, a company in that industry that is successful is not  
19          bounded in its upside potential and thus may realize substantial profits.  
20          Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the risk premium discussed above

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<sup>19</sup>  $(6.90\% \times (1.00 - 0.60)) = 2.76$ , where 6.9% is the market risk premium ( $R_m - R_f$ ) and 1.00 and 0.60 are the betas for the market and utilities, respectively.

<sup>20</sup>  $(6.90\% \times (1.35 - 0.60)) = 5.18$ , where 6.9% is the market risk premium ( $R_m - R_f$ ) and 1.35 and 0.60 are the betas for oil field services and utilities, respectively.

<sup>21</sup>  $(6.90\% \times (1.55 - 0.60)) = 6.56$ , where 6.9% is the market risk premium ( $R_m - R_f$ ) and 1.55 and 0.60 are the betas for the steel industry and utilities, respectively.

1 for SDG&E would have to significantly increase from that observed in a  
2 similar industry with symmetric risks (perhaps as much as twice that for  
3 symmetric risk).

4 **Q. What is your conclusion regarding your industry risk analysis?**

5 A. It is difficult to determine a point estimate based on a review of other non-  
6 utility industries, as there is no directly comparable industry that is rate-  
7 regulated and exposed to a one-sided risk similar to potentially  
8 unrecoverable catastrophic wildfire liabilities. Nonetheless, the review of  
9 other industries informs the spectrum of risk premia available to investors.  
10 We conservatively peg the one-sided wildfire risk at 275-600 basis points  
11 over the required return for an average utility. For that reason, we consider  
12 this analysis to be one that can only provide a “ranging” analysis as opposed  
13 to a point estimate.

14 **B. Implied Risk From Recent Stock Declines**

15 **Q. Please describe your analysis of recent stock price declines for**  
16 **California’s electric utilities.**

17 A. Stock prices and projected dividends are the key elements of the traditional  
18 DCF model used to estimate the cost of equity. DCF models are widely  
19 used in regulatory proceedings. In its simplest form, the DCF model  
20 expresses the cost of equity as the sum of the expected dividend yield and  
21 long-term growth rate. Dr. Morin includes this version of the DCF approach  
22 in his estimation of the average utility cost of equity.

1 For the purpose of estimating the risk of associated with catastrophic  
2 wildfires to California Utilities, the DCF approach presents limitations due  
3 to the lack of suitable proxy companies that capture the full risk premium.  
4 However, a fall in a stock price is an indication that investors require a  
5 higher return to invest in that stock. Therefore, stock price reductions can  
6 be a measure of incremental risk.

7 **Q. Does the Constant Growth DCF analysis of an average utility proxy**  
8 **group incorporate the risk associated with catastrophic wildfires?**

9 A. No, it does not. Much like the CAPM approach, the risk of catastrophic  
10 wildfires represents an incremental risk relative to the average utility  
11 company.

12 **Q. What companies did you consider in your analysis of stock price**  
13 **declines?**

14 A. Since we are estimating the cost of equity for a California utility, and more  
15 specifically estimating the risk premium associated with catastrophic  
16 wildfires for CPUC-jurisdictional operations, we can look to changes in  
17 stock prices for the California Utilities as investors have increased their  
18 return requirements over time. The CPUC's Wildfire Expense  
19 Memorandum Account ("WEMA") decision to deny the Company recovery  
20 of costs associated with SDG&E's 2007 wildfires<sup>22</sup> made it clear that  
21 investors could be subject to significant risks associated with wildfires.  
22 These risks include the liabilities under the doctrine of inverse

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<sup>22</sup> See D.17-11-033.

1 condemnation, and the limited opportunity for cost recovery, even when  
2 there is no finding of negligence. In addition, the 2018 Northern California  
3 wildfires demonstrated the reality of the potential for a recurrence of  
4 catastrophic wildfires in the State. Therefore, looking at the California  
5 Utilities' respective stock prices prior to the CPUC's WEMA decision and  
6 the October 2017 Southern California wildfires, relative to recent results,  
7 provides an indication as to how investors view the incremental risk for  
8 potential losses associated with catastrophic wildfires.

9 **Q. Has Sempra's stock price changed since the WEMA decision?**

10 A. Yes, but these results have been affected by a number of other events. Since  
11 the WEMA decision, Sempra acquired Energy Future Holdings Corp.,  
12 which includes a majority stake in Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC.  
13 The \$9.45 billion acquisition was a significant transaction that makes  
14 comparisons over this period impractical for Sempra since investors'  
15 expectations of Sempra are now based on the larger, more diversified  
16 holdings of Sempra relative to the smaller company at the time of the  
17 WEMA decision. Putting the transaction aside, the Company's CPUC-  
18 jurisdictional operations also represent only a portion of its total holdings,  
19 so any incremental risk to the CPUC-jurisdictional segment would be  
20 limited to that portion of the Company in a sum-of-the-parts analysis. As  
21 such, Sempra's stock price performance does not capture the full risk  
22 premium associated with catastrophic wildfires to California utilities.

1           **Q.    How has Edison International’s stock price performed since October**  
2           **2017?**

3           A.    Edison International’s primary operating subsidiary is Southern California  
4           Edison, which operates exclusively in the State of California. In this  
5           analysis, we are not making a determination as to whether or not Edison  
6           International is a suitable proxy for the Company’s ROE. However, the  
7           relative change in Edison International’s valuation since the WEMA  
8           decision and the October 2017 Southern California wildfires demonstrates  
9           how investors’ requirements have changed.

10                       As shown in Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3, page 3 to this  
11           testimony, Edison International’s stock price has declined more than 20  
12           percent from approximately \$80 per share in September 2017 to less than  
13           \$64 per share in March 2019. Part of this decline can be attributed to the  
14           specific claims arising from the wildfires that occurred in 2017-18 in  
15           Southern California Edison’s service territory. For that event, the losses  
16           expected to be borne by Edison International’s shareholders are \$5.60 per  
17           share,<sup>23</sup> or approximately 7 percent of its September 2017 share price. Over  
18           that same period, the utility industry stock prices, as measured by the S&P  
19           500 Utility Index, have increased by more than 6 percent, suggesting that  
20           Edison International’s recent performance has meaningfully deviated from  
21           the average utility performance. Therefore, investors have already priced

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<sup>23</sup> Edison International, Press Release: Edison International Reports Fourth Quarter and Full-Year 2018 Results (February 28, 2019), available at <https://newsroom.edison.com/releases/edison-international-reports-fourth-quarter-and-full-year-2018-results>. .

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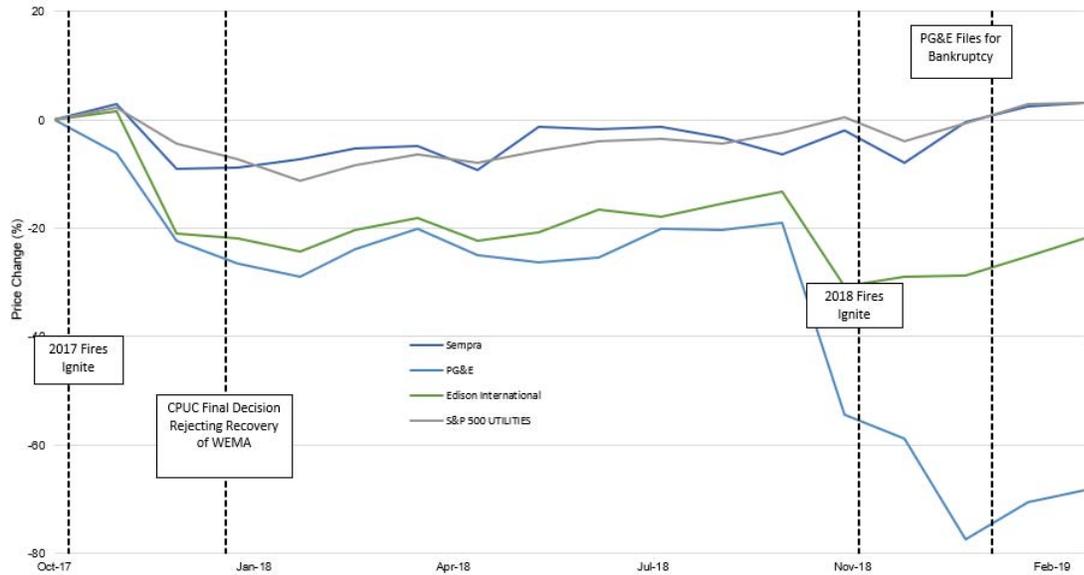
into Edison International’s stock price the effect of the loss associated with the 2017-18 wildfire liabilities. The continued underperformance of Edison International’s stock price relative to average-risk utilities is likely due to the risk of future wildfire liabilities. However, the underperformance is moderated by investors’ expectation that a regulatory or legislative resolution will mitigate the California Utilities’ exposure to wildfire liabilities. For example, a recent Bank of America Merrill Lynch report upgraded its rating for Edison International “seeing an improving awareness from wider CA stakeholders to address the wildfire liability construct in the state this year, potentially allowing for a recovery in EIX shares”<sup>24</sup> Since Edison International’s stock has priced in a likelihood of some form of legislative, regulatory or other relief to catastrophic wildfire risks, it does not reflect the full exposure to wildfire liabilities absent relief. Therefore, Edison International’s stock price also does not reflect the total exposure to risks associated with catastrophic wildfires.

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<sup>24</sup> Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Edison International, A bit more confidence in California: Upgrade to Neutral (March 1, 2019).

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**Figure 1: California IOUs Stock Price Change Since October 2017**



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**Q. What does the stock price analysis suggest for the risk premium priced into Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation’s (“PG&E Corp.”) stock price?**

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**A.** As shown in Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3, page 3 to this testimony, PG&E

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Corp.’s stock price has declined more than 70 percent from approximately \$70 per share in September 2017 to less than \$20 per share in March 2019.

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PG&E Corp. suspended its dividend in December 2017, citing uncertainty

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related to potential liabilities associated with the October 2017 Northern

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California wildfires. This fact is inconsistent with the premise of the

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traditional DCF model. Therefore, a DCF analysis of PG&E Corp. is not

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possible without certain hypothetical assumptions and adjustments.

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Nonetheless, the decline in PG&E Corp.’s stock price demonstrates that

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shareholders are expecting to bear a significant portion of the potential

1 liabilities from recent wildfires, and the ongoing incremental risk associated  
2 with future catastrophic wildfires.

3 **Q. Are these stock price declines representative of the full risk premium**  
4 **that would compensate investors for taking on the utilities' unmitigated**  
5 **wildfire risk?**

6 A. No, because equity markets have priced into the valuations of California  
7 utilities the assumption that some form of legislative, regulatory or other  
8 relief will be granted. For example, Morgan Stanley recently observed:

9 The largest risk we see is the potential that California does  
10 not put in place a durable fix to the treatment of wildfire risk  
11 in the state, and the associated credit risk and threat to SRE's  
12 credit ratings. That said, we believe at least a partial fix is  
13 likely (we will describe in depth within this note), and we  
14 believe SRE's credit profile, including its financial metrics,  
15 is likely to be capable of supporting the company's  
16 ambitious growth plans.<sup>25</sup>

17 Despite the fact that SDG&E comprises only a fraction of Sempra's  
18 business segments, Morgan Stanley has identified risks associated with  
19 wildfire liabilities as the largest risk. Significantly, this risk is implicitly  
20 discounted as Morgan Stanley also states that some level of mitigation is  
21 "likely." At present, there have not been any significant remedies adopted  
22 for the California Utilities that would mitigate these financial consequences.  
23 But investors are presently making assumptions regarding the likelihood of  
24 an imminent remedy, and these inform their valuation estimates. If it  
25 becomes apparent that a regulatory or legislative remedy is not forthcoming,

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<sup>25</sup> Morgan Stanley, Sempra Energy: Constructive Update Highlights Numerous Growth Opportunities (March 28, 2019).

1 investors would increase their return requirements to more closely reflect  
2 the full risks associated with wildfire liabilities. This would undoubtedly  
3 have the effect of further reducing share prices for companies with electric  
4 utility operations in California.

5 **Q. What is your conclusion regarding the implied risk from recent stock**  
6 **price performance?**

7 A. Much like the industry risk approach, it is not possible to determine a  
8 suitable proxy for the incremental risks associated with wildfires as there  
9 are a limited number of comparable companies. However, by reviewing the  
10 change in stock prices for Edison International and PG&E Corp. we gain  
11 insights that are indicative of investors increasing their return requirements  
12 for California Utilities, and the risks associated with catastrophic wildfires.  
13 Edison International represents a proxy for partially mitigated risk through  
14 the market's assumption that state-sponsored relief is likely to be granted  
15 soon, and PG&E Corp. represents a company that is facing unmitigated  
16 risks and has filed for Chapter 11 reorganization. These results suggest that  
17 the current state of regulatory and legal practices, when applied to  
18 SDG&E's CPUC jurisdictional operations, would require a wildfire risk  
19 premium that is far above the average utility's cost of equity.

20 **C. The Estimated Loss Approach**

21 **Q. Please describe your approach to estimating the risk of potential losses**  
22 **associated with wildfires.**

23 A. As described above, the Company experienced a devastating wildfire in  
24 2007 resulting in significant liabilities that were borne by shareholders.

1 Since that time, the Company has made substantial efforts to mitigate that  
2 risk as described in its WMP. Nonetheless, even though the Company has  
3 sought to limit the potential for another catastrophic wildfire, it cannot  
4 eliminate that risk. The Company has also taken steps to limit its financial  
5 exposure to the potential liabilities associated with wildfire events. But it  
6 may also be financially inefficient to fully-insure against that risk, if it is  
7 even possible. Looking at the earnings impact from future wildfire  
8 liabilities relative to the Company's insurance coverage, however, can  
9 reveal the amount of losses an investor can expect, and the offsetting  
10 earnings required to compensate for that loss.

11 **Q. What is the Company's current level of insurance coverage for**  
12 **liabilities associated with wildfires?**

13 A. The Company currently maintains insurance policies for wildfire liabilities  
14 with a covered amount of \$1.5 billion. This includes several conventional  
15 insurance policies arrayed in an "insurance tower," which also includes a  
16 CAT bond. For comparison, the liability claims and expenses associated  
17 with the 2007 wildfires were approximately \$2.4 billion. If the Company  
18 experienced an event of a similar magnitude today, there would be a  
19 potential gap of \$900 million of claims above insurance reimbursements.  
20 However, the effects of inflation, increased residential and commercial  
21 density in the service territory, and litigation experience could make a  
22 similar fire far more costly today.

1           **Q.    What is the estimated likelihood of a catastrophic wildfire with**  
2           **significant liabilities to the Company?**

3           While the Company makes substantial efforts to mitigate the likelihood of  
4           an ignition and has made investments to limit the consequences of an  
5           ignition event, the risk cannot be eliminated completely. The Company is  
6           developing a risk assessment for its wildfire risk in preparation for its  
7           upcoming Risk Assessment Mitigation Phase (“RAMP”) filing, to be  
8           submitted by November 30, 2019. This risk assessment models the  
9           likelihood and consequence of SDG&E’s wildfire risk at a point in time  
10          using a probability distribution of possible scenarios. This risk modeling  
11          incorporates wildfire-related items, including:

- 12           1.     wildfire behavior (*i.e.* the utilization of vegetation, topography, and  
13           weather patterns to estimate fire growth);
- 14           2.     housing prices;
- 15           3.     climate change; and
- 16           4.     risk-reducing effects of SDG&E’s existing wildfire mitigation  
17           activities.

18           SDG&E’s wildfire risk model results in a 1-in-20-year event, or a 5  
19           percent annual probability of a potential \$1.7 billion financial loss. That  
20           said, there is a potential for wildfire liabilities to exceed this threshold. To  
21           estimate the point in which any incremental wildfire liability will exceed  
22           the Company’s present insurance coverage of \$1.5 billion, SDG&E’s  
23           wildfire risk model results in a 5.33 percent probability in any given year of  
24           a \$1.5 billion or greater financial loss. The average of the scenarios where  
25           potential wildfire liabilities exceeds the present insurance coverage results  
26           in an approximate average loss of \$3.68 billion for these scenarios.

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**Q. What are the losses an investor can expect given this probability of wildfire liabilities?**

A. Assuming a liability of \$3.68 billion, \$1.5 billion would be reimbursed through insurance policies. Under present FERC practices, discussed earlier, 18.4 percent of the remaining \$2.18 billion of liabilities (\$401 million) would likely be recoverable under FERC rates.<sup>26</sup> The remaining potential liability to the Company would be \$1.78 billion, subject to CPUC recovery. There would also be a reduction in income tax liability that would have the effect of reducing the loss borne by shareholders by 27.6 percent.<sup>27</sup> This results in an after-tax exposure of \$1.29 billion that would be subject to a cost recovery proceeding at the CPUC. Given the precedent of SDG&E’s WEMA decision, the assumption is that the \$1.29 billion would be borne by shareholders. Applying this loss to an annual probability of 5.33 percent (*i.e.*, approximately a 1-in-20-years probability) suggests an estimated loss value of \$68.62 million.

**Q. How can shareholders be compensated for bearing this incremental risk above the average utility risk profile?**

A. SDG&E’s projected total CPUC-jurisdictional gas and electric 2019 rate base is \$6.54 billion,<sup>28</sup> and the Company’s requested equity ratio in this Application is 56 percent common equity, resulting in an equity component

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<sup>26</sup> This assumption reflects the disposition of SDG&E’s regulatory claims for the 2007 wildfire liabilities; we recognize that both the CPUC and FERC recoveries could be different for future fires.  
<sup>27</sup> This assumes that the tax shield created by the wildfire losses could be fully utilized on a timely basis; this assumption causes our estimated risk premium to be conservative.  
<sup>28</sup> A.17-10-007/-008 (cons.), Update Testimony of Southern California Gas Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company (August 2018) at Attachment B, B-1.

1 of rate base of \$3.66 billion. Providing investors a premium for  
2 compensation of potential annual wildfire liabilities of approximately \$69  
3 million would require 1.87 percent (187 basis points) to be added to  
4 SDG&E's ROE recommendation.

5 We recognize that the CPUC may grant partial or even full recovery  
6 of these future costs through inclusion of these costs in rates. However,  
7 based on past decisions, investors would not be willing to make such an  
8 assumption today. Therefore, this risk should be compensated through a  
9 higher allowed return, if the legal and regulatory framework for cost  
10 recovery remains unchanged.

11 **D. The Insurance Approach**

12 **Q. Please describe the Company's insurance coverage, and the costs**  
13 **associated with limiting financial exposure to wildfire liabilities.**

14 A. As previously described, the Company's current insurance policies cover  
15 wildfire related liabilities up to \$1.5 billion. This includes the insurance  
16 tower comprised of several policies, as well as a CAT bond. The total  
17 annual premiums for this level of coverage is \$ [REDACTED] million, which equates  
18 to an average Rate On Line ("ROL") of [REDACTED] percent. Approximately half  
19 of these policies are based on multi-year agreements with fixed premiums  
20 that were established in 2017. Given that the average ROL in 2017 was  
21 [REDACTED] percent, this implies that the agreements that were established in 2018  
22 have premiums equating to an ROL of [REDACTED] percent. While the Company  
23 has not yet completed negotiations for 2019 insurance policies, initial

1 quotes suggest that insurance premiums have increased. In 2020, many of  
2 the long-term agreements will expire, so the lower-cost premiums  
3 established in 2017 will have to be renegotiated based on the market price  
4 in 2020.

5 **Q. If there were a catastrophic wildfire with substantial liabilities, how**  
6 **does the Company's insurance coverage mitigate its exposure to losses?**

7 A. The Company's current insurance policies include coverage of up to \$1.5  
8 billion (including its CAT bond). Shareholders are assumed to bear the  
9 burden of any liabilities deemed not eligible for cost recovery from  
10 ratepayers. One potential strategy to offset this risk would be to increase  
11 the Company's insurance coverage associated with wildfire liabilities. If  
12 the CPUC were to approve cost recovery of these higher insurance costs the  
13 impacts on shareholders would be lessened. However, the market is limited,  
14 and this may not be possible.

15 **Q. What would it cost for the Company to acquire insurance to increase**  
16 **its wildfire liability coverage?**

17 A. This cost is difficult to estimate because there are typically several policies  
18 that comprise the overall insurance tower, and insurance may not be  
19 available above a certain level of liability. Under normal market conditions,  
20 there is an expectation that the average ROL would decrease for incremental  
21 levels of coverage because higher levels of coverage are typically associated  
22 with lower probabilities of losses. However, increasing premiums in the  
23 current market for wildfire liability insurance in California makes it difficult  
24 to discern what the cost would be for coverage above the Company's current

1 \$1.5 billion limit, and whether any descending ROL would apply to  
2 subsequent tiers. In addition, the Company's risk assessments indicate that  
3 if a major fire was to occur, the likelihood is that the liability would far  
4 exceed the current insurance level. In other words, because the expected  
5 liability for a fire with consequences above \$1.5 billion is far above \$1.5  
6 billion (as discussed above, an annual five percent chance of a \$1.7 billion  
7 event, with an average expected liability of \$3.68 billion for modeled  
8 wildfire events that would exceed the Company's insurance coverage), the  
9 premia for additional tranches of insurance may not reflect discounts  
10 relative to the aggregate premiums for the base \$1.5 billion of coverage.

11 However, to get a sense of a range of premiums, one could assume  
12 that the Company could receive the average ROL for agreements that were  
13 established in 2018 to cover the entirety of the \$2.2 billion of incremental  
14 risk between \$1.5 billion and the risk model's expected liability of \$3.68  
15 billion (based on the average expected liability for fires that exceed the  
16 current insurance level).<sup>29</sup> In the event a \$3.68 billion liability event is  
17 incurred, and shareholders are self-insuring for this incremental liability  
18 above \$1.5 billion (*i.e.*, for \$2.2 billion of incremental liability coverage),

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<sup>29</sup> The \$3.68 billion value assumed for the maximum insured event yields coverage for about 98% of the annual wildfire liability amounts modeled by SDG&E. While the Company's risk models suggest the upper end of the distribution could far exceed this \$3.68 billion scenario, given that the insurance market is limited, it is unlikely that it would be cost effective to insure above this level, and may not be possible.

1 the effect of income taxes would reduce the incremental loss borne by  
2 shareholders by 27.6 percent to \$1.58 billion.<sup>30</sup>

3 Based on an equity rate base of \$3.66 billion, the cost of incremental  
4 insurance coverage of \$1.58 billion of liabilities at the 2018 ROL would be  
5 equivalent to providing equity investors a 3.68 percent risk premium to  
6 accept this risk. Using these estimates of the costs observed in the insurance  
7 market, that is the implied cost of shareholders being responsible to “self-  
8 insure” the additional \$2.2 billion in risk above the Company’s \$1.5 billion  
9 in insurance to fully cover the average expected wildfire loss of \$3.68  
10 billion for wildfire events above \$1.5 billion.

11 **Q. Is this assumed ROL reasonable compared to the Company’s current**  
12 **premiums?**

13 A. It is almost certainly too low. While it is reasonable to expect that the ROL  
14 for liabilities above the Company’s first \$1.5 billion of liability coverage  
15 would be somewhat lower on a relative basis, recent trends have suggested  
16 insurance premiums for policies that would cover wildfire liabilities are  
17 increasing. An ROL at the Company’s 2018 renewal rate is therefore a very  
18 conservative (low) estimate of the cost to insure an additional \$2.18 billion  
19 (\$1.58 billion after tax) in liability. Additionally, the estimated 3.68 percent  
20 risk premium does not account for the risk shareholders bear for liabilities

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<sup>30</sup> Compared to the Company having to pay \$2.2 billion to a third-party for the same amount of insurance because the Company could not deduct any losses suffered by the insurer.

1 that exceed \$3.68 billion and is, therefore, an incomplete estimate of the  
2 total liability risk borne by shareholders.

3 Given that the insurance industry provides a clear price signal for  
4 the cost required to bear the risk of wildfire liabilities, insurance premiums  
5 provide a suitable proxy for the incremental risk premium investors require  
6 to invest in the Company, given the current risk arising from wildfire  
7 liabilities, as compared to average risk utilities.

8 **E. The CAT Bond Approach**

9 **Q. Are there other indicative prices in the Company's insurance**  
10 **coverage?**

11 A. Yes. As discussed above, the Company's total wildfire liability coverage  
12 includes a CAT bond that provides reimbursement for \$135 million of  
13 liabilities in the event that a catastrophic wildfire causes liabilities of a  
14 defined amount. The CAT bond was issued with a coupon rate of LIBOR  
15 plus 400 basis points. The bond was issued at par on October 12, 2018,  
16 when LIBOR was at 2.44 percent, indicating a yield at issuance of 6.44  
17 percent. The CAT bond carries a three-year term, over which investors are  
18 paid interest quarterly. At the end of the term, investors are returned their  
19 principal, from an independent trustee, if the defined catastrophic event has  
20 not occurred. If the triggering event does occur, which is a fire with  
21 damages above the \$1.37 billion insurance policy, investors' principal  
22 repayment is reduced or eliminated, and the Company is paid the principal  
23 value of the bond. Given the debt structure of this insurance product, a

1 comparison of pricing for this CAT bond relative to a measure of the risk-  
2 free rate provides an indication of the risk premium associated with wildfire  
3 liabilities.

4 **Q. How can SDG&E's CAT bond yields be used to determine a wildfire**  
5 **risk premium?**

6 A. The CAT bonds were issued by a third-party entity, SD Re Ltd., which is a  
7 special purpose insurer that retains the associated principal in a trust and is  
8 managed by a third-party. As such, investors in the CAT bond are not  
9 exposed to the same default risks as an investor in SDG&E's conventional  
10 bonds. The primary risk to CAT bond investors is the risk of a wildfire  
11 causing liabilities to the Company exceeding the prescribed attachment  
12 level during the 3-year holding period. Therefore, to assess the investors'  
13 required return for this risk, the appropriate comparison is the CAT bond  
14 yield relative to the 3-year U.S. Treasury note as a measure of the risk-free  
15 rate. On the date of the CAT bond issuance, the yield on the 3-year U.S.  
16 Treasury note was 2.93 percent. This indicates a premium of 3.51 percent  
17 for the CAT bond and its associated wildfire liability risk. Since we are  
18 estimating the implicit cost for shareholders to self-insure, the assumed  
19 premium is reduced by the composite tax rate of 27.6 percent for a tax-  
20 adjusted estimate of 2.54 percent.

21 **Q. How has this premium on the CAT bond changed since the issuance**  
22 **date?**

23 A. As stated earlier, SDG&E's CAT bond was issued before the disastrous  
24 2018 wildfires occurred. There have been a limited number of transactions

1 for SDG&E’s CAT bond, so pricing information is only available for a few  
 2 observations. However, for each transaction, the required yield and  
 3 premium over conventional debt has increased since the CAT bond was  
 4 issued. Table 2 provides the 3-year Treasury rate, the yield for SDG&E’s  
 5 CAT bond for each secondary sale, and the pre-tax and after-tax spreads  
 6 above the risk-free rate. These transactions suggest investors have required  
 7 a premium of 4.82 percent to 5.37 percent relative to conventional debt to  
 8 bear the risk associated with SDG&E’s potential wildfire liabilities over a  
 9 three-year period.

10 **Table 2: SDG&E CAT Bond Secondary Transactions**

<b>Date</b>	<b>U.S. Treasury (3-year)</b>	<b>Yield Associated with CAT Bond Transaction</b>	<b>Spread on CAT Bond Relative to U.S. Treasury</b>	<b>Implied ROE Premium (Tax-adjusted)</b>
12/10/2018	2.73%	7.55%	4.82%	3.49%
12/19/2018	2.61%	7.60%	4.99%	3.61%
3/5/2019	2.52%	7.42%	4.90%	3.55%
4/2/2019	2.26%	7.63%	5.37%	3.89%
4/3/2019	2.29%	7.61%	5.32%	3.85%

11 The average observed market spreads and implied risk premiums represent  
 12 a highly relevant market pricing point for absorbing a very small amount  
 13 (\$135 million) of incremental coverage above SDG&E’s conventional  
 14 insurance policy limits. The most recent observations provide the most  
 15 reliable indicator of the current return required by investors and suggest an  
 16 average tax-adjusted risk premium of 3.87 percent.

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**Q. What are your conclusions regarding the appropriate risk premium based on the prices associated with SDG&E’s wildfire liability risk in the insurance market and in the CAT bond market?**

A. The pricing for incremental coverage above the Company’s \$1.5 billion is difficult to estimate based on limited availability of such insurance products. However, a reasonable estimate using the Company’s 2018 insurance premiums, applied to the incremental \$2.2 billion of insurance coverage that investors are currently “self-insuring” (to equal the \$3.68 billion in insurance needed to cover the SDG&E model’s expected average loss for wildfire events above the Company’s \$1.5 billion in insurance), has been provided above. Applying this estimate, which is likely very conservative relative to current insurance pricing information, suggests a risk premium of 3.68 percent, or higher with recent quotes, for shareholders to take on this risk. Based on recently observed pricing of CAT bonds, a risk premium of 3.87 percent is estimated for coverage above the insurance tower sufficient to compensate investors for the incremental wildfire risk.

**F. Required Earnings to Restore Credit Metrics**

**Q. Please describe how Mr. Shipman has examined the role of credit ratings for California’s utilities.**

A. Mr. Shipman, drawing on his 20+ years of utility credit ratings experience with S&P Global Ratings (“S&P”), examines the path of downgrades for California’s major utilities, including SDG&E.

**Q. What are Mr. Shipman’s principal observations?**

A. Mr. Shipman points to the fact that both Moody’s and S&P downgraded both SDG&E and SCE by two notches, out of the A category, in the wake

1 of the 2017-2018 wildfires and PG&E's bankruptcy filing. These  
2 downgrades occurred even though SDG&E was not facing SCE's multi-  
3 billion-dollar liabilities from the 2017-2018 wildfires. Mr. Shipman notes  
4 that S&P and Moody's currently have SDG&E on a negative outlook.

5 **Q. What are the implications of Mr. Shipman's assessment on the cost of**  
6 **equity for SDG&E?**

7 A. He concludes that, unless the business risk of California's wildfires is fully  
8 mitigated through legislative and regulatory action, a significant  
9 improvement in the financial profile of the utility would be required to help  
10 improve investment grade credit ratings. Focusing solely on the cost of  
11 equity, he estimates this could be accomplished with a 300 to 400 basis  
12 point increase in the allowed ROE for SDG&E. Fully restoring ratings to  
13 the pre-wildfire "A" rating would require even further improvement. But  
14 he notes that additional measures would be required to obtain the mid-"A"  
15 category and that such measures would require sustained effort over a long-  
16 time frame and include more tools than only higher equity returns, including  
17 "stronger balance sheets and ratesetting protocols that enhance profitability,  
18 cash flow, and cash-flow stability."<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Ex. SDG&E-05, Ch. 2 (Shipman) at 24-25.

1 **VI. MITIGATION OF FINANCIAL EXPOSURE TO WILDFIRE LIABILITY**  
2 **RISKS**

3 **Q. Please describe how the Company’s financial exposure to wildfire**  
4 **liabilities can be mitigated.**

5 A. The California Utilities are primarily, but not exclusively, distinguished  
6 from the average utility industry risk profile nationwide due to the  
7 incremental risks associated with catastrophic wildfires and the potential  
8 that wildfire liabilities may be unrecoverable. Mitigating the risk of  
9 catastrophic wildfire ignitions is one way to reduce the risk the Company  
10 faces. Alternatively, legal reform could alter the current status quo in which  
11 wildfire liabilities are potentially unrecoverable.

12 **Q. What remedies would reduce the risk premium associated with**  
13 **catastrophic wildfire liabilities?**

14 A. As discussed in a recent Moody’s report, safe harbor provisions that ensure  
15 reasonable certainty of cost recovery of wildfire liabilities would provide  
16 the greatest level of assurance regarding the risks associated with regulatory  
17 standards.<sup>32</sup> SDG&E has stated that it should be permitted to recover  
18 wildfire liability costs as long as the utility has substantially complied with  
19 its approved wildfire mitigation plan. This issue is outstanding before the  
20 CPUC.<sup>33</sup> We find that there is value in minimizing both the uncertainty and  
21 lag associated with recovery of wildfire liabilities, which could  
22 meaningfully reduce the risk to shareholders associated with wildfire

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<sup>32</sup> Moody’s Investors Service, *Electric Utilities – US, Potential remedies to reduce California fire risk face competing interests* (April 3, 2019) at 1 and 3-4.

<sup>33</sup> See Rulemaking (“R.”) 19-01-006.

1 liabilities. However, given the CPUC's decision to deny the Company  
2 recovery of costs associated with 2007 fires, reasonable precedent would  
3 need to be established to ensure that such a plan would meaningfully reduce  
4 investors' required returns. Reform to inverse condemnation could be  
5 another approach to reducing the risk premium.

6 **Q. Would legislation eliminating the inverse condemnation doctrine**  
7 **applied to California utilities eliminate the risk premium associated**  
8 **with wildfire liabilities?**

9 A. While it would substantially reduce the risk premium, it would not eliminate  
10 the risk entirely. Assuming that the wildfire liabilities were de-risked such  
11 that utilities acting without negligence were not financially harmed,  
12 investors still indicate a risk premium would be required for California  
13 Utilities. As demonstrated in Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3, page 7 to this  
14 testimony, a majority of investors ascribed a 10 percent to 20 percent  
15 discount to California Utilities assuming wildfire liabilities are de-risked.  
16 A 10 percent to 20 percent discount corresponds to an estimated 40 to 90  
17 basis point equity risk premium for the Company. This represents the  
18 remaining risk premium for California Utilities assuming that a  
19 comprehensive legislative and regulatory remedy that effectively eliminates  
20 the legal doctrine of inverse condemnation is implemented. Given the  
21 historical application of inverse condemnation by California courts and the  
22 CPUC, there remains a degree of uncertainty among investors regarding any  
23 remedy until there is demonstrable evidence that the application of such  
24 remedy is aligned with average utility risk profile. This will likely require

1 effective implementation and an established precedent before the risk is  
2 fully mitigated.

3 **Q. What is your conclusion regarding the potential mitigation strategies**  
4 **to limit the financial exposure to wildfire liability risks?**

5 A. The specific mitigation strategy employed can affect the risk profile of the  
6 Company to varying degrees, and therefore the effect on the overall risk  
7 premium varies based on the strategy employed. To the extent a legal or  
8 regulatory remedy is implemented, further analysis would be required to  
9 determine if investors meaningfully reduce required returns in response to  
10 the remedy, and, if so, to what level investors reduced their required returns.  
11 Given evidence that investors would require a risk premium for California  
12 Utilities assuming wildfire liabilities were de-risked, it is unlikely that any  
13 remedy would eliminate the risk premium entirely, at least in the near-term.  
14 Therefore, the incremental risks due to catastrophic wildfires will continue  
15 to distinguish California Utilities from the average utility risk profile. Any  
16 remedies that mitigate that risk must be analyzed to determine the degree to  
17 which they reduce investors' return requirements.

18 **VII. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

19 **Q. Please summarize the results of your wildfire risk premium analyses.**

20 A. As discussed above, we have developed six alternative approaches to  
21 examine the equity risk adjustment required to compensate SDG&E for the  
22 unique risks it faces. These estimates assume California's current  
23 legislative and regulatory mechanisms remain in force (*i.e.*, status quo), and

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are informed by the available indicators of the incremental costs of bearing these risks.

Our analysis of industry risk produced results which indicate that industries that carry substantial risk of loss, which clearly has been the case for California’s electric utilities, carry a risk premium above utility industry norms of as much as 650 basis points, although those industries compensate investors for symmetrical risk. If California Utilities are viewed as being as risky as the overall stock market, but with entirely one-sided risk from wildfires, a risk premium of as much as 550 basis points above industry norms would be defensible. This analysis is only offered as one to establish a range of risk premia rather than a specific value.

Our analysis of implied risk premia from the recent stock price declines of California Utilities contributed very little to our analysis or recommendations, due to significant data limitations. That analysis confirmed, however, that investors’ new understanding of wildfire risk has caused the required return to increase for California Utilities, even with the expectation that some form of governmental remedy is likely to be achieved.

Of the six analyses we performed, we place most weight on the Estimated Loss Approach, the Insurance Approach, and the CAT Bond Approach, which offer the most specifically identifiable and quantifiable risk premium values. The Credit Rating analysis provides a reinforcement for these results, but as pointed out by Mr. Shipman, a higher authorized

1 ROE is only one of several improvements likely required to achieve pre-  
2 wildfire credit ratings. Additionally, restoration of a debt credit rating does  
3 not necessarily satisfy the risk exposure of equity shareholders.

4 Taken together, we believe these analyses provide the Commission  
5 with an appropriate range of the required risk premium under these  
6 extraordinary circumstances.

7 **Q. Please explain why you have greatest confidence in the Estimated Loss,**  
8 **Insurance and CAT Bond Approaches.**

9 A. The Estimated Loss Approach is based on the best available estimate of the  
10 Company's expected risk of wildfire financial loss, and the earnings  
11 required to offset this loss. This analysis, which indicated that a risk  
12 premium of 187 basis points was appropriate, directly measures the  
13 potential likelihood of an annual unrecoverable wildfire loss above the  
14 Company's insurance coverage (approximately a 5 percent annual  
15 probability of an average \$3.68 billion event), for which the risk premium  
16 would compensate investors. There is clearly uncertainty involved in  
17 estimating both the probability and magnitude of these losses, but the  
18 Company has employed a modeling approach based on its experience and  
19 its ongoing efforts to mitigate the risk of ignition and limit the impact of an  
20 event. We believe an investor, with the available data, would employ a  
21 similar logic to estimate the expected cost requiring compensation.

22 The Insurance and CAT Bond Approaches are the most specific and  
23 direct market measure we have of the cost to "put" the risk to a third party.

1 We have incorporated the actual costs to insure, or place a catastrophe bond  
2 instrument to cover some, or all, of the expected financial risk. The  
3 counterparties are informed and sophisticated investors, able to discern the  
4 level of risk associated with the wildfires. We then use these costs to  
5 estimate the current costs to investors to self-insure (*i.e.*, be responsible for),  
6 the SDG&E model's average expected loss of wildfire events that are above  
7 the Company's \$1.5 billion in coverage – *i.e.* the additional \$2.2 billion in  
8 self-insurance being provided by investors to cover the annual 5 percent  
9 chance of a wildfire event that would cost, on average, \$3.68 billion. This  
10 approach produces risk premia ranging from 368 basis points up to 387  
11 basis points. However, we consider these to be conservative estimates of  
12 the risk premium investors require, reflecting the fact that quotes for  
13 insurance coverage are continuing to rise, and that there is very limited, or  
14 perhaps no, availability of this coverage in amounts that would be large  
15 enough to cover SDG&E's entire wildfire risk.

16 **Q. What is your recommended ROE adjustment to the Commission?**

17 A. We combine the Expected Loss, Insurance, and CAT Bond Approaches  
18 together to produce a range of results. Based on our analysis, we  
19 recommend a ROE adjustment of 3.4 percent. This represents the midpoint  
20 between the mean and median of the three methods that allow the most  
21 specific quantification of the equity risk, as shown in Table 3: Range of  
22 ROE Adjustment Results. We find it appropriate to place greater weight on  
23 the market data from insurance costs and the CAT bond yields. And, given

1 the indications of increasing costs from the insurance market, even the  
2 upper end of the range, 3.87 percent, is a conservative measure of the risk  
3 premium. Should meaningful legislative or regulatory action be taken to  
4 reduce the exposure of shareholders to wildfire risk, this premium could be  
5 reduced accordingly.

6 **Table 3: Range of ROE Adjustment Results**

<b>Approach to Measuring Wildfire Liability Risk</b>	<b>ROE Adjustment</b>
Estimated Loss Approach	1.87%
Insurance Approach	3.68%
CAT Bond Approach	3.87%
Mean	3.14%
Median	3.68%
Midpoint of Mean and Median	3.41%

7  
8 **Q. Does this conclude your Direct Testimony?**

9 A. Yes, this concludes my prepared direct testimony.

10 **VIII. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

11 See Exhibits SDG&E-05, Chapter 1 Concentric-1-2 for a full statement of qualifications.

**Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-1**

**Résumés of John J. Reed and James M. Coyne**

**John J. Reed**  
**Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**

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John J. Reed is a financial and economic consultant with more than 42 years of experience in the energy industry. Mr. Reed has also been the CEO of an NASD member securities firm, and Co-CEO of the nation's largest publicly traded management consulting firm (NYSE: NCI). He has provided advisory services in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, asset divestitures and purchases, strategic planning, project finance, corporate valuation, energy market analysis, rate and regulatory matters and energy contract negotiations to clients across North and Central America. Mr. Reed's comprehensive experience includes the development and implementation of nuclear, fossil, and hydroelectric generation divestiture programs with an aggregate valuation in excess of \$20 billion. Mr. Reed has also provided expert testimony on financial and economic matters on more than 400 occasions before the FERC, Canadian regulatory agencies, state utility regulatory agencies, various state and federal courts, and before arbitration panels in the United States and Canada. After graduation from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Reed joined Southern California Gas Company, where he worked in the regulatory and financial groups, leaving the firm as Chief Economist in 1981. He served as executive and consultant with Stone & Webster Management Consulting and R.J. Rudden Associates prior to forming REED Consulting Group (RCG) in 1988. RCG was acquired by Navigant Consulting in 1997, where Mr. Reed served as an executive until leaving Navigant to join Concentric as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

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**REPRESENTATIVE PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT**

As an executive-level consultant, worked with CEOs, CFOs, other senior officers, and Boards of Directors of many of North America's top electric and gas utilities, as well as with senior political leaders of the U.S. and Canada on numerous engagements over the past 25 years. Directed merger, acquisition, divestiture, and project development engagements for utilities, pipelines and electric generation companies, repositioned several electric and gas utilities as pure distributors through a series of regulatory, financial, and legislative initiatives, and helped to develop and execute several "roll-up" or market aggregation strategies for companies seeking to achieve substantial scale in energy distribution, generation, transmission, and marketing.

**FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC ADVISORY SERVICES**

Retained by many of the nation's leading energy companies and financial institutions for services relating to the purchase, sale or development of new enterprises. These projects included major new gas pipeline projects, gas storage projects, several non-utility generation projects, the purchase and sale of project development and gas marketing firms, and utility acquisitions. Specific services provided include the development of corporate expansion plans, review of acquisition candidates, establishment of divestiture standards, due diligence on acquisitions or financing, market entry or expansion studies, competitive assessments, project financing studies, and negotiations relating to these transactions.

**LITIGATION SUPPORT AND EXPERT TESTIMONY**

Provided expert testimony on more than 400 occasions in administrative and civil proceedings on a wide range of energy and economic issues. Clients in these matters have included gas distribution



utilities, gas pipelines, gas producers, oil producers, electric utilities, large energy consumers, governmental and regulatory agencies, trade associations, independent energy project developers, engineering firms, and gas and power marketers. Testimony has focused on issues ranging from broad regulatory and economic policy to virtually all elements of the utility ratemaking process. Also frequently testified regarding energy contract interpretation, accepted energy industry practices, horizontal and vertical market power, quantification of damages, and management prudence. Has been active in regulatory contract and litigation matters on virtually all interstate pipeline systems serving the U.S. Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, and Pacific regions.

Also served on FERC Commissioner Terzic's Task Force on Competition, which conducted an industry-wide investigation into the levels of and means of encouraging competition in U.S. natural gas markets and served on a "Blue Ribbon" panel established by the Province of New Brunswick regarding the future of natural gas distribution service in that province.

#### **RESOURCE PROCUREMENT, CONTRACTING AND ANALYSIS**

On behalf of gas distributors, gas pipelines, gas producers, electric utilities, and independent energy project developers, personally managed or participated in the negotiation, drafting, and regulatory support of hundreds of energy contracts, including the largest gas contracts in North America, electric contracts representing billions of dollars, pipeline and storage contracts, and facility leases.

These efforts have resulted in bringing large new energy projects to market across North America, the creation of hundreds of millions of dollars in savings through contract renegotiation, and the regulatory approval of a number of highly contested energy contracts.

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND UTILITY RESTRUCTURING**

Acted as a leading participant in the restructuring of the natural gas and electric utility industries over the past fifteen years, as an adviser to local distribution companies, pipelines, electric utilities, and independent energy project developers. In the recent past, provided services to most of the top 50 utilities and energy marketers across North America. Managed projects that frequently included the redevelopment of strategic plans, corporate reorganizations, the development of multi-year regulatory and legislative agendas, merger, acquisition and divestiture strategies, and the development of market entry strategies. Developed and supported merchant function exit strategies, marketing affiliate strategies, and detailed plans for the functional business units of many of North America's leading utilities.

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#### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

##### **Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc. (2002 – Present)**

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

##### **CE Capital Advisors (2004 – Present)**

Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer

##### **Navigant Consulting, Inc. (1997 – 2002)**

President, Navigant Energy Capital (2000 – 2002)

Executive Director (2000 – 2002)

Co-Chief Executive Officer, Vice Chairman (1999 – 2000)

Executive Managing Director (1998 – 1999)

President, REED Consulting Group, Inc. (1997 – 1998)



**REED Consulting Group (1988 - 1997)**

Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

**R.J. Rudden Associates, Inc. (1983 - 1988)**

Vice President

**Stone & Webster Management Consultants, Inc. (1981 - 1983)**

Senior Consultant

Consultant

**Southern California Gas Company (1976 - 1981)**

Corporate Economist

Financial Analyst

Treasury Analyst

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**EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION**

B.S., Economics and Finance, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 1976

Licensed Securities Professional: NASD Series 7, 63, 24, 79 and 99 Licenses

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**BOARDS OF DIRECTORS (PAST AND PRESENT)**

Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc.

Navigant Consulting, Inc.

Navigant Energy Capital

Nukem, Inc.

New England Gas Association

R. J. Rudden Associates

REED Consulting Group

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**AFFILIATIONS**

American Gas Association

Energy Bar Association

Guild of Gas Managers

International Association of Energy Economists

Northeast Gas Association

Society of Gas Lighters

Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts

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**ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS**



“Maximizing U.S. federal loan guarantees for new nuclear energy,” *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*  
(with John C. Slocum), July 29, 2009

“Smart Decoupling – Dealing with unfunded mandates in performance-based ratemaking,” *Public  
Utilities Fortnightly*, May 2012

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**James M. Coyne**  
**Senior Vice President**

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Mr. Coyne provides financial, regulatory, strategic, and litigation support services to clients in the natural gas, power, and utilities industries. Drawing upon his industry and regulatory expertise, he regularly advises utilities, public agencies and investors on business strategies, investment evaluations, and matters pertaining to rate and regulatory policy. Prior to Concentric, Mr. Coyne worked in senior consulting positions focused on North American utilities industries, in corporate planning for an integrated energy company, and in regulatory and policy positions in Maine and Massachusetts. He has authored numerous articles on the energy industry and provided testimony and expert reports before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and numerous jurisdictions in the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Coyne holds a B.S. in Business from Georgetown University with honors and an M.S. in Resource Economics from the University of New Hampshire.

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**AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- **Energy Regulation**
  - Rate policy
  - Cost of capital
  - Incentive regulation
  - Fuels and power markets
- **Management and Business Strategy**
  - Fuels and power market assessments
  - Investment feasibility
  - Corporate and business unit planning
  - Benchmarking and productivity analysis
- **Financial and Economic Advisory**
  - Valuation analysis
  - Due diligence
  - Buy and sell-side advisory
- **Litigation Support and Expert Testimony**
  - Rate and regulatory policy
  - Fuels and power markets
  - Contract litigation
  - Valuation and damages



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## **PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH**

- “Regulator Rationale for Ratepayer-Funded Electricity and Natural Gas Innovation”, James M. Coyne, Robert C. Yardley, Jr. and Jessalyn G. Pryciak, *Energy Regulation Quarterly*, Volume 6, Issue 3, 2018.
- “Stimulating Innovation on Behalf of Canada’s Electricity and Natural Gas Consumers” (with Robert Yardley), prepared for the Canadian Gas Association and Canadian Electricity Association, May, 2015.
- “Autopilot Error: Why Similar U.S. and Canadian Risk Profiles Yield Varied Rate-making Results” (with John Trogonoski), *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, May 2010
- “A Comparative Analysis of Return on Equity of Natural Gas Utilities” (with Dan Dane and Julie Lieberman), prepared for the Ontario Energy Board, June, 2007
- “Do Utilities Mergers Deliver?” (with Prescott Hartshorne), *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, June 2006
- “Winners and Losers: Utility Strategy and Shareholder Return” (with Prescott Hartshorne), *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, October 2004
- “Winners and Losers in Restructuring: Assessing Electric and Gas Company Financial Performance” (with Prescott Hartshorne), white paper distributed to clients and press, August 2003
- “The New Generation Business,” commissioned by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and distributed to EPRI members to contribute to a series on the changes in the Power Industry, December 2001
- Potential for Natural Gas in the United States, Volume V, Regulatory and Policy Issues (co-author), National Petroleum Council, December 1992
- “Natural Gas Outlook,” articles on U.S. natural gas markets, published quarterly in the *Data Resources Energy Review* and *Natural Gas Review*, 1984-1989

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## **SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- “Energy Sector in Transition”, Ontario Energy Association, Toronto, ON, September 24, 2018.
- “Understanding Regulated Utilities in Today’s Capital Markets”, NARUC Annual Meeting, La Quinta, CA, November 14, 2016.
- “Rate of Return: Where the Regulatory Rubber Meets the Road,” CAMPUT Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec, May 17, 2016.
- “Innovations in Utility Business Models and Regulation”, The Canadian Association of Members of Public Utility Tribunals (CAMPUT) 2015 Energy Regulation Course, Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, June 2015



- “M&A and Valuations,” Panelist at Infocast Utility Scale Solar Summit, September 2010
- “The Use of Expert Evidence,” The Canadian Association of Members of Public Utility Tribunals (CAMPUT) 2010 Energy Regulation Course, Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, June 2010
- “A Comparative Analysis of Return on Equity for Utilities in Canada and the U.S.,” The Canadian Association of Members of Public Utility Tribunals (CAMPUT) Annual Conference, Banff, Alberta, April 22, 2008
- “Nuclear Power on the Verge of a New Era,” moderator for a client event co-hosted by Sutherland Asbill & Brennan and Lexecon, Washington D.C., October 2005
- “The Investment Implications of the Repeal of PUCHA,” Skadden Arps Client Conference, New York, NY, October 2005
- “Anatomy of the Deal,” First Annual Energy Transactions Conference, Newport, RI, May 2005
- “The Outlook for Wind Power,” Skadden Arps Annual Energy and Project Finance Seminar, Naples, FL, March 2005
- “Direction of U.S. M&A Activity for Utilities,” Energy and Mineral Law Foundation Conference, Sanibel Island, FL, February 2002
- “Outlook for U.S. Merger & Acquisition Activity,” Utility Mergers & Acquisitions Conference, San Antonio, TX, October 2001
- “Investor Perspectives on Emerging Energy Companies,” Panel Moderator at Energy Venture Conference, Boston, MA, June 2001
- “Electric Generation Asset Transactions: A Practical Guide,” workshop conducted at the 1999 Thai Electricity and Gas Investment Briefing, Bangkok, Thailand, July 1999
- “New Strategic Options for the Power Sector,” Electric Utility Business Environment Conference, Denver, CO, May 1999
- “Electric and Gas Industries: Moving Forward Together,” New England Gas Association Annual Meeting, November 1998
- “Opportunities and Challenges in the Electric Marketplace,” Electric Power Research Institute, July 1998

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## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

### **Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc. (2006 – Present)**

Senior Vice President

Vice President

### **FTI Consulting (Lexecon) (2002 – 2006)**

Senior Managing Director – Energy Practice

### **Arthur Andersen LLP (2000 – 2002)**

Concentric Energy Advisors, Inc.



Managing Director, Andersen Corporate Finance – Energy and Utilities

**Navigant Consulting, Inc. (1996 – 2000)**

Managing Director, Financial Services Practice  
Senior Vice President, Strategy Practice

**TotalFinaElf (1990 – 1996)**

Manager, Corporate Planning and Development  
Manager, Investor Relations  
Manager of Strategic Planning and Vice President, Natural Gas Division

**Arthur D. Little, Inc. (1989 – 1990)**

Senior Consultant – International Energy Practice

**DRI/McGraw-Hill (1984 – 1989)**

Director, North American Natural Gas Consulting  
Senior Economist, U.S. Electricity Service

**Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Council (1982 – 1984)**

Senior Economist – Gas and Electric Utilities

**Maine Office of Energy Resources (1981 – 1982)**

State Energy Economist

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**EDUCATION**

M.S., Resource Economics, University of New Hampshire, with Honors, 1981

B.S., Business Administration and Economics, Georgetown University, Cum Laude, 1975

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**DESIGNATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS**

Community Rowing Inc., Board of Directors, 2015 - current

Georgetown University, Alumni Admissions Interviewer, 1988 – current

NASD General Securities Representative and Managing Principal (Series 7, 63 and 24 Certifications), 2001

American Petroleum Institute, CEO's Liaison to Management and Policy Committees, 1994-1996

National Petroleum Council, Regulatory and Policy Task Forces, 1992

President, International Association for Energy Economics, Dallas Chapter, 1995

Gas Research Institute, Economics Advisory Committee, 1990-1993

NARUC, Advanced Regulatory Studies Program, Michigan State University, 1984

**Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-2**  
**Testimony listings of John J. Reed and James M. Coyne**



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Alaska Regulatory Commission</b>				
Chugach Electric	12/86	Chugach Electric	Docket No. U-86-11	Cost Allocation
Chugach Electric	5/87	Enstar Natural Gas Company	Docket No. U-87-2	Tariff Design
Chugach Electric	12/87	Enstar Natural Gas Company	Docket No. U-87-42	Gas Transportation
Chugach Electric	11/87 2/88	Chugach Electric	Docket No. U-87-35	Cost of Capital
Anchorage Municipal Light & Power	9/17	Anchorage Municipal Light & Power	Docket No. U-16-094 Docket No. U-17-008	Project Prudence
<b>Alberta Utilities Commission</b>				
Alberta Utilities (AltaLink, EPCOR, ATCO, ENMAX, FortisAlberta, AltaGas)	1/13	Alberta Utilities	Application 1566373, Proceeding ID 20	Stranded Costs
<b>Arizona Corporation Commission</b>				
Tucson Electric Power	7/12	Tucson Electric Power	Docket No. E- 01933A-12-0291	Cost of Capital
UNS Energy and Fortis Inc.	1/14	UNS Energy, Fortis Inc.	Docket No. E- 04230A-00011 and Docket No. E- 01933A-14-0011	Merger
<b>California Energy Commission</b>				
Southern California Gas Co.	8/80	Southern California Gas Co.	Docket No. 80-BR-3	Gas Price Forecasting
<b>California Public Utility Commission</b>				
Southern California Gas Co.	3/80	Southern California Gas Co.	TY 1981 G.R.C.	Cost of Service, Inflation
Pacific Gas Transmission Co.	10/91 11/91	Pacific Gas & Electric Co.	App. 89-04-033	Rate Design
Pacific Gas Transmission Co.	7/92	Southern California Gas Co.	A. 92-04-031	Rate Design
<b>Colorado Public Utilities Commission</b>				
AMAX Molybdenum	2/90	Commission Rulemaking	Docket No. 89R-702G	Gas Transportation



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
AMAX Molybdenum	11/90	Commission Rulemaking	Docket No. 90R-508G	Gas Transportation
Xcel Energy	8/04	Xcel Energy	Docket No. 031-134E	Cost of Debt
Public Service Company of Colorado	6/17	Public Service Company of Colorado	Docket No. 17AL-0363G	Return on Equity (Gas)
<b>CT Dept. of Public Utilities Control</b>				
Connecticut Natural Gas	12/88	Connecticut Natural Gas	Docket No. 88-08-15	Gas Purchasing Practices
United Illuminating	3/99	United Illuminating	Docket No. 99-03-04	Nuclear Plant Valuation
Southern Connecticut Gas	2/04	Southern Connecticut Gas	Docket No. 00-12-08	Gas Purchasing Practices
Southern Connecticut Gas	4/05	Southern Connecticut Gas	Docket No. 05-03-17	LNG/Trunkline
Southern Connecticut Gas	5/06	Southern Connecticut Gas	Docket No. 05-03-17PH01	LNG/Trunkline
Southern Connecticut Gas	8/08	Southern Connecticut Gas	Docket No. 06-05-04	Peaking Service Agreement
<b>District of Columbia PSC</b>				
Potomac Electric Power Company	3/99 5/99 7/99	Potomac Electric Power Company	Docket No. 945	Divestiture of Gen. Assets & Purchase Power Contracts
AltaGas Ltd./WGL Holdings	4/17 8/17 10/17	AltaGas Ltd./WGL Holdings	Docket No. 1142	Merger Standards, Public Interest Standard
<b>Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</b>				
Safe Harbor Water Power Corp.	8/82	Safe Harbor Water Power Corp.		Wholesale Electric Rate Increase
Western Gas Interstate Company	5/84	Western Gas Interstate Company	Docket No. RP84-77	Load Forecast Working Capital
Southern Union Gas	4/87 5/87	El Paso Natural Gas Company	Docket No. RP87-16-000	Take-or-Pay Costs
Connecticut Natural Gas	11/87	Penn-York Energy Corporation	Docket No. RP87-78-000	Cost Allocation/Rate Design
AMAX Magnesium	12/88 1/89	Questar Pipeline Company	Docket No. RP88-93-000	Cost Allocation/Rate Design



<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CASE/APPLICANT</b>	<b>DOCKET NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Western Gas Interstate Company	6/89	Western Gas Interstate Company	Docket No. RP89-179-000	Cost Allocation/Rate Design, Open-Access Transportation
Associated CD Customers	12/89	CNG Transmission	Docket No. RP88-211-000	Cost Allocation/Rate Design
Utah Industrial Group	9/90	Questar Pipeline Company	Docket No. RP88-93-000, Phase II	Cost Allocation/Rate Design
Iroquois Gas Trans. System	8/90	Iroquois Gas Transmission System	Docket No. CP89-634-000/001; CP89-815-000	Gas Markets, Rate Design, Cost of Capital, Capital Structure
Boston Edison Company	1/91	Boston Edison Company	Docket No. ER91-243-000	Electric Generation Markets
Cincinnati Gas and Electric Co., Union Light, Heat and Power Company, Lawrenceburg Gas Company	7/91	Texas Gas Transmission Corp.	Docket No. RP90-104-000, RP88-115-000, RP90-192-000	Cost Allocation, Rate Design, Comparability of Service
Ocean State Power II	7/91	Ocean State Power II	ER89-563-000	Competitive Market Analysis, Self-dealing
Brooklyn Union/PSE&G	7/91	Texas Eastern	RP88-67, et al	Market Power, Comparability of Service
Northern Distributor Group	9/92 11/92	Northern Natural Gas Company	RP92-1-000, et al	Cost of Service
Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and Alberta Pet. Marketing Comm.	10/92 7/97	Lakehead Pipe Line Co. L.P.	IS92-27-000	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
Colonial Gas, Providence Gas	7/93 8/93	Algonquin Gas Transmission	RP93-14	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
Iroquois Gas Transmission	94	Iroquois Gas Transmission	RP94-72-000	Cost of Service, Rate Design
Transco Customer Group	1/94	Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corporation	Docket No. RP92-137-000	Rate Design, Firm to Wellhead
Pacific Gas Transmission	2/94 3/95	Pacific Gas Transmission	Docket No. RP94-149-000	Rolled-In vs. Incremental Rates, Rate Design



<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CASE/APPLICANT</b>	<b>DOCKET NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Tennessee GSR Group	1/95 3/95 1/96	Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company	Docket Nos. RP93-151-000, RP94-39-000, RP94-197-000, RP94-309-000	GSR Costs
PG&E and SoCal Gas	8/96 9/96	El Paso Natural Gas Company	RP92-18-000	Stranded Costs
Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P.	97	Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P.	RP97-126-000	Cost of Service, Rate Design
BEC Energy - Commonwealth Energy System	2/99	Boston Edison Company/ Commonwealth Energy System	EC99-33-000	Market Power Analysis – Merger
Central Hudson Gas & Electric, Consolidated Co. of New York, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Dynegy Power Inc.	10/00	Central Hudson Gas & Electric, Consolidated Co. of New York, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Dynegy Power Inc.	Docket No. EC01-7-000	Market Power 203/205 Filing
Wyckoff Gas Storage	12/02	Wyckoff Gas Storage	CP03-33-000	Need for Storage Project
Indicated Shippers/Producers	10/03	Northern Natural Gas	Docket No. RP98-39-029	Ad Valorem Tax Treatment
Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	6/04	Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	Docket No. RP04-360-000	Rolled-In Rates
ISO New England	8/04 2/05	ISO New England	Docket No. ER03-563-030	Cost of New Entry
Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC	9/06	Transwestern Pipeline Company, LLC	Docket No. RP06-614-000	Business Risk
Portland Natural Gas Transmission System	6/08	Portland Natural Gas Transmission System	Docket No. RP08-306-000	Market Assessment, Natural Gas Transportation, Rate Setting



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Portland Natural Gas Transmission System	5/10 3/11 4/11	Portland Natural Gas Transmission System	Docket No. RP10-729-000	Business Risks, Extraordinary and Non-recurring Events Pertaining to Discretionary Revenues
Morris Energy	7/10	Morris Energy	Docket No. RP10-79-000	Impact of Preferential Rate
Gulf South Pipeline	10/14	Gulf South Pipeline	Docket No. RP15-65-000	Business Risk, Rate Design
BNP Paribas Energy Trading, GP South Jersey Resource Group, LLC	2/15	Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation	Docket No. RP06-569-008 and RP07-376-005	Regulatory Policy, Incremental Rates, Stacked Rate
Tallgrass Interstate Gas Transmission, LLC	10/15 12/15	Tallgrass Interstate Gas Transmission, LLC	Docket No. RP16-137-000	Market Assessment, Rate Design, Rolled-in Rate Treatment
<b>Florida Public Service Commission</b>				
Florida Power and Light Co.	10/07	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 070650-EI	Need for New Nuclear Plant
Florida Power and Light Co.	5/08	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 080009-EI	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/09 8/09	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 080677-EI	Benchmarking in Support of ROE
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/09 5/09 8/09	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 090009-EI	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/10 5/10 8/10	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 100009-EI	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/11 7/11	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 110009-EI	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/12 7/12	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 120009-EI	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/12 8/12	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 120015-EI	Benchmarking in Support of ROE
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/13 7/13	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 130009	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/14	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 140009	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/15 7/15	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 150009	New Nuclear Cost Recovery, Prudence
Florida Power and Light Co.	10/15	Florida Power and Light Co.	Docket No. 150001	Recovery of Replacement Power Costs
Florida Power and Light Co.	3/16	Florida Power & Light Co.	Docket No. 160021-EI	Benchmarking in Support of ROE
<b>Florida Senate Committee on Communication, Energy and Utilities</b>				
Florida Power and Light Co.	2/09	Florida Power & Light Co.		Securitization
<b>Hawai'i Public Utility Commission</b>				
Hawaiian Electric Light Company, Inc.	6/00	Hawaiian Electric Light Company, Inc.	Docket No. 99-0207	Standby Charge
NextEra Energy, Inc. Hawaiian Electric Companies	4/15 8/15 10/15	Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Ltd., NextEra Energy, Inc.	Docket No. 2015-0022	Merger Application
<b>Idaho Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation	9/18 11/18	Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation	Case No. AVU-E-17-09 Case No. AVU-G-17-05	Governance, Financial Integrity and Ring-fencing Merger Commitments



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Illinois Commerce Commission</b>				
Renewables Suppliers (Algonquin Power Co., EDP Renewables North America, Invenergy, NextEra Energy Resources)	3/14	Renewables Suppliers	Docket No. 13-0546	Application for Rehearing and Reconsideration, Long- term Purchase Power Agreements
WE Energies Corporation	8/14 12/14 2/15	WE Energies/Integrus	Docket No. 14-0496	Merger Application
<b>Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission</b>				
Northern Indiana Public Service Company	10/01	Northern Indiana Public Service Company	Cause No. 41746	Valuation of Electric Generating Facilities
Northern Indiana Public Service Company	1/08 3/08	Northern Indiana Public Service Company	Cause No. 43396	Asset Valuation
Northern Indiana Public Service Company	8/08	Northern Indiana Public Service Company	Cause No. 43526	Fair Market Value Assessment
Indianapolis Power & Light Company	12/14	Indianapolis Power & Light Company	Cause No. 44576	Asset Valuation
Indianapolis Power & Light Company	12/16	Indianapolis Power & Light Company	Cause No. 44893	Rate Recovery for New Plant Additions, Valuation of Electric Generating Facilities
<b>Iowa Utilities Board</b>				
Interstate Power and Light	7/05	Interstate Power and Light and FPL Energy Duane Arnold, LLC	Docket No. SPU-05- 15	Sale of Nuclear Plant
Interstate Power and Light	5/07	City of Everly, Iowa	Docket No. SPU-06-5	Municipalization
Interstate Power and Light	5/07	City of Kalona, Iowa	Docket No. SPU-06-6	Municipalization
Interstate Power and Light	5/07	City of Wellman, Iowa	Docket No. SPU-06- 10	Municipalization
Interstate Power and Light	5/07	City of Terril, Iowa	Docket No. SPU-06-8	Municipalization
Interstate Power and Light	5/07	City of Rolfe, Iowa	Docket No. SPU-06-7	Municipalization



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Kansas Corporation Commission</b>				
Great Plains Energy Kansas City Power and Light Company	1/17	Great Plains Energy, Kansas City Power & Light Company, and Westar Energy	Docket No. 16-KCPE-593-ACQ	Merger Standards, Acquisition Premium, Ring-Fencing, Public Interest Standard
Great Plains Energy Kansas City Power and Light Company	8/17 2/18	Great Plains Energy, Kansas City Power & Light Company, and Westar Energy	Docket No. 18-KCPE-095-MER	Merger Standards, Transaction Value, Merger Benefits, Ring-Fencing,
<b>Maine Public Utility Commission</b>				
Northern Utilities	5/96	Granite State and PNGTS	Docket No. 95-480, 95-481	Transportation Service and PBR
<b>Maryland Public Service Commission</b>				
Eastalco Aluminum	3/82	Potomac Edison	Docket No. 7604	Cost Allocation
Potomac Electric Power Company	8/99	Potomac Electric Power Company	Docket No. 8796	Stranded Cost & Price Protection
AltaGas Ltd./WGL Holdings	4/17 9/17 1/18 2/18	AltaGas Ltd./WGL Holdings	Docket No. 9449	Merger Standards, Public Interest Standard
<b>Mass. Department of Public Utilities</b>				
Haverhill Gas	5/82	Haverhill Gas	Docket No. DPU #1115	Cost of Capital
New England Energy Group	1/87	Commission Investigation		Gas Transportation Rates
Energy Consortium of Mass.	9/87	Commonwealth Gas Company	Docket No. DPU-87-122	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
Mass. Institute of Technology	12/88	Middleton Municipal Light	DPU #88-91	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
Energy Consortium of Mass.	3/89	Boston Gas	DPU #88-67	Rate Design
PG&E Bechtel Generating Co./ Constellation Holdings	10/91	Commission Investigation	DPU #91-131	Valuation of Environmental Externalities



<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CASE/APPLICANT</b>	<b>DOCKET NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
Coalition of Non-Utility Generators		Cambridge Electric Light Co. & Commonwealth Electric Co.	DPU 91-234 EFSC 91-4	Integrated Resource Management
The Berkshire Gas Company Essex County Gas Company Fitchburg Gas and Elec. Light Co.	5/92	The Berkshire Gas Company Essex County Gas Company Fitchburg Gas & Elec. Light Co.	DPU #92-154	Gas Purchase Contract Approval
Boston Edison Company	7/92	Boston Edison	DPU #92-130	Least Cost Planning
Boston Edison Company	7/92	The Williams/Newcorp Generating Co.	DPU #92-146	RFP Evaluation
Boston Edison Company	7/92	West Lynn Cogeneration	DPU #92-142	RFP Evaluation
Boston Edison Company	7/92	L'Energia Corp.	DPU #92-167	RFP Evaluation
Boston Edison Company	7/92	DLS Energy, Inc.	DPU #92-153	RFP Evaluation
Boston Edison Company	7/92	CMS Generation Co.	DPU #92-166	RFP Evaluation
Boston Edison Company	7/92	Concord Energy	DPU #92-144	RFP Evaluation
The Berkshire Gas Company Colonial Gas Company Essex County Gas Company Fitchburg Gas and Electric Company	11/93	The Berkshire Gas Company Colonial Gas Company Essex County Gas Company Fitchburg Gas and Electric Co.	DPU #93-187	Gas Purchase Contract Approval
Bay State Gas Company	10/93	Bay State Gas Company	Docket No. 93-129	Integrated Resource Planning
Boston Edison Company	94	Boston Edison	DPU #94-49	Surplus Capacity
Hudson Light & Power Department	4/95	Hudson Light & Power Dept.	DPU #94-176	Stranded Costs
Essex County Gas Company	5/96	Essex County Gas Company	Docket No. 96-70	Unbundled Rates
Boston Edison Company	8/97	Boston Edison Company	D.P.U. No. 97-63	Holding Company Corporate Structure
Berkshire Gas Company	6/98	Berkshire Gas Mergeco Gas Co.	D.T.E. 98-87	Merger Approval
Eastern Edison Company	8/98	Montaup Electric Company	D.T.E. 98-83	Marketing for Divestiture of its Generation Business



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Boston Edison Company	98	Boston Edison Company	D.T.E. 97-113	Fossil Generation Divestiture
Boston Edison Company	2/99	Boston Edison Company	D.T.E. 98-119	Nuclear Generation Divestiture
Eastern Edison Company	12/98	Montaup Electric Company	D.T.E. 99-9	Sale of Nuclear Plant
NStar	9/07 12/07	NStar, Bay State Gas, Fitchburg G&E, NE Gas, W. MA Electric	DPU 07-50	Decoupling, Risk
NStar	6/11	NStar, Northeast Utilities	DPU 10-170	Merger Approval
Town of Milford	1/19 3/19	Milford Water Company	DPU 18-60	Valuation Analysis
<b>Mass. Energy Facilities Siting Council</b>				
Mass. Institute of Technology	1/89	M.M.W.E.C.	EFSC-88-1	Least-Cost Planning
Boston Edison Company	9/90	Boston Edison	EFSC-90-12	Electric Generation Markets
Silver City Energy Ltd. Partnership	11/91	Silver City Energy	D.P.U. 91-100	State Policies, Need for Facility
<b>Michigan Public Service Commission</b>				
Detroit Edison Company	9/98	Detroit Edison Company	Case No. U-11726	Market Value of Generation Assets
Consumers Energy Company	8/06 1/07	Consumers Energy Company	Case No. U-14992	Sale of Nuclear Plant
WE Energies	12/11	Wisconsin Electric Power Co	Case No. U-16830	Economic Benefits, Prudence
Consumer Energy Company	7/13	Consumers Energy Company	Case No. U-17429	Certificate of Need, Integrated Resource Plan
WE Energies	8/14 3/15	WE Energies/IntegrYS	Case No. U-17682	Merger Application
<b>Minnesota Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Xcel Energy/No. States Power	9/04	Xcel Energy/No. States Power	Docket No. G002/GR-04-1511	NRG Impacts



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Interstate Power and Light	8/05	Interstate Power and Light and FPL Energy Duane Arnold, LLC	Docket No. E001/PA-05-1272	Sale of Nuclear Plant
Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy	11/05	Northern States Power Company	Docket No. E002/GR-05-1428	NRG Impacts on Debt Costs
Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy	09/06 10/06 11/06	NSP v. Excelsior	Docket No. E6472/M-05-1993	PPA, Financial Impacts
Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy	11/06	Northern States Power Company	Docket No. G002/GR-06-1429	Return on Equity
Northern States Power	11/08 05/09	Northern States Power Company	Docket No. E002/GR-08-1065	Return on Equity
Northern States Power	11/09 6/10	Northern States Power Company	Docket No. G002/GR-09-1153	Return on Equity
Northern States Power	11/10 5/11	Northern States Power Company	Docket No. E002/GR-10-971	Return on Equity
Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy	1/16	Northern States Power Company	Docket No. E002/GR-15-826	Industry Perspective
<b>Missouri House Committee on Energy and the Environment</b>				
Ameren Missouri	3/16	Ameren Missouri	HB 2816	Performance Based Ratemaking
<b>Missouri Public Service Commission</b>				
Missouri Gas Energy	1/03 04/03	Missouri Gas Energy	Case No. GR-2001-382	Gas Purchasing Practices, Prudence
Aquila Networks	2/04	Aquila-MPS, Aquila L&P	Case Nos. ER-2004-0034 HR-2004-0024	Cost of Capital, Capital Structure
Aquila Networks	2/04	Aquila-MPS, Aquila L&P	Case No. GR-2004-0072	Cost of Capital, Capital Structure



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Missouri Gas Energy	11/05 2/06 7/06	Missouri Gas Energy	Case Nos. GR-2002-348 GR-2003-0330	Capacity Planning
Missouri Gas Energy	11/10 1/11	KCP&L	Case No. ER-2010-0355	Natural Gas DSM
Missouri Gas Energy	11/10 1/11	KCP&L GMO	Case No. ER-2010-0356	Natural Gas DSM
Laclede Gas Company	5/11	Laclede Gas Company	Case No. CG-2011-0098	Affiliate Pricing Standards
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri	2/12 8/12	Union Electric Company	Case No. ER-2012-0166	ROE, Earnings Attrition, Regulatory Lag
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri	6/14	Noranda Aluminum Inc.	Case No. EC-2014-0223	Ratemaking, Regulatory and Economic Policy
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri	1/15 2/15	Union Electric Company	Case No. ER-2014-0258	Revenue Requirements, Ratemaking Policies
Great Plains Energy Kansas City Power and Light Company	8/17 2/18 3/18	Great Plains Energy, Kansas City Power & Light Company, and Westar Energy	Docket No. EM-2018-0012	Merger Standards, Transaction Value, Merger Benefits, Ring-Fencing,
<b>Missouri Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment</b>				
Ameren Missouri	3/16	Ameren Missouri	SB 1028	Performance Based Ratemaking
<b>Montana Public Service Commission</b>				
Great Falls Gas Company	10/82	Great Falls Gas Company	Docket No. 82-4-25	Gas Rate Adjustment Clause
<b>National Energy Board of Canada</b>				
Alberta-Northeast	2/87	Alberta Northeast Gas Export Project	Docket No. GH-1-87	Gas Export Markets
Alberta-Northeast	11/87	TransCanada Pipeline	Docket No. GH-2-87	Gas Export Markets
Alberta-Northeast	1/90	TransCanada Pipeline	Docket No. GH-5-89	Gas Export Markets
Independent Petroleum Association of Canada	1/92	Interprovincial Pipe Line, Inc.	RH-2-91	Pipeline Valuation, Toll



<b>SPONSOR</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CASE/APPLICANT</b>	<b>DOCKET NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers	11/93	Transmountain Pipe Line	RH-1-93	Cost of Capital
Alliance Pipeline L.P.	6/97	Alliance Pipeline L.P.	GH-3-97	Market Study
Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	97	Sable Offshore Energy Project	GH-6-96	Market Study
Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	2/02	Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	GH-3-2002	Natural Gas Demand Analysis
TransCanada Pipelines	8/04	TransCanada Pipelines	RH-3-2004	Toll Design
Brunswick Pipeline	5/06	Brunswick Pipeline	GH-1-2006	Market Study
TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.	12/06 4/07	TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.: Gros Cacouna Receipt Point Application	RH-1-2007	Toll Design
Repsol Energy Canada Ltd	3/08	Repsol Energy Canada Ltd	GH-1-2008	Market Study
Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	7/10	Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	RH-4-2010	Regulatory Policy, Toll Development
TransCanada Pipelines Ltd	9/11 5/12	TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.	RH-3-2011	Business Services and Tolls Application
Trans Mountain Pipeline LLC	6/12 1/13	Trans Mountain Pipeline LLC	RH-1-2012	Toll Design
TransCanada Pipelines Ltd	8/13	TransCanada Pipelines Ltd	RE-001-2013	Toll Design
NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	11/13	NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	OF-Fac-Gas-N081-2013-10 01	Toll Design
Trans Mountain Pipeline LLC	12/13	Trans Mountain Pipeline LLC	OF-Fac-Oil-T260-2013-03 01	Economic and Financial Feasibility, Project Benefits
Energy East Pipeline Ltd.	10/14	Energy East Pipeline	Of-Fac-Oil-E266-2014-01 02	Economic and Financial Feasibility, Project Benefits
NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	5/16	NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	GH-003-2015	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
TransCanada PipeLines Limited	4/17 9/17	TransCanada PipeLines Limited	Dawn LTFP Service Application	Public Interest, Toll Design
NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	10/17	NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	MH-031-2017	Toll Design



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	3/19	NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd	System Rate Design and Services Application	Tolling Changes
<b>New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board</b>				
Atlantic Wallboard/JD Irving Co	1/08	Enbridge Gas New Brunswick	MCTN #298600	Rate Setting for EGNB
Atlantic Wallboard/Flakeboard	9/09 6/10 7/10	Enbridge Gas New Brunswick	NBEUB 2009-017	Rate Setting for EGNB
Atlantic Wallboard/Flakeboard	1/14	Enbridge Gas New Brunswick	NBEUB Matter 225	Rate Setting for EGNB
<b>NH Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Bus & Industry Association	6/89	P.S. Co. of New Hampshire	Docket No. DR89-091	Fuel Costs
Bus & Industry Association	5/90	Northeast Utilities	Docket No. DR89-244	Merger & Acquisition Issues
Eastern Utilities Associates	6/90	Eastern Utilities Associates	Docket No. DF89-085	Merger & Acquisition Issues
EnergyNorth Natural Gas	12/90	EnergyNorth Natural Gas	Docket No. DE90-166	Gas Purchasing Practices
EnergyNorth Natural Gas	7/90	EnergyNorth Natural Gas	Docket No. DR90-187	Special Contracts, Discounted Rates
Northern Utilities, Inc.	12/91	Commission Investigation	Docket No. DR91-172	Generic Discounted Rates
Public Service Co. of New Hampshire	7/14	Public Service Co. of NH	Docket No. DE 11-250	Prudence
Public Service Co. of New Hampshire	7/15 11/15	Public Service Co. of NH	Docket No. 14-238	Restructuring and Rate Stabilization
<b>New Jersey Board of Public Utilities</b>				
Hilton/Golden Nugget	12/83	Atlantic Electric	B.P.U. 832-154	Line Extension Policies
Golden Nugget	3/87	Atlantic Electric	B.P.U. No. 837-658	Line Extension Policies



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
New Jersey Natural Gas	2/89	New Jersey Natural Gas	B.P.U. GR89030335J	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
New Jersey Natural Gas	1/91	New Jersey Natural Gas	B.P.U. GR90080786J	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
New Jersey Natural Gas	8/91	New Jersey Natural Gas	B.P.U. GR91081393J	Rate Design, Weather Normalization Clause
New Jersey Natural Gas	4/93	New Jersey Natural Gas	B.P.U. GR93040114J	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
South Jersey Gas	4/94	South Jersey Gas	BRC Dock No. GR080334	Revised Levelized Gas Adjustment
New Jersey Utilities Association	9/96	Commission Investigation	BPU AX96070530	PBOP Cost Recovery
Morris Energy Group	11/09	Public Service Electric & Gas	BPU GR 09050422	Discriminatory Rates
New Jersey American Water Co.	4/10	New Jersey American Water Co.	BPU WR 1040260	Tariff Rates and Revisions
Electric Customer Group	1/11	Generic Stakeholder Proceeding	BPU GR10100761 and ER10100762	Natural Gas Ratemaking Standards and pricing
<b>New Mexico Public Service Commission</b>				
Gas Company of New Mexico	11/83	Public Service Co. of New Mexico	Docket No. 1835	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
Southwestern Public Service Co., New Mexico	12/12	SPS New Mexico	Case No. 12-00350-UT	Rate Case, Return on Equity
PNM Resources	12/13 10/14 12/14	Public Service Co. of New Mexico	Case No. 13-00390-UT	Nuclear Valuation, In Support of Stipulation
<b>New York State Public Service Commission</b>				
Iroquois Gas Transmission	12/86	Iroquois Gas Transmission System	Case No. 70363	Gas Markets
Brooklyn Union Gas Company	8/95	Brooklyn Union Gas Company	Case No. 95-6-0761	Panel on Industry Directions



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Central Hudson, ConEdison and Niagara Mohawk	9/00	Central Hudson, ConEdison and Niagara Mohawk	Case No. 96-E-0909 Case No. 96-E-0897 Case No. 94-E-0098 Case No. 94-E-0099	Section 70, Approval of New Facilities
Central Hudson, New York State Electric & Gas, Rochester Gas & Electric	5/01	Joint Petition of NiMo, NYSEG, RG&E, Central Hudson, Constellation and Nine Mile Point	Case No. 01-E-0011	Section 70, Rebuttal Testimony
Rochester Gas & Electric	12/03	Rochester Gas & Electric	Case No. 03-E-1231	Sale of Nuclear Plant
Rochester Gas & Electric	1/04	Rochester Gas & Electric	Case No. 03-E-0765 Case No. 02-E-0198 Case No. 03-E-0766	Sale of Nuclear Plant; Ratemaking Treatment of Sale
Rochester Gas and Electric and NY State Electric & Gas Corp	2/10	Rochester Gas & Electric NY State Electric & Gas Corp	Case No. 09-E-0715 Case No. 09-E-0716 Case No. 09-E-0717 Case No. 09-E-0718	Depreciation Policy
National Fuel Gas Corporation	9/16 9/16	National Fuel Gas Corporation	Case No. 16-G-0257	Ring-fencing Policy
NextEra Energy Transmission New York	8/18	NextEra Energy Transmission New York	Case No. 18-T-0499	Certificate of Need for Transmission Line, Vertical Market Power
<b>Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board</b>				
Nova Scotia Power	9/12	Nova Scotia Power	Docket No. P-893	Audit Reply
Nova Scotia Power	8/14	Nova Scotia Power	Docket No. P-887	Audit Reply
Nova Scotia Power	5/16	Nova Scotia Power	2017-2019 Fuel Stability Plan	Used and Useful Ratemaking
NSP Maritime Link ("NSPML")	12/16 2/17 5/17	NSP Maritime Link ("NSPML")	NSPML Interim Cost Assessment Application	Used and Useful Ratemaking
<b>Oklahoma Corporation Commission</b>				
Oklahoma Natural Gas Company	6/98	Oklahoma Natural Gas Company	Case PUD No. 980000177	Storage Issues



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company	5/05 9/05	Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company	Cause No. PUD 200500151	Prudence of McLain Acquisition
Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company	3/08	Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company	Cause No. PUD 200800086	Acquisition of Redbud Generating Facility
Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company	8/14 1/15	Oklahoma Gas & Electric Company	Cause No. PUD 201400229	Integrated Resource Plan
<b>Ontario Energy Board</b>				
Market Hub Partners Canada, L.P.	5/06	Natural Gas Electric Interface Roundtable	File No. EB-2005-0551	Market-based Rates for Storage
Ontario Power Generation	9/13 2/14 5/14	Ontario Power Generation	EB-2013-0321	Prudence Review of Nuclear Project Management Processes
<b>Oregon Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation	8/18 10/18	Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation	Docket No. UM 1897	Reasonableness and Sufficiency of the Governance, Bankruptcy, and Financial Ring-Fencing Stipulated Settlement Commitments
<b>Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission</b>				
ATOC	4/95	Equitrans	Docket No. R-00943272	Rate Design, Unbundling
ATOC	3/96 4/96	Equitrans	Docket No. P-00940886	Rate Design, Unbundling
<b>Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Newport Electric	7/81	Newport Electric	Docket No. 1599	Rate Attrition
South County Gas	9/82	South County Gas	Docket No. 1671	Cost of Capital
New England Energy Group	7/86	Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 1844	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
Providence Gas	8/88	Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 1914	Load Forecast, Least-Cost Planning



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Providence Gas Company and The Valley Gas Company	1/01 3/02	Providence Gas Company and The Valley Gas Company	Docket No. 1673 and 1736	Gas Cost Mitigation Strategy
The New England Gas Company	3/03	New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3459	Cost of Capital
<b>Texas Public Utility Commission</b>				
Southwestern Electric	5/83	Southwestern Electric		Cost of Capital, CWIP
P.U.C. General Counsel	11/90	Texas Utilities Electric Company	Docket No. 9300	Gas Purchasing Practices, Prudence
Oncor Electric Delivery Company	8/07	Oncor Electric Delivery Company	Docket No. 34040	Regulatory Policy, Rate of Return, Return of Capital and Consolidated Tax Adjustment
Oncor Electric Delivery Company	6/08	Oncor Electric Delivery Company	Docket No.35717	Regulatory policy
Oncor Electric Delivery Company	10/08 11/08	Oncor, TCC, TNC, ETT, LCRA TSC, Sharyland, STEC, TNMP	Docket No. 35665	Competitive Renewable Energy Zone
CenterPoint Energy	6/10 10/10	CenterPoint Energy/Houston Electric	Docket No. 38339	Regulatory Policy, Risk, Consolidated Taxes
Oncor Electric Delivery Company	1/11	Oncor Electric Delivery Company	Docket No. 38929	Regulatory Policy, Risk
Cross Texas Transmission	8/12 11/12	Cross Texas Transmission	Docket No. 40604	Return on Equity
Southwestern Public Service	11/12	Southwestern Public Service	Docket No. 40824	Return on Equity
Lone Star Transmission	5/14	Lone Star Transmission	Docket No. 42469	Return on Equity, Debt, Cost of Capital
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	6/15	CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC	Docket No. 44572	Distribution Cost Recovery Factor
NextEra Energy, Inc.	10/16 2/17	Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC, NextEra Energy	Docket No. 46238	Merger Application, Ring-fencing, Affiliate Interest, Code of Conduct



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Texas Railroad Commission</b>				
Western Gas Interstate Company	1/85	Southern Union Gas Company	Docket 5238	Cost of Service
Atmos Pipeline Texas	9/10 1/11	Atmos Pipeline Texas	GUD 10000	Ratemaking Policy, Risk
Atmos Pipeline Texas	1/17 4/17	Atmos Pipeline Texas	GUD 10580	Ratemaking Policy, ROE, Rate Design Policy
<b>Texas State Legislature</b>				
CenterPoint Energy	4/13	Association of Electric Companies of Texas	SB 1364	Consolidated Tax Adjustment Clause Legislation
<b>Utah Public Service Commission</b>				
AMAX Magnesium	1/88	Mountain Fuel Supply Company	Case No. 86-057-07	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
AMAX Magnesium	4/88	Utah P&L/Pacific P&L	Case No. 87-035-27	Merger & Acquisition
Utah Industrial Group	7/90 8/90	Mountain Fuel Supply	Case No. 89-057-15	Gas Transportation Rates
AMAX Magnesium	9/90	Utah Power & Light	Case No. 89-035-06	Energy Balancing Account
AMAX Magnesium	8/90	Utah Power & Light	Case No. 90-035-06	Electric Service Priorities
Questar Gas Company	12/07	Questar Gas Company	Docket No. 07-057-13	Benchmarking in Support of ROE
<b>Vermont Public Service Board</b>				
Green Mountain Power	8/82	Green Mountain Power	Docket No. 4570	Rate Attrition
Green Mountain Power	12/97	Green Mountain Power	Docket No. 5983	Cost of Service
Green Mountain Power	7/98 9/00	Green Mountain Power	Docket No. 6107	Rate Development



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission</b>				
Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation	9/18	Hydro One Limited and Avista Corporation	Docket No. U-170970	Reasonableness and Sufficiency of the Governance, Bankruptcy, and Financial Ring-Fencing Stipulated Settlement Commitments
<b>Wisconsin Public Service Commission</b>				
WEC & WICOR	11/99	WEC	Docket No. 9401-YO-100 Docket No. 9402-YO-101	Approval to Acquire the Stock of WICOR
Wisconsin Electric Power Company	1/07	Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Docket No. 6630-EI-113	Sale of Nuclear Plant
Wisconsin Electric Power Company	10/09	Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Docket No. 6630-CE-302	CPCN Application for Wind Project
Northern States Power Wisconsin	10/13	Xcel Energy (dba Northern States Power Wisconsin)	Docket No. 4220-UR-119	Fuel Cost Adjustments
Wisconsin Electric Power Company	11/13	Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Docket No. 6630-FR-104	Fuel Cost Adjustment
Wisconsin Gas LLC	5/14	Wisconsin Gas LLC	Docket No. 6650-CG-233	Gas Line Expansion, Reasonableness
WE Energy	8/14 1/15 3/15	WE Energy/Integrus	Docket No. 9400-YO-100	Merger Approval
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	1/19	Madison Gas and Electric Company and Wisconsin Public Service Corporation	Docket No. 5-BS-228	Evaluation of Models Used in Resource Investment Decisions

SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>American Arbitration Association</b>				
Michael Polsky	3/91	M. Polsky vs. Indeck Energy		Corporate Valuation, Damages
ProGas Limited	7/92	ProGas Limited v. Texas Eastern		Gas Contract Arbitration
Attala Generating Company	12/03	Attala Generating Co v. Attala Energy Co.	Case No. 16-Y-198-00228-03	Power Project Valuation, Breach of Contract, Damages
Nevada Power Company	4/08	Nevada Power v. Nevada Cogeneration Assoc. #2		Power Purchase Agreement
Sensata Technologies, Inc./EMS Engineered Materials Solutions, LLC	1/11	Sensata Technologies, Inc./EMS Engineered Materials Solutions, LLC v. Pepco Energy Services	Case No. 11-198-Y-00848-10	Change in Usage Dispute, Damages
Sandy Creek Energy Associates, L.P.	9/17	Sandy Creek Energy Associates, L.P. vs. Lower Colorado River Authority	Case No. 01-16-0002-6892	Power Purchase Agreement, Analysis of Damages
<b>Canadian Arbitration Panel</b>				
Hydro-Québec	4/15 5/16 7/16	Hydro-Fraser et al v. Hydro-Québec		Electric Price Arbitration
<b>Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Appellate Tax Board</b>				
NStar Electric Company	8/14	NStar Electric Company	Docket No. F316346 Docket No. F319254	Valuation Methodology
Western Massachusetts Electric Company	2/16	Western Massachusetts Electric Company v. Board of Assessors of The City of Springfield	Docket No. 315550 Docket No. 319349	Valuation Methodology
<b>Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Suffolk Superior Court</b>				
John Hancock	1/84	Trinity Church v. John Hancock	C.A. No. 4452	Damages Quantification



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Civil Division</b>				
Sunoco Marketing & Terminals L.P.	11/16	Sunoco Marketing & Terminals, L.P. v. South Jersey Resources Group	Case No. 150302520	Damages Quantification
<b>State of Colorado District Court, County of Garfield</b>				
Questar Corporation, et al	11/00	Questar Corporation, et al.	Case No. 00CV129-A	Partnership Fiduciary Duties
<b>State of Delaware, Court of Chancery, New Castle County</b>				
Wilmington Trust Company	11/05	Calpine Corporation vs. Bank of New York and Wilmington Trust Company	C.A. No. 1669-N	Bond Indenture Covenants
<b>Illinois Appellate Court, Fifth Division</b>				
Norweb, PLC	8/02	Indeck No. America v. Norweb	Docket No. 97 CH 07291	Breach of Contract, Power Plant Valuation
<b>Independent Arbitration Panel</b>				
Alberta Northeast Gas Limited	2/98	ProGas Ltd., Canadian Forest Oil Ltd., AEC Oil & Gas		
Ocean State Power	9/02	Ocean State Power vs. ProGas Ltd.	2001/2002 Arbitration	Gas Price Arbitration
Ocean State Power	2/03	Ocean State Power vs. ProGas Ltd.	2002/2003 Arbitration	Gas Price Arbitration
Ocean State Power	6/04	Ocean State Power vs. ProGas Ltd.	2003/2004 Arbitration	Gas Price Arbitration
Shell Canada Limited	7/05	Shell Canada Limited and Nova Scotia Power Inc.		Gas Contract Price Arbitration
<b>International Court of Arbitration</b>				
Wisconsin Gas Company, Inc.	2/97	Wisconsin Gas Co. vs. Pan-Alberta	Case No. 9322/CK	Contract Arbitration
Minnegasco, A Division of NorAm Energy Corp.	3/97	Minnegasco vs. Pan-Alberta	Case No. 9357/CK	Contract Arbitration



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Utilicorp United Inc.	4/97	Utilicorp vs. Pan-Alberta	Case No. 9373/CK	Contract Arbitration
IES Utilities	97	IES vs. Pan-Alberta	Case No. 9374/CK	Contract Arbitration
Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., and Mitsubishi Nuclear Energy Systems, Inc.	12/15 2/16	Southern California Edison Company, Edison Material Supply LLC, San Diego Gas & Electric Co., and the City of Riverside vs. Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., and Mitsubishi Nuclear Energy Systems, Inc.	Case No. 19784/AGF/RD	Damages Arising Under a Nuclear Power Equipment Contract
<b>International Chamber of Commerce</b>				
Senvion GmbH	4/17	Senvion GmbH v. EDF Renewable Energy, Inc.	Case No. 01-15-0005-4590	Breach-Related Damages, Unfair Competition, Unjust Enrichment
Senvion GmbH	9/17	Senvion GmbH v. EEN CA Lac Alfred Limited Partnership, et al.	Case No. 21535	Breach-Related Damages
Senvion GmbH	12/17	Senvion GmbH v. EEN CA Massif du Sud Limited Partnership, et al.	Case No. 21536	Breach-Related Damages
<b>State of New Jersey, Mercer County Superior Court</b>				
Transamerica Corp., et al.	7/07 10/07	IMO Industries Inc. vs. Transamerica Corp., et al.	Docket No. L-2140-03	Breach-Related Damages, Enterprise Value
<b>State of New York, Nassau County Supreme Court</b>				
Steel Los III, LP	6/08	Steel Los II, LP & Associated Brook, Corp v. Power Authority of State of NY	Index No. 5662/05	Property Seizure
<b>Province of Alberta, Court of Queen's Bench</b>				
Alberta Northeast Gas Limited	5/07	Cargill Gas Marketing Ltd. vs. Alberta Northeast Gas Limited	Action No. 0501-03291	Gas Contracting Practices



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>Quebec Superior Court, District of Gaspé</b>				
Senvion Canada and Senvion GmbH	2/19	Senvion Canada and Senvion GmbH v. Suspendem Rope Access		Breach-Related Damages, Reimbursement of Liquidated Damages, Reimbursement of Scheduled Maintenance Penalties
<b>State of New Hampshire, Judicial Court-Rockingham Superior Court</b>				
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy	10/18	Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy v. City of Portsmouth	Case No. 218-2016-CV-00899 Case No. 218-2017-CV-00917	Valuation of Transmission and Distribution Assets
<b>State of Rhode Island, Providence City Court</b>				
Aquidneck Energy	5/87	Laroche vs. Newport		Least-Cost Planning
<b>State of Texas, Hutchinson County Court</b>				
Western Gas Interstate	5/85	State of Texas vs. Western Gas Interstate Co.	Case No. 14,843	Cost of Service
<b>State of Utah, Third District Court</b>				
PacifiCorp & Holme, Roberts & Owen, LLP	1/07	USA Power & Spring Canyon Energy vs. PacifiCorp. et al.	Civil No. 050903412	Breach-Related Damages
<b>U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of New Hampshire</b>				
EUA Power Corporation	7/92	EUA Power Corporation	Case No. BK-91-10525-JEY	Pre-Petition Solvency
<b>U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of New Jersey</b>				
Ponderosa Pine Energy Partners, Ltd.	7/05	Ponderosa Pine Energy Partners, Ltd.	Case No. 05-21444	Forward Contract Bankruptcy Treatment



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>U.S. Bankruptcy Court, No. District of New York</b>				
Cayuga Energy, NYSEG Solutions, The Energy Network	09/09	Cayuga Energy, NYSEG Solutions, The Energy Network	Case No. 06-60073-6-sdg	Going Concern
<b>U.S. Bankruptcy Court, So. District of New York</b>				
Johns Manville	5/04	Enron Energy Mktg. v. Johns Manville; Enron No. America v. Johns Manville	Case No. 01-16034 (AJG)	Breach of Contract, Damages
<b>U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of Texas</b>				
Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative, Inc., and Potomac Electric Power Company	11/04	Mirant Corporation, et al. v. SMECO	Case No. 03-4659; Adversary No. 04-4073	PPA Interpretation, Leasing
<b>U.S. Court of Federal Claims</b>				
Boston Edison Company	7/06 11/06	Boston Edison Company v. United States	No. 99-447C No. 03-2626C	Spent Nuclear Fuel Breach, Damages
Consolidated Edison Company	7/07	Consolidated Edison Company	No. 06-305T	Evaluation of Lease Purchase Option
Consolidated Edison Company	2/08 6/08	Consolidated Edison Company v. United States	No. 04-0033C	Spent Nuclear Fuel Breach, Damages
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation	6/08	Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corporation v. United States	No. 03-2663C	Spent Nuclear Fuel Breach, Damages
<b>U. S. District Court, Boulder County, Colorado</b>				
KN Energy, Inc.	3/93	KN Energy vs. Colorado GasMark, Inc.	Case No. 92 CV 1474	Gas Contract Interpretation



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
<b>U. S. District Court, Northern California</b>				
Pacific Gas & Electric Co./PGT PG&E/PGT Pipeline Exp. Project	4/97	Norcen Energy Resources Limited	Case No. C94-0911 VRW	Fraud Claim
<b>U. S. District Court, District of Connecticut</b>				
Constellation Power Source, Inc.	12/04	Constellation Power Source, Inc. v. Select Energy, Inc.	Civil Action 304 CV 983 (RNC)	ISO Structure, Breach of Contract
<b>U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division</b>				
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission	4/12	U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission v. Thomas Fisher, Kathleen Halloran, and George Behrens	Case No. 07 C 4483	Prudence, PBR
<b>U. S. District Court, Massachusetts</b>				
Eastern Utilities Associates & Donald F. Pardus	3/94	NECO Enterprises Inc. vs. Eastern Utilities Associates	Civil Action No. 92-10355-RCL	Seabrook Power Sales
<b>U. S. District Court, Montana</b>				
KN Energy, Inc.	9/92	KN Energy v. Freeport MacMoRan	Docket No. CV 91-40-BLG-RWA	Gas Contract Settlement
<b>U.S. District Court, New Hampshire</b>				
Portland Natural Gas Transmission and Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline	9/03	Public Service Company of New Hampshire vs. PNGTS and M&NE Pipeline	Docket No. C-02-105-B	Impairment of Electric Transmission Right-of-Way
<b>U. S. District Court, Southern District of New York</b>				
Central Hudson Gas & Electric	11/99 8/00	Central Hudson v. Riverkeeper, Inc., Robert H. Boyle, John J. Cronin	Civil Action 99 Civ 2536 (BDP)	Electric Restructuring, Environmental Impacts
Consolidated Edison	3/02	Consolidated Edison v. Northeast Utilities	Case No. 01 Civ. 1893 (JGK) (HP)	Industry Standards for Due Diligence



SPONSOR	DATE	CASE/APPLICANT	DOCKET NO.	SUBJECT
Merrill Lynch & Company	1/05	Merrill Lynch v. Allegheny Energy, Inc.	Civil Action 02 CV 7689 (HB)	Due Diligence, Breach of Contract, Damages
<b>U. S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia</b>				
Aquila, Inc.	1/05 2/05	VPEM v. Aquila, Inc.	Civil Action 304 CV 411	Breach of Contract, Damages
<b>U. S. District Court, Western District of Virginia</b>				
Washington Gas Light Company	8/15 9/15	Washington Gas Light Company v. Mountaineer Gas Company	Civil Action No. 5:14-cv-41	Nominations and Gas Balancing, Lost and Unaccounted for Gas, Damages
<b>U. S. District Court, Portland Maine</b>				
ACEC Maine, Inc. et al.	10/91	CIT Financial vs. ACEC Maine	Docket No. 90-0304-B	Project Valuation
Combustion Engineering	1/92	Combustion Eng. vs. Miller Hydro	Docket No. 89-0168P	Output Modeling, Project Valuation
<b>U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission</b>				
Eastern Utilities Association	10/92	EUA Power Corporation	File No. 70-8034	Value of EUA Power
<b>U.S. Tax Court in Illinois</b>				
Exelon Corporation	4/15 6/15	Exelon Corporation, as Successor by Merger to Unicom Corporation and Subsidiaries et al. v. Commission of Internal Revenue	Docket Nos. 29183-13, 29184-13	Valuation of Analysis of Lease Terms and Quantify Plant Values
<b>Council of the District of Columbia Committee on Consumer and Regulatory Affairs</b>				
Potomac Electric Power Co.	7/99	Potomac Electric Power Co.	Bill 13-284	Utility Restructuring



<b>Alberta Beverage Container Management Board</b>				
Alberta Beverage Container Management Board	2016	Expert for the Board	N/A	Return Margin on Bottle Depots
<b>Alberta Utilities Commission</b>				
ATCO Utilities Group	2008 2009	ATCO Gas; ATCO Pipelines Ltd.; ATCO Electric Ltd.	Application No. 1578571 / Proceeding ID. 85	2009 Generic Cost of Capital Proceeding (Gas & Electric)
<b>American Arbitration Association</b>				
TransCanada Corporation	2004	TransCanada Corporation	AAA Case No. 50T 1810018804	Valuation of Natural Gas Pipeline
<b>British Columbia Utilities Commission</b>				
FortisBC	2012	FortisBC Utilities	G-20-12	Cost of Capital Adjustment Mechanisms
FortisBC	2015 2016	FortisBC Utilities	Project 3698852	Cost of Capital (Gas Distribution)
<b>Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control</b>				
Aquarion Water Company of CT/ Macquarie Securities	2007	Aquarion Water Company of CT	DPUC Docket No. 07-05-19	Return on Equity (Water)
<b>Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</b>				
Atlantic Power Corporation	2007	Atlantic Path 15, LLC	ER08-374-000	Return on Equity (Electric)
Atlantic Power Corporation	2010	Atlantic Path 15, LLC	Docket No. ER11-2909- 000	Return on Equity (Electric)
Atlantic Power Corporation	2011	Atlantic Path 15, LLC	Docket Nos. ER11-2909 and EL11-29	Rate of Return (Electric Transmission)
Startrans IO, LLC	2012	Startrans IO, LLC	ER-13-272-000	Cost of Capital (Electric Transmission)
Startrans IO, LLC	2015	Startran IO, LLC	ER-16-194-000 and EL16- 25-000	Cost of Capital (Electric Transmission)
<b>Hawaii Public Utility Commission</b>				
The Gas Company	2017	The Gas Company	Docket No. 2017-0105	Cost of Capital (Gas Distribution)



<b>Maine Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Bangor Hydro Electric Company	1998	Bangor Hydro Electric Company	MPUC Docket No. 98-820	Transaction-Related Financial Advisory Services, Valuation
Central Maine Power Company	2007	Central Maine Power Company	MPUC Docket No. 2007-215	Sales Forecast
<b>Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals</b>				
Green Planet Power Solutions	2018	Green Planet Power Solutions and Maryland Bio Energy LLC v. Maryland Department of General Services	MSBCA 3061	Contract Litigation, Power Purchase Agreement, Damages Analysis
<b>Massachusetts Superior Court</b>				
Burncoat Pond Watershed District	2010	Central Water District v. Burncoat Pond Watershed District	WDCV 2001-0105	Valuation/Eminent Domain
<b>Minnesota Public Utilities Commission</b>				
Northern States Power Company	2015 2016	Northern States Power Company	E-002-GR-15-826	Cost of Capital (Electric)
Northern States Power Company	2017	Northern States Power Company		Cost of Capital (Electric and Gas Rate Riders for Transmission, Renewable Generation and Gas Distribution)
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities</b>				
Newfoundland Power	2016 2018	Newfoundland Power	2016 GRA 2018 GRA	Cost of Capital (Electric)
<b>New Jersey Board of Public Utilities</b>				
Conectiv	2000- 2001	Atlantic City Electric Company	NJBPU Docket No. EM00020106	Transaction-Related Financial Advisory Services
<b>Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board</b>				
Nova Scotia Power Inc.	2012	Nova Scotia Power Inc.	2013 GRA	Return on Equity/Business Risk (Electric)



<b>Ontario Energy Board</b>				
Enbridge Gas Distribution and Hydro One Networks and the Coalition of Large Distributors	2009	Enbridge Gas Distribution and Hydro One Networks and the Coalition of Large Distributors	EB-2009-0084	Ontario Energy Board's 2009 Consultative Process on Cost of Capital Review (Gas & Electric)
Enbridge Gas Distribution	2012	Enbridge Gas Distribution	EB-2011-0354	Industry Benchmarking Study and Cost of Capital (Gas Distribution)
Enbridge Gas Distribution	2014	Enbridge Gas Distribution	EB-2012-0459	Incentive Regulation Plan and Industry Productivity Study
Ontario Power Generation	2016	Ontario Power Generation	EB-2016-0152	Cost of Capital (Electric Generation)
<b>Prince Edward Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission</b>				
Maritime Electric Company	2015	Maritime Electric Company	UE20942	Return on Capital (Electric)
<b>Régie de l'énergie du Québec</b>				
Gaz Métro	2012	Gaz Métro	R-3809-2012	Return on Equity/Business Risk/Capital Structure (Gas Distribution)
Hydro-Québec Distribution and Hydro- Québec TransÉnergie	2013	Hydro-Québec Distribution and Hydro- Québec TransÉnergie	R-3842-2013	Return on Equity/Business Risk (Electric)
Hydro-Québec Distribution	2014	Hydro-Québec Distribution	R-3905-2014	Remuneration of Deferral Accounts
Hydro-Québec Distribution and Hydro- Québec TransÉnergie	2015-2017	Hydro-Québec Distribution and Hydro- Québec TransÉnergie	R-3897-2014	Performance-Based Ratemaking
<b>South Dakota Public Service Commission</b>				
Northern States Power Company-MN	2012	Northern States Power Company-MN	EL 11-019	Return on Equity
<b>Texas Public Utility Commission</b>				
Texas New Mexico Power Company	2004	Texas New Mexico Power Company	PUC Docket No. 29206	Auction Process and Stranded Cost Recovery
<b>U.S. Department of Commerce</b>				
Government of Québec	2017	Duty Investigation of Uncoated Groundwood Paper from Canada	PUC Docket No. 29206	Contracting for Renewable Resources, Market Analysis, Damages Analysis
<b>Vermont Public Service Board</b>				
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.	2006	Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.	VPSB Docket No. 7109	Models of Incentive Regulation



Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.	2012	Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.	Docket No. 7803A	Cost of Capital (Gas Distribution)
Green Mountain Power Corporation	2013	Green Mountain Power Corporation	Docket No. 8191	Return on Equity (Electric)
Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.	2016	Vermont Gas Systems, Inc.	Docket No. 8698/8710	Return on Equity (Gas Distribution)
Green Mountain Power Corporation	2017	Green Mountain Power Corporation	Docket No. Tariff-8677	Return on Equity (Electric)
<b>Wisconsin Public Service Commission</b>				
Wisconsin Power and Light Company	2007	Wisconsin Power and Light Company	PSCW Docket No. 6680-CE-170	Return on Equity (Electric)
Wisconsin Power and Light Company	2007	Wisconsin Power and Light Company	PSCW Docket No. 6680-CE-171	Return on Equity (Electric)
Northern States Power Company	2011	Northern States Power Company	PSCW Docket No. 4220-UR-117	Return on Equity (Electric)
Northern States Power Company	2013	Northern States Power Company	PSCW Docket No. 4220-UR-119	Return on Equity (Gas & Electric)
Northern States Power Company	2015	Northern States Power Company	PSCW Docket No. 4220-UR-121	Return on Equity (Gas & Electric)
Northern States Power Company	2017	Northern States Power Company	PSCW Docket No. 4220-UR-123	Return on Equity (Gas & Electric)
<b>Yukon Utilities Board</b>				
ATCO Electric Yukon	2016	ATCO Electric Yukon	2016-2017 GRA	Return on Equity (Electric)

**Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3  
Risk Premium Analyses**

**PUBLIC VERSION**

**Analytical Assumptions**

Notes	Assumptions	
[1]	SDG&E's Modeled Financial Impact of Fire (\$millions)	\$3,680.00
[2]	SDG&E Current Wildfire Coverage (\$millions)	(\$1,500)
[3]	SDG&E Transmission Labor Allocator in 2019	18.4%
[4]	CA Effective Tax Rate	27.6%
[5]	SDG&E Requested Equity Ratio in 2019 Rate Case	56.0%
[6]	SDG&E 2019 CPUC Rate Base (\$millions)	\$6,537.08
[7]	SDG&E CPUC Equity Rate Base (\$millions)	\$3,660.76

**Notes**

[1] Company-provided data

[2] Company-provided data

[3] Company-provided data

[4] Source: "The United States' Corporate Income Tax Rate is Now More in Line with Those Levied by Other Major Nations", Tax Foundation, February 12, 2018, Table 1.

[5] SDG&E's requested equity ratio

[6] Source: Company Data

[7] Equals [5] x [6]

### Industry Risk Approach

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Industry Name	Average Utility Beta  ( $\beta$ )	Median Industry Beta  ( $\beta$ )	Delta  ( $\beta$ )	Market Risk Premium  ( $R_m - R_f$ )	Risk Adjustment
Oilfield Svcs/Equip	0.600	1.55	0.95	6.90%	6.56%
Natural Gas (Div.)	0.600	1.55	0.95	6.90%	6.56%
Petroleum (Producing)	0.600	1.40	0.80	6.90%	5.52%
Maritime	0.600	1.40	0.80	6.90%	5.52%
Steel	0.600	1.35	0.75	6.90%	5.18%
Information Services	0.600	1.00	0.40	6.90%	2.76%
Entertainment	0.600	1.00	0.40	6.90%	2.76%
Insurance (Life)	0.600	0.98	0.38	6.90%	2.59%

#### Notes

[1] Source: Dr. Morin's Testimony

[2] Median beta of each industry (Source: Value Line)

[3] Equals [2] - [1]

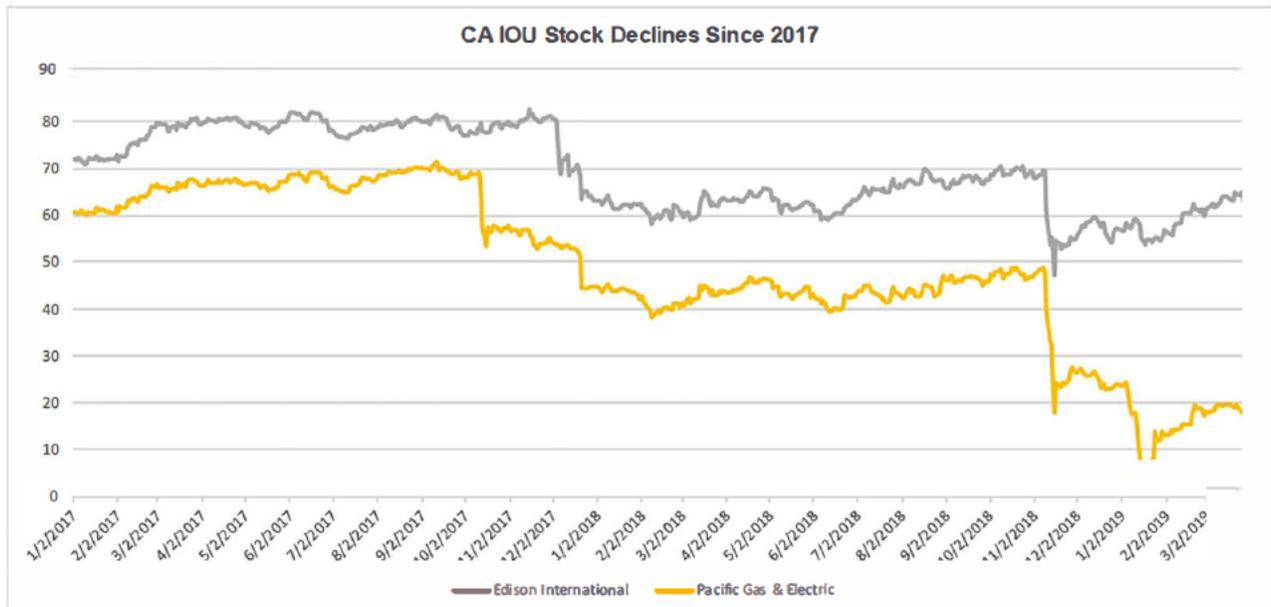
[4] Source: Dr. Morin's Testimony

[5] Equals [3] x [4]

**CA Utility Stock Declines Since 2017**

Date	Edison International	Pacific Gas & Electric
Mar-19	63.24	18.73
Feb-19	59.51	16.00
Jan-19	56.25	14.04
Dec-18	57.59	24.86
Nov-18	58.17	32.44
Oct-18	69.29	47.50
Sep-18	67.46	46.32
Aug-18	67.50	44.18
Jul-18	65.58	43.33
Jun-18	60.84	41.18
May-18	62.33	43.67
Apr-18	64.07	45.24
Mar-18	61.99	43.10
Feb-18	60.35	40.14
Jan-18	62.41	43.91
Dec-17	69.15	50.23
Nov-17	80.49	55.34
Oct-17	78.55	61.59
Sep-17	79.70	69.54
Aug-17	79.80	69.37
Jul-17	77.74	66.52
Jun-17	80.81	68.20
May-17	79.20	66.60
Apr-17	80.40	67.25
Mar-17	79.47	66.40
Feb-17	75.58	63.62
Jan-17	71.98	60.85

Source: Bloomberg Professional Service



### Estimated Loss Approach

Estimated Fire Above Insurance Coverage		
Notes	Category	\$ (millions)
[1]	SDG&E's Modeled Financial Impact of Fire (\$millions)	\$ 3,680
[2]	SDG&E Wildfire Insurance	\$ (1,500)
[3]	Wildfire Costs in Excess of Insurance	\$ 2,180
[4]	Less Amount - FERC Recovery	\$ (401)
[5]	SDG&E Wildfire Liability Pre-Tax	\$ 1,779
[6]	<b>SDG&amp;E Wildfire Liability Net of Tax</b>	<b>\$ 1,287</b>

[7]	Probability of \$3.68B Fire Per Year	5.33%
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Annualized Estimated Loss			
Notes		[6]	[8]
	Description	Net Estimated Fire Liabilities (\$millions)	Annual Estimated Loss (\$millions)
	SDG&E Wildfire Liability Net of Tax	\$ 1,287	\$ 68.62

2019 Test Year Rate Base (\$ millions)		
Notes		
[9]	2019 Projected SDG&E Rate Base	\$ 6,537.08
[10]	Equity Ratio	56.0%
[11]	Equity Base	\$ 3,660.76

ROE Adjustment Based on Estimated Loss			
		[6]	[12]
	Description	Net Estimated Fire Liabilities (\$millions)	ROE Adjustment
	SDG&E Wildfire Liability Net of Tax	\$ 1,287	1.87%

#### Notes

- [1] See assumptions  
 [2] See assumptions  
 [3] Equals sum of [1] and [2]  
 [4] Equals [3] x FERC labor allocator [18.4%] (see assumptions)  
 [5] Equals sum of [3] and [4]  
 [6] Equals [5] x (1- Effective Tax Rate [27.6%])  
 [7] Expected probability of a \$3.68B fire based on company modeling (Company-provided data)  
 [8] Equals [6] x [7]  
 [9] See assumptions  
 [10] See assumptions  
 [11] Equals [9] x [10]  
 [12] Equals [6] / [11] x [7]

### Insurance Approach

2018 Average Rate-On-Line (ROL) For Wildfire Insurance Renewals [REDACTED]

Annualized Estimated Insurance Premium		
	[1]	[2]
Description	Amount of Insurance (\$ millions)	Estimated Annual Premium \$ millions)
Cost of Incremental Wildfire Insurance - \$2.18B	\$ 2,180	[REDACTED]

Annualized Estimated Insurance Premium (Net of Tax)		
	[1]	[3]
Description	Amount of Insurance (\$ millions)	Estimated Annual Premium (Net of Tax)
Cost of Incremental Wildfire Insurance - \$2.18B	\$ 1,578	[REDACTED]

[4] SDG&E CPUC Equity Rate Base (\$millions)	\$ 3,661
--	----------

ROE Adjustment Based on Estimated Insurance Premium (Net of Tax)		
	[1]	[5]
Description	Amount of Insurance (\$ millions)	ROE Adjustment
Cost of Incremental Wildfire Insurance - \$2.18B	\$ 1,578	3.68%

#### Notes

[1] \$2.18 billion represents the amount SDG&E would have to pay to fully cover uninsured portion of \$3.68 billion in liabilities.

[2] Dollar amounts equal (ROL) x (Amount of insurance)

[3] Equals [2] x (1-Effective Tax Rate [27.6%])

[4] See assumptions

[5] Equals [3] / [4]

**CAT Bond Approach**

	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
Dates	3Y Treasury Bond Yield	SDG&E CAT Bond Yield	SDG&E CAT over 3Y Treasury	ROE Adjustment - CAT Over 3Y Treasury (Net of Tax)
10/12/2018	2.93%	6.44%	3.51%	2.54%
12/10/2018	2.73%	7.55%	4.82%	3.49%
12/19/2018	2.61%	7.60%	4.99%	3.61%
3/5/2019	2.52%	7.42%	4.90%	3.55%
4/2/2019	2.26%	7.63%	5.37%	3.89%
4/3/2019	2.29%	7.61%	5.32%	3.85%
<b>Last 2 Transaction Average</b>			5.35%	3.87%

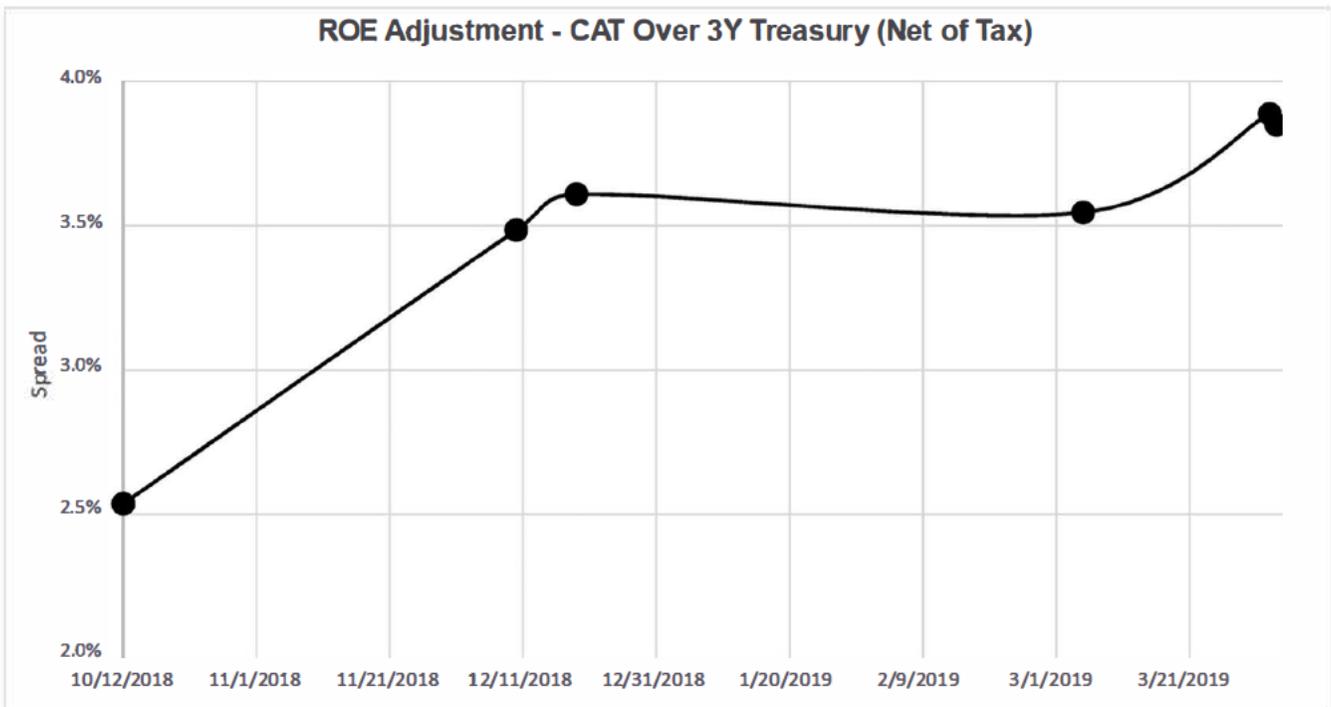
**Notes**

[1] Source: Bloomberg

[2] Source: Bloomberg SD RE Ltd (Series 2018 1). 6.44% is 400 basis points over LIBOR as of 10/12/18 [2.44%].

[3] Equals [2] - [1]

[4] Equals [3] x (1-Effective Tax Rate [27.6%])



**California De-Risked Premium**

		[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	
Notes	Scenario	Assumed Discount	Dividend Yield	Expected Dividend Yield	Average Growth Rate	Mean ROE	ROE Adjustment
	Dr. Morin's Proxy Group Average	0.00%	3.33%	3.52%	5.83%	9.35%	
[1]	Assuming 10% Discount in Stock Price	10.00%	3.70%	3.92%	5.83%	9.75%	0.39%
[2]	Assuming 20% Discount in Stock Price	20.00%	4.16%	4.41%	5.83%	10.24%	0.88%

**Notes**

[1] 42% of investors survey by BAML ascribed a 10% discount to CA IOUs assuming wildfire liability construct is de-risked. (Source: BofAML - US Utilities & IPPs, Surveying Investors, pages 4-5, March 22, 2019)

[2] 28% of investors survey by BAML ascribed a 20% discount to CA IOUs assuming wildfire liability construct is de-risked. (Source: BofAML - US Utilities & IPPs, Surveying Investors, pages 4-5, March 22, 2019)

[3] Equals Morin Proxy Group's average dividend yield (3.33%) x (1-10%) and (3.33%) x (1-20%)

[4] Equals [3] x (1+ [5])

[5] Source: Dr. Morin's Testimony

[6] Equals [4] + [5]

[7] Equals [6] - Dr. Morin Mean DCF result (9.35%)

**Range of ROE Adjustment Results**

Notes	Approach Description	ROE Adjustment
[1]	Estimated Loss Approach	1.87%
[2]	Insurance Approach	3.68%
[3]	CAT Bond Approach	3.87%
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>3.14%</b>
	<b>Median</b>	<b>3.68%</b>
	<b>Midpoint of Mean and Median</b>	<b>3.41%</b>

**Notes**

- [1] See Page 4
- [2] See Page 5
- [3] See Page 6

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

**DECLARATION OF KAREN L. SEDGWICK  
REGARDING CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN DATA/DOCUMENTS  
PURSUANT TO D.17-09-023**

I, Karen L. Sedgwick, do declare as follows:

1. I am the Vice President & Treasurer for Sempra Energy, parent company of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (“SDG&E”) and Southern California Gas Company (“SoCalGas” or “SCG”). I have reviewed the Cost of Capital (“COC”) Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company and the accompanying testimony. I am personally familiar with the facts in this Declaration and, if called upon to testify, I could and would testify to the following based upon my personal knowledge and/or information and belief.

2. I hereby provide this Declaration in accordance with Decision (“D.”) 17-09-023 to demonstrate that the confidential information (“Protected Information”) provided in Section V.D and Exhibit SDG&E-Concentric-3 of the Wildfire Risk Premium prepared direct testimony of Concentric Energy Advisors, sponsored by witnesses John J. Reed and James M. Coyne (April 2019) (Exhibit SDG&E-05, Chapter 1), is within the scope of data protected as confidential under applicable law.

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3. In accordance with the legal citations and narrative justification described in Attachment A, attached hereto, the Protected Information should be protected from public disclosure.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed this 19th day of April 2019, at San Diego, California.



---

Karen L. Sedgwick  
Vice President & Treasurer  
Sempra Energy

## ATTACHMENT A

**SDG&E Requests Confidentiality for the following information in the Wildfire Risk Premium prepared direct testimony of Concentric Energy Advisors, sponsored by witnesses John J. Reed and James M. Coyne (April 2019) (Ex. SDG&E-05, Ch. 1)**

Location of Protected Information	Legal Citations	Narrative Justification
<p>Section V.D and Exhibit SDG&amp;E-Concentric-3 of the Wildfire Risk Premium prepared direct testimony of Concentric Energy Advisors, sponsored by witnesses John J. Reed and James M. Coyne (April 2019) (Ex. SDG&amp;E-05, Ch. 1).</p>	<p>Gov't Code § 6254(k) ("Records, the disclosure of which is exempted or prohibited pursuant to federal or state law.").</p> <p>Gov't Code § 6254.7(d) (Trade Secrets); Gov't Code § 6254.15 ("Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require the disclosure of records that are any of the following: corporate financial records, corporate proprietary information including trade secrets . . ."); Evid. Code § 1060 (Trade Secrets); and Civil Code § 3426 <i>et seq.</i> (Trade Secrets).</p> <p>D.11-01-036 at 5 (agreeing that confidential prices and contract terms specifically negotiated with a program vendor is proprietary and commercially sensitive and should remain confidential).</p>	<p>The Protected Information is entitled to confidential treatment under applicable law, including, but not limited to, the legal authority cited herein. Section V.D and Exhibit SDG&amp;E-Concentric-3 of the Wildfire Risk Premium prepared direct testimony of Concentric Energy Advisors, sponsored by witnesses John J. Reed and James M. Coyne (April 2019) (Ex. SDG&amp;E-05, Ch. 1), contains confidential information regarding annual insurance premiums and average Rate on Line percentages. This information is non-public financial information that is proprietary, commercially sensitive, and contains trade secrets. In addition, public disclosure could place SDG&amp;E at a competitive disadvantage, resulting in potential harm to SDG&amp;E and ratepayers.</p>

Company: San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U 902 M)  
Proceeding: 2020 Cost of Capital  
Application: A.19-04-XXX  
Exhibit No.: SDG&E-05 Chapter 2

**SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY  
PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF TODD A. SHIPMAN, CFA  
CHAPTER 2**

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



**APRIL 2019**

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### EXHIBITS

Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-1	Résumé of Todd Shipman
Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-2	Ratings Scales
Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-3	Issuer Credit Rating

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A. My name is Todd A. Shipman. I am an Executive Advisor with Concentric Energy  
4 Advisors, Inc. (“Concentric”), which has its headquarters at 293 Boston Post Road West,  
5 Suite 500, Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752.

6 **Q. On whose behalf are you submitting this testimony?**

7 A. I am submitting this testimony on behalf of San Diego Gas and Electric Company  
8 (“SDG&E” or the “Company”), a subsidiary of Sempra Energy, Inc. (“Sempra”), a  
9 publicly-traded holding company.

10 **Q. Please summarize your education and business experience.**

11 A. I graduated from Texas Christian University with a Bachelor of Business Administration  
12 (“B.B.A.”) degree with a major in economics, and from Texas Tech University School of  
13 Law with a Juris Doctor (“J.D.”) degree. I was awarded the Chartered Financial Analyst  
14 (“C.F.A.”) designation in 1989. I have over 33 years of experience in the financial and  
15 utility industries. I began in the financial industry as an analyst with a research firm that  
16 specialized in analyzing and reporting the investment implications of the actions and  
17 behavior of utility regulators. Subscribers to the research included investment bankers  
18 and analysts at major Wall Street firms, large institutional investors such as insurance  
19 companies and mutual funds, utilities, and regulators.

20 I then joined an independent power producer. My primary responsibility was in  
21 regulatory affairs. I coordinated and managed its interventions in state regulatory  
22 proceedings. I also assisted in its development efforts, analyzing avoided-cost rates and  
23 regulatory policies toward non-utility power production, and in its investor relations.

1 I spent the last 21 years of my career at S&P Global Ratings (“S&P”), a major  
2 ratings agency that has been in business for over 150 years and issues more than one  
3 million ratings on over \$ 46 trillion of debt across all global capital markets. I performed  
4 credit surveillance of utilities, pipelines, midstream energy, and diversified energy  
5 companies. In the final approximately ten years at S&P, I was the Sector Specialist on  
6 the United States (“U.S.”) and, later, North American utilities team. In that role I was the  
7 lead analyst on the team, charged with ensuring ratings quality, assisting in the training  
8 and development of new analysts, and creating the criteria used to establish ratings on  
9 utilities. I also led outreach efforts to investors and the regulatory community and  
10 performed a lead analytical role in the development and application of global ratings  
11 criteria for hybrid capital securities.

12 **Q. Please describe the responsibilities of your current position.**

13 A. After retiring from S&P last year, I became a management consultant specializing in  
14 advising utilities and other entities on credit and ratings issues, balance sheet  
15 management, and capital markets strategies. I joined Concentric in August 2018 as an  
16 Executive Advisor. My resume is provided as Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-1, attached hereto.

17 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

18 A. The purpose of my prepared direct testimony is to explain the importance of credit ratings  
19 to investor-owned utilities, how regulatory risk affects the credit analysis of utilities, and  
20 the effect on utility credit quality of the legal doctrine of inverse condemnation and how  
21 it has been applied in California. I express my opinion on how SDG&E’s cost of capital  
22 filing can help support credit metric restoration.

1 **Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits that accompany your testimony?**

2 A. Yes, I am sponsoring the following exhibits, attached hereto:

- 3 • Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-1 is my resume;
- 4 • Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-2 is the ratings scales of Moody's Investor Service  
5 ("Moody's") and S&P; and
- 6
- 7 • SDG&E-TAS-3 depicts the S&P ratings methodology for all corporate issuers.

8 **Q. How is the remainder of your testimony organized?**

9 A. Following this introduction, Section II is an executive summary of my testimony and key  
10 conclusions. In Section III, I discuss the credit ratings and the key factors which  
11 influence a company's credit rating as established by the credit rating agencies. In  
12 Section IV, I discuss the ratings actions already taken and possible future actions arising  
13 from the deterioration in utility credit quality in California. Section V addresses the cost  
14 of capital implications of ratings downgrades. Finally, Section VI summarizes my  
15 conclusions.

16 **II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

17 **Q. Please summarize your testimony.**

18 A. Credit ratings are an influential and reliable measure of a company's risk that are used by  
19 investors and other interested parties to assist in assessing risk. Ratings are derived by an  
20 analysis of an issuer's business risk, a qualitative exercise, and its financial risk, a  
21 quantitative exercise. For utilities, regulatory risk is a major component of the analysis.  
22 The actions of regulators exert significant influence on a utility's ratings by affecting  
23 both sides of the ratings equation. The recognition of growing risks surrounding the  
24 severe wildfires that have occurred in California in recent years and the regulatory  
25 response to the developments have resulted in numerous ratings downgrades. Reversing

1 the credit quality deterioration and restoring ratings to previous levels would require an  
2 improvement in financial risk that implies an equity return premium within the wildfire  
3 risk premium in the range of 1.87 to 6.50 percent range, as recommended John Reed and  
4 Jim Coyne (Ex. SDG&E-05, Chapter 1).<sup>1</sup>

### 5 **III. CREDIT RATINGS**

#### 6 **Q. What is a credit rating?**

7 A. A credit rating is an opinion of an entity's or a security's credit risk, which can be  
8 summarized as the ability and willingness of an issuer to fulfill its financial obligations in  
9 full and on time. Credit risk essentially refers to the risk of default. Ratings address the  
10 relative probability that an issuer or an issue will experience default, *i.e.*, the failure to  
11 pay either the required periodic payment or the principal when it matures under the terms  
12 of the security. For some issues, a recovery rating is also published as a gauge of the  
13 possible loss that an investor would experience if default occurs, but that kind of rating is  
14 not generally a big factor for utilities.

#### 15 **Q. What is a credit rating agency?**

16 A. The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") defines a credit rating agency as an  
17 organization that provides an assessment of the creditworthiness of a company or a  
18 financial instrument. The SEC has acknowledged ten agencies as a nationally recognized  
19 statistical rating organization ("NRSRO"). But in practice there are three major rating  
20 agencies in the United States. Moody's and Standard & Poor's ("S&P") are the two  
21 major rating agencies that produce ratings on virtually all utilities. Fitch Ratings

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<sup>1</sup> See the Prepared Direct Testimony of John J. Reed and James M. Coyne, Wildfire Risk Premium – Chapter 1 (April 2019) ("Ex. SDG&E-05, Ch.1 (Reed/Coyne)") at 6.

1 produces ratings for a limited number of utilities and occupies the only significant other  
2 proportion of ratings on corporate issuers in the U.S. All three issue ratings on SDG&E.

3 The primary activity of a rating agency is to issue ratings to facilitate the issuer's  
4 access to fixed income capital markets at the most efficient cost. The vast majority of  
5 fixed income securities are debt instruments. The agencies also publish analyses of the  
6 issuers and issuances to explain the ratings to the capital markets. Ratings are expressed  
7 in a series of letters, numbers, and/or symbols to summarize the relative creditworthiness  
8 of the entity or issue. The highest rating, denoting the lowest risk to investors, starts at  
9 AAA/Aaa and proceeds downward through the rating scale in both the English alphabet  
10 and the number of letters, until the rating of "D," or default, is reached. Within most  
11 rating categories, a symbol (+ or minus) or a number (1, 2, 3) is appended to describe the  
12 rating's relative position in the category. The ratings scales of the two major rating  
13 agencies appear in Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-2.

14 Ratings in the BBB/Baa category and above are considered "investment-grade"  
15 by market participants. Ratings below BBB-/Baa3 are known as "speculative-grade;"  
16 colloquially "junk," securities. Because some investors are precluded from holding  
17 speculative-grade issues, the difference between investment-grade and speculative-grade  
18 ratings is profound and is recognized by rating agencies and market participants.

19 In addition to communicating credit opinions through the letter ratings, the  
20 agencies also publish their views on the prospect for future ratings changes, either  
21 positive, neutral, or negative. When this is expressed as an "outlook," it is a relatively  
22 mild indication that ratings could change over an extended period. When ratings are

1 “placed on review” (Moody’s) or on “CreditWatch” (S&P), the positive or negative  
2 stance is indicative of a more likely ratings change that could happen in the near term.

3 **Q. Do credit ratings provide a useful measure of a company’s risk?**

4 A. Yes. The default experience of issuers validates the usefulness of credit ratings as a  
5 measure of risk in general and the distinction between investment-grade and speculative-  
6 grade ratings in particular. According to Moody’s, in the 1994 through 2018 time period  
7 the five-year average, volume-weighted corporate bond default rate increases from one  
8 rating category to the next lower one in the ratings scale, from a low of 0.43% for the Aaa  
9 category to 33.64% for the combined “Caa-C” categories. For the investment-grade  
10 categories, the rate never gets to 1%. It increases to over 4% – almost five times as high  
11 – in the first speculative-grade category.<sup>2</sup>

12 **Q. Who uses credit ratings?**

13 A. Ratings are primarily aimed at fixed-income investors. Investors use credit ratings to  
14 assist their investment decisions: which companies to invest in; the price (yield) that they  
15 will charge to lend a company money; and the stability of the issuer over time. The  
16 answers to those questions will depend on many factors. But ratings are important to  
17 fixed-income investors because they represent an independent, third-party opinion that is  
18 based on a consistent approach to assessing risk across time, security types, industries,  
19 and other considerations that inform investment decisions. Investors look at more than  
20 the current ratings. Ratings also offer valuable insight into the performance of a  
21 company over time in terms of investment risk in the past and in the future. Some  
22 institutional investors are restricted from holding securities rated below a certain level

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<sup>2</sup> Moody’s Investors Service, Annual Default Study: Defaults will rise modestly in 2019 amid higher volatility (February 1, 2019) at 44, Exhibit 52.

1 and seek to avoid investing in volatile securities because forced sales disrupt return  
2 objectives and can be costly. This is especially relevant in the rating categories close to  
3 the investment-grade/speculative-grade divide.

4 **Q. How are credit ratings established?**

5 A. Ratings are established by a committee of analysts within a given credit rating agency  
6 that specialize in the industry or industries of the rated entity. The credit analysis is  
7 prepared by a primary analyst, sometimes with the assistance of a secondary analyst and  
8 other analysts and presented to the committee. If the credit analysis is inordinately  
9 complex, other analysts will be brought into the analysis and committee to offer expertise  
10 and perspective.

11 **Q. What specific analysis is performed by the analysts to establish a credit rating?**

12 A. The analysis itself is a multi-faceted exercise that focuses on two main areas that can be  
13 described generally as quantitative and qualitative in nature. The quantitative side of the  
14 analysis examines financial ratios and other metrics to analyze the financial risk of the  
15 issuer. The qualitative side of the assessment examines business risk, which is built up  
16 from the broad risks at the macro level such as country risk and industry risk. Then the  
17 issuer's more specific risk within its business and economic environment is determined.  
18 For a utility, the major risks are regulatory risk, operating risk, and cash-flow diversity.

19 Credit analysis is basically an exercise that measures those two aspects of the risk  
20 profile of an entity. Business risk and financial risk add up to the total credit risk. Thus,  
21 they can be viewed as opposing sides of the total risk of an entity, so that more of one  
22 must be offset by less of the other to arrive at a particular rating. Because utilities are  
23 tightly regulated on financial matters that limit how much financial metrics can differ

1 over time, it is often the qualitative analysis that drives changes in ratings. That  
2 especially holds for investment-grade companies, which is where most U.S. utilities sit in  
3 the ratings spectrum, because the qualitative analysis is slightly predominate over the  
4 financial analysis when the two are combined to reach a rating outcome.

5 **Q. Please describe credit metrics and the financial risk considerations that make up the**  
6 **quantitative side of credit analysis.**

7 A. Credit analysis is distinguished from other kinds of financial analyses performed in the  
8 financial sector by its emphasis on cash flow. Equity analysts focus almost solely on  
9 earnings-based metrics that drive stock prices. Recognizing that servicing debt requires  
10 not just earnings but actual cash, credit analysts strive to understand the cash-flow  
11 dynamics of a company's financial results as much or more than the bottom-line  
12 earnings. The primary measure that rating agencies use as a base for most cash-flow  
13 metrics is cash flow from operations ("CFO") or some derivation of it. For utilities,  
14 changes in regulatory assets and liabilities add a unique layer of cash-flow differences.  
15 Working off CFO, both Moody's and S&P remove working capital changes from the  
16 metric (the short-term ebb and flow of cash that does not reveal any information on the  
17 fundamental ability of the company to produce cash from its operations) to find the basic  
18 cash-flow measure they use to gauge financial risk. Alternatively called funds from  
19 operations ("FFO") or CFO Before Changes In Working Capital ("CFO pre-WC"), this  
20 represents the utility's essential ability to generate cash from its day-to-day operations.  
21 The more reliably an issuer can generate the cash needed to pay interest and any other  
22 fixed-income demands, the lower the credit risk and the higher the rating.

23 The other major element of financial risk is the total amount of debt or debt-like  
24 obligations embedded in the issuer's balance sheet and other activities. Total debt

1 comprises long-term and short-term debt on the balance sheet. It may be adjusted for  
2 other items that the rating agency regards as debt-like or for surplus cash that it considers  
3 to be nettable against the debt amount. Examples of the former are lease liabilities, long-  
4 term power purchase obligations, and deferred taxes.

5 Credit metrics incorporate some combination of cash flow and total obligations to  
6 compare the ability to generate cash to the burden of servicing the obligations during a  
7 specified period. The metrics are calculated for both historical periods and future  
8 forecasts and fall into two basic types: leverage and coverage ratios. Leverage metrics  
9 attempt to assess the relative burden of debt and other fixed-income obligations compared  
10 to the financial responsibility being carried by shareholders. Coverage metrics are  
11 something of the opposite, gauging the more immediate question of how cash flow  
12 compares to the need to service the fixed-income obligations in a stated timeframe.

13 **Q. Please describe business risk considerations that make up the qualitative side of**  
14 **credit analysis.**

15 A. Evaluating business risk for utilities is overwhelmingly a matter of regulatory risk.  
16 Although the agencies describe this risk factor as “regulatory,” it encompasses legislative  
17 and judicial matters as well as the activities of regulatory bodies. Even for areas that do  
18 not explicitly touch on regulatory behavior they almost invariably circle back to the  
19 central question of utility regulation – cost recovery, including full recovery of a utility’s  
20 cost of capital through a reasonable authorized return on equity. The nature and pace of  
21 the process of recognizing an incurred cost for recovery through rates is the paramount  
22 business risk concern of a utility credit analyst. Even the other factors tied to regulatory  
23 risk, such as the political influences on regulation, are addressed only to illuminate the

1 risk surrounding the ultimate factor of covering all costs sufficiently to earn a reasonable  
2 return on investment.

3 For Moody's, regulatory risk constitutes over 80% of the business risk component  
4 of the analysis and 50% of its entire credit analysis. For S&P, it is 60% of the business  
5 risk analysis and approximately 40% of its total credit analysis. Regulatory risk is thus  
6 nearly the sole criterion of business risk. For instance, Moody's assesses diversity in its  
7 analysis, but regulatory diversity is one of the main sub-factors therein. S&P scores  
8 operating efficiency as part of its business risk profile. But since utilities recover costs in  
9 rates, operating skill and cost control are of interest primarily as a function of how they  
10 affect the regulator's attitude toward the utility's ability to achieve reliable service quality  
11 at reasonable rates.

12 Moody's and S&P's approaches to analyzing regulatory risk are similar. Both  
13 focus on the basic regulatory framework, including the legal foundation – both legislative  
14 and judicial – for utility regulation, the history of regulatory behavior, and the ratemaking  
15 policies and procedures that determine how well the utility is afforded the opportunity to  
16 earn a reasonable return with a reasonable cash component. Overlaying all of that is the  
17 agency's view of the utility's ability to manage regulatory risk. As with any other kind of  
18 risk that a creditor is faced with, they look to the utility to correctly identify, analyze, and  
19 manage regulatory risk with an eye toward minimizing it. Thus, the regulatory  
20 environment, which encompasses the legislative, judicial, and regulatory bodies, forms  
21 the initial basis for the analysis of regulatory risk but does not constrain it.

22 Another fundamental principle of evaluating regulatory risk is the high value  
23 placed on consistency and transparency. Rating agencies rate many types and tenors of

1 fixed income securities. But the quintessential instrument that drives the analysis is long-  
2 term debt. They regard debtholders who extend credit over long periods as their primary  
3 “client” and strive to rate long-term debt as accurately as possible over the longest  
4 timeframe as possible. Utilities fund capital expenditures with long-dated maturities to  
5 match the life of the assets. Utility investors value ratings that are forward-looking and  
6 stable. Because the predictability offers creditors the ability to accurately assess risk over  
7 the same time that the debt is outstanding and improves the ability of the company to  
8 manage its business activities and capital program, regulatory frameworks and practices  
9 that allow rating agencies to confidently project future cash flows and the volatility of  
10 those cash flows will naturally be accorded a better business risk profile.

11 Finally, rating agencies examine the mechanics of regulation, particularly the rate-  
12 setting process. Rate cases take up much of the analysis. But the totality of a utility’s  
13 tariff schedule is assessed to capture the effect on business risk of revenues generated  
14 outside base rates. Creditors – and therefore rating agencies – view favorably tariff  
15 provisions that operate outside the rate case cycle and adjust rates automatically to match  
16 revenues with expenses, thereby avoiding regulatory lag. Fuel clauses and increasingly  
17 other varieties of riders are almost universal across the utility industry. These are the  
18 most common of these kinds of rate mechanisms that stabilize earnings and cash flows to  
19 the benefit of the business risk profile.

20 **Q. How can regulation influence credit ratings?**

21 A. Regulators act on both sides of the credit rating equation. The manner of establishing  
22 rates and the level and timing of cost recovery has a direct effect on a utility’s ability to  
23 earn its authorized return on equity (“ROE”) and produce enough earnings and cash flow

1 to support its ratings. Further, the same regulatory actions that affect a utility's ability to  
2 earn its authorized ROE also have a knock-on effect on business risk, magnifying the  
3 ratings impact of regulatory decisions and behavior that fall outside expectations or  
4 norms.

5 **Q. How do credit ratings and actions affect a utility and its customers?**

6 A. The most straightforward effect is on a utility's cost of capital. Fixed-income investors  
7 consult ratings to assist them in determining the "price" they will charge the utility for the  
8 use of their money. The total price is the combination of the interest rate of the  
9 instrument and its initial value in relation to the stated amount on the instrument. There  
10 is generally an inverse relationship between debt cost and ratings: the higher the rating,  
11 the lower the cost. Equity investors, *i.e.*, stockholders, also use credit ratings as a risk  
12 guide to help them decide the terms on which they will offer their capital to a utility. The  
13 more risk they detect, the greater return they will seek to compensate them for bearing  
14 that risk. The effect is not as direct or precisely quantifiable as it is with fixed-income  
15 instruments. But in my experience equity investors often take notice of, and react to,  
16 credit ratings.

17 **IV. WILDFIRE RISK AND ITS EFFECT ON CREDIT QUALITY**

18 **Q. Given the basic outline of credit ratings, credit analysis, and the rating process you**  
19 **just enunciated, how does the current uncertainty surrounding the risk of wildfires**  
20 **and their costs affect the ratings of California utilities?**

21 A. The risks associated with the legal doctrine of inverse condemnation and how it has been  
22 applied divergently to wildfires in California by state courts and the California Public  
23 Utilities Commission ("CPUC" or "Commission") has resulted in numerous ratings  
24 downgrades of utilities in the state and has the potential to further erode credit quality.  
25 The risk attaches to both sides of the credit analysis equation. But it most directly and

1 urgently affects the business risk of California electric utilities through the perception that  
2 the regulatory environment in the state has worsened and threatens the regulatory  
3 compact. It has already increased regulatory risk for those utilities.

4 **Q. How has the development of inverse condemnation and the CPUC's reaction to it in**  
5 **recent years increased utility business risk?**

6 A. As more intense and costly wildfires in the state have proliferated, the costs the utilities  
7 have been forced to bear under the strict liability standard construed by the courts have  
8 begun to exceed their insurance coverage. This has brought the risk more in focus.  
9 Pacific Gas and Electric Company's ("PG&E") bankruptcy filing this past January has  
10 further intensified the recognition of the risk by investors and the rating agencies. The  
11 first indication of the heightened risk environment was the CPUC's decision for SDG&E  
12 to deny recovery of the costs incurred from its 2007 wildfires in excess of insurance and  
13 other proceeds. The disconnect between the strict liability imposed by the courts and the  
14 ordinary prudence standard applied by the CPUC in that case that did not take strict  
15 liability into account brought the rising risk to the attention of the rating agencies. It  
16 signaled the rising risk that utilities may not be able to fully recover wildfire liability  
17 costs.

18 **Q. Why did the rating agencies not react negatively to that CPUC decision?**

19 A. The prevailing opinion at the time was that the California legislature would respond to  
20 the situation with a resolution of the problem of costs being trapped by the divergent  
21 standards of review. For instance, in a concurrence, CPUC President Picker and  
22 Commissioner Guzman-Aceves called for the legislature and the courts to reconsider the  
23 issue and was viewed as a reasonable path forward that would preserve the low  
24 regulatory risk that the rating agencies perceived for California utilities. To the present

1 day, I believe the market reaction and rating agency actions for SDG&E and other  
2 investor-owned utilities continue to be constrained by the expectation that the legislature  
3 will address inverse condemnation and wildfire cost recovery to contain the risk.

4 **Q. How does the wildfire cost recovery risk get reflected in the credit analysis of**  
5 **California as it materializes?**

6 A. The most immediate and direct impact is when a utility experiences a major wildfire and  
7 its ignition implicates the utility's equipment. In the current state of the development of  
8 inverse condemnation and cost recovery standards, the potential for substantial non-  
9 recovery of the costs is high and has near-term financial and liquidity effects that can  
10 weaken the utility's financial risk. The prospect of less than full recovery also negatively  
11 affects the utility's business risk by highlighting the eroding regulatory environment that  
12 forms the foundation of all utility ratings. The effect on ratings is essentially doubled, in  
13 a sense, as both sides of the credit analysis degrade. For a utility that is exposed to  
14 wildfire risk in general but is not experiencing any actual costs from a major wildfire, the  
15 primary effect is on the business risk profile.

16 **Q. Is there an example of the former?**

17 A. Yes, as discussed in Don Widjaja's testimony, two California utilities are presently  
18 exposed to major wildfire costs.<sup>3</sup> The downward progression of the PG&E ratings, which  
19 now stand at "D," or were "D" before being withdrawn, illustrates the exponential nature  
20 of the credit deterioration in the face of significant wildfire costs in the current California  
21 regulatory environment. Ratings of Southern California Edison Company ("SCE") have

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<sup>3</sup> See Prepared Direct Testimony of Don Widjaja, Company Risk (April 2019) ("Ex. SDG&E-03 (Widjaja)") at 6-8.

1 also begun to reflect the greater impact of the combination of weakening regulatory risk  
2 and a direct effect of possible under-recovery of major wildfire costs on financial risk.

3 **Q. Is there an example of a utility that is not presently subject to major wildfire costs?**

4 A. SDG&E does not have major, outstanding wildfire liabilities, but serves as an example of  
5 the overall worsening regulatory risk and its effect on ratings.

6 **Q. What happened to PG&E ratings preceding the bankruptcy filing?**

7 A. As described in Mr. Widjaja's testimony, after extensive wildfires in October 2017 and  
8 the parent company's decision shortly thereafter to suspend its common and preferred  
9 stock dividends, Moody's placed PG&E on review for possible downgrade. Moody's did  
10 so because the dividend suspension, which would normally be viewed positively by  
11 creditors as the retained cash and earnings improved liquidity and the balance sheet, was  
12 taken as a signal that exposure to wildfire cost under-recovery was significant.

13 S&P acted similarly, which in their system is to put a company on CreditWatch  
14 with negative implications. By February 2018, S&P had downgraded PG&E to 'BBB+',  
15 putting it out of the 'A' category. Moody's followed suit in March by downgrading the  
16 utility to its lowest rating in the 'A' category based on concerns that recovery of the  
17 wildfire costs was subject to considerable uncertainty. In June, S&P lowered ratings  
18 another notch to 'BBB' as the magnitude of the 2017 wildfire costs was becoming more  
19 clear. Business risk assessments still had not changed, although a slight weakening in  
20 both that and the utility's financial risk was noted. Moody's dropped PG&E out of the  
21 'A' category in September 2018 to 'Baa1,' the equivalent rating to S&P's, after the  
22 results of the California legislative session apparently fell short of its expectations with  
23 the enactment of Senate Bill ("SB") 901.

1 In November 2018, both agencies lowered PG&E ratings another notch as new  
2 major wildfires exerted more pressure on the utility's financial strength. Ratings actions  
3 were now also based on the determination that regulatory risk was rising, denting the  
4 business risk of PG&E. Those investment-grade ratings were moved dramatically into  
5 sub-investment grade categories by both agencies in January 2019 as the looming  
6 liabilities for the collective wildfires became more evident, and, significantly, the  
7 business risk tied to the regulatory and political environment in California continued to  
8 deteriorate. Ratings swiftly moved lower into some of the lowest rating categories ('Caa'  
9 and 'CC' for Moody's and S&P respectively) within a week as PG&E telegraphed its  
10 intention to file for protection from its creditors under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy  
11 Code.

12 **Q. What has happened to the ratings of SCE as the awareness of rising wildfire risk**  
13 **has unfolded?**

14 A. After first lowering SCE's rating to 'A3' in September 2018, Moody's took action again  
15 after the January news that PG&E was filing for bankruptcy. Moody's placed the  
16 company's rating on review for possible downgrade, and then downgraded SCE two  
17 notches to 'Baa2' later in March 2019. Downgrades in the investment-grade space are  
18 not usually more than one notch because of the greater stability for investment-grade  
19 companies, so the multi-notch downgrade is notable.

20 S&P almost immediately downgraded SCE in the aftermath of the announced  
21 PG&E filing, to the middle of the 'BBB' range, and placed ratings on CreditWatch with  
22 negative implications. The downgrade, just one notch, was effectuated through a  
23 downward reassessment of the company's regulatory and business risk regulatory  
24 construct, and they cited a continued reevaluation of the California regulatory construct

1 in its CreditWatch placement. Moody's rating action was more explicitly based on their  
2 projections of weakening financial metrics due to SCE's exposure to multi-billion-dollar  
3 wildfire costs. They said that further downgrades would result if the regulatory  
4 environment fails to improve through greater certainty on wildfire cost recovery.

5 **Q. What has happened to the ratings of SDG&E as the awareness of rising wildfire risk**  
6 **has unfolded?**

7 A. SDG&E was also downgraded, despite the absence of major wildfires in its service  
8 territory in 2017-2018. As described in the testimonies of Bruce MacNeil and Mr.  
9 Widjaja,<sup>4</sup> Moody's initiated a negative outlook on SDG&E in April 2018 and acted on  
10 that negative stance in September 2018 in the wake of the passage of SB 901. That rating  
11 action, which left the Company on a stable outlook, was probably more a function of the  
12 very high ratings at SDG&E that Moody's thought was incompatible with the  
13 uncertainties surrounding inverse condemnation and wildfire cost recovery. Similarly,  
14 S&P instituted a negative outlook in July 2018 that led to downgrade in September 2018  
15 that was one equivalent notch lower than Moody's but still in the 'A' category at 'A-.'  
16 S&P stated its downgrade reflected the unaddressed longer-term risks associated with  
17 inverse condemnation.<sup>5</sup>

18 In January 2019, S&P instituted another one-notch downgrade to BBB+ that  
19 dropped SDG&E out of the 'A' category with a negative outlook, for the reasons outlined  
20 in Mr. Widjaja's testimony.<sup>6</sup> On March 5, 2019, Moody's instituted a similar two-notch  
21 downgrade to Baa1 out of the 'A' rating category. The ratings agency said that the

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<sup>4</sup> Prepared Direct Testimony of Bruce MacNeil, CCM and Rating Agencies (April 2019) ("Ex. SDG&E-06 (MacNeil)") at 10; Ex. SDG&E-03 (Widjaja) at 12-15.

<sup>5</sup> See S&P Global Ratings, San Diego Gas & Electric Co. Downgraded To 'A-' on Unaddressed Longer-Term Wildfire Risks; Outlook Negative (September 5, 2018).

<sup>6</sup> See Ex. SDG&E-03 (Widjaja) at 12-14.

1 downgrade reflected the company’s exposure to sizeable potential liabilities in  
 2 connection with California wildfires, resulting in higher business and financial risks  
 3 profile compared to utilities operating outside of California.<sup>7</sup>

4 Table 1 below summarizes the ratings actions of S&P and Moody’s on the  
 5 California utilities since 2017.

6 **Table 1: Timeline of Credit Rating Actions**

	PG&E/ Moody’s	PG&E/ S&P	SCE/ Moody’s	SCE/ S&P	SDG&E/ Moody’s	SDG&E /S&P
As of YE 2017	A2	A-	A2	BBB+	A1	A
February 2018		BBB+				
March 2018	A3					
June 2018		BBB				
September 2018	Baa1		A3		A2	A-
November 2018	Baa2	BBB-				
January 2019	Ba3, then Caa3, then D	B, then CC, then D		BBB		BBB+
March 2019			Baa2		Baa1	

7  
 8 **Q. What do you conclude from the declining ratings and the possibility of more ratings**  
 9 **downgrades of California utilities based on the actions of Moody’s and S&P so far?**

10 A. The first point to take away from the agencies’ behavior thus far is that, as the ratings  
 11 agencies have repeatedly stated, the overall regulatory risk in California is the main  
 12 reason for the rating actions. Rating agency downgrades and negative stances on electric  
 13 utility ratings have been based mostly on the deterioration in the business risk profile of  
 14 the utilities in question, which, as explained above, is driven almost solely by views of  
 15 regulatory risk. As S&P stressed, it found “SDG&E’s . . . operational management of

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 15-16.

1 wildfire mitigation . . . as exceptional compared to peers,”<sup>8</sup> but nonetheless downgraded  
2 the Company’s credit rating because “[w]e believe that all California electric utilities are  
3 susceptible to potential liabilities from wildfires.”<sup>9</sup>

4 The second point is that the ratings agencies have indicated that further  
5 downgrades could occur. S&P stated that it could further lower its ratings on SDG&E by  
6 one or two more notches if “concrete steps” are not taken to address growing wildfire  
7 liability risks before the start of the 2019 wildfire season.<sup>10</sup> Moody’s has echoed those  
8 concerns.

9 I note that rating agencies and investors are not unfamiliar with the risks that  
10 natural disasters impose on utilities. In the case of Hurricane Katrina, the result was the  
11 bankruptcy filing of Entergy New Orleans, and the agencies have often cited hurricane  
12 risk when assessing the credit quality of utilities prone to those storms in places like  
13 Florida. But S&P has contrasted California’s regulatory framework for catastrophic  
14 wildfire with Florida’s handling of hurricanes. Florida has allowed for the securitization  
15 of those costs and utilities can petition for the recovery of storm costs for natural disasters  
16 without being subject to an earnings test.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> See S&P Global Ratings, San Diego Gas & Electric Co. Downgraded To ‘A-’ on Unaddressed Longer-Term Wildfire Risks; Outlook Negative (September 5, 2018) at 3.

<sup>9</sup> S&P Global Ratings, Credit FAQ: Will California Still Have an Investment-Grade Investor-Owned Electric Utility? (February 19, 2019), *available at* [https://www.capitaliq.com/CIQDotNet/CreditResearch/RenderArticle.aspx?articleId=2168627&SctArtId=467165&from=CM&nsf\\_code=LIME&sourceObjectId=10866063&sourceRevId=14&fee\\_ind=N&exp\\_date=20290218-21:25:39](https://www.capitaliq.com/CIQDotNet/CreditResearch/RenderArticle.aspx?articleId=2168627&SctArtId=467165&from=CM&nsf_code=LIME&sourceObjectId=10866063&sourceRevId=14&fee_ind=N&exp_date=20290218-21:25:39).

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

1 **V. RESTORING CREDIT QUALITY IF WILDFIRE RISK IS NOT FULLY**  
2 **MITIGATED**

3 **Q. How would further agency rating downgrades affect SDG&E and its ratepayers?**

4 A. Further downgrades into the lower reaches of investment-grade ratings would allow the  
5 utility to continue to provide reliable service, but the cost of both debt and equity would  
6 rise in response to the higher risk. Also, inhabiting the space barely in the lowest  
7 investment-grade category would leave SDG&E vulnerable to disruptions such as  
8 economic and financial market crises. This is likely why the Commission has historically  
9 targeted ratings deeper into the investment-grade ratings spectrum.<sup>12</sup> For instance, short-  
10 term ratings associated with that level of credit quality make access to the low-cost  
11 commercial paper market more tenuous.

12 Utilities that fall into speculative grade are much costlier in terms of capital costs  
13 and liquidity. Very few U.S. utilities occupy these ratings strata. Those that do are  
14 usually there only temporarily due to unusual circumstances that are later resolved. To  
15 be consigned below investment grade ratings because of an inherent weakness in the  
16 regulatory environment that will subsist for an extended period would be unprecedented,  
17 in my view, and would expose SDG&E and other utilities in California to uncharted  
18 financial and operating challenges. Speculative-grade credit quality precludes some  
19 institutional investors from holding an issuer’s debt securities, which magnifies the cost  
20 of capital effects by limiting the potential pool of investors. Operationally, trade  
21 creditors and other counterparties often demand different terms for conducting business

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<sup>12</sup> See Decision (“D.”) 12-12-034 at 37 (maintaining that investment-grade creditworthiness is an “important component[] of the *Hope* and *Bluefield* decisions) (alteration in original); see also D.03-12-035 at 42 (“the cost of investment grade debt is considerably less . . . the lower cost of a utility’s debt translates into lower rates, all else being equal.”).

1 with a company that is not investment-grade. This raises the cost and availability of  
2 liquidity and working capital. For example, purchase power agreement (“PPA”)  
3 counterparties are likely to demand higher power prices to compensate for a lower-rated  
4 purchaser that imposes higher financing costs on the power project owner.

5 **Q. How can ratings be restored in the face of ongoing wildfire risk exposure for**  
6 **SDG&E?**

7 A. As described above, the ratings actions to date and the primary consequence of the  
8 proliferation of wildfire liability risk has been the changing perception of regulatory risk  
9 in California. As noted, credit analysis principles tell us that credit risk is primarily the  
10 product of two intersecting types of risk, business and financial. The roadmap to how  
11 those two factors interact, as well as how ancillary considerations factor into the analysis,  
12 is provided by the rating agency criteria and methodologies. While ratings are not solely  
13 a matter of assigning and changing scores, as I explained at the beginning of this  
14 testimony, the agency methodologies are a useful tool in discerning to what extent  
15 stronger financial performance can ameliorate the effect of wildfire liability risk. In this  
16 regard, I think the S&P methodology is the most transparent and user-friendly, so I will  
17 employ it to show a path toward the ‘A’ ratings that SDG&E once held.

18 **Q. Why should the ‘A’ category be targeted for SDG&E?**

19 A. As noted, the CPUC has historically supported a utility’s efforts to achieve and maintain  
20 ratings in the ‘A’ category.<sup>13</sup> As the testimony of Dr. Roger Morin states, a single  
21 A-rating for a utility results in the lowest cost of capital.<sup>14</sup> Dr. Morin demonstrates that  
22 the difference in costs between being a single A-rated and BBB-rated company is 50

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<sup>13</sup> See D.12-12-034 at 35; D.03-12-035 at 42.

<sup>14</sup> Prepared Direct Testimony of Roger A. Morin, Ph.D., Return on Equity (April 2019) (“Ex. SDG&E-04 (Morin)”) at 63-64.

1 basis points.<sup>15</sup> That means, for every \$100 million of bonds issued by a utility, the cost to  
2 ratepayers of being BBB instead of A-rated is \$10 million.<sup>16</sup> Additionally, those  
3 investors that are unable to participate in a speculative-grade utility’s debt offerings may  
4 be reticent about jumping back in if an issuer on the cusp is still susceptible to dipping  
5 back below the divide. Robust and steady access to all investors is key to managing the  
6 cost of capital.

7 **Q. How does the S&P methodology for utilities produce a rating?**

8 A. Referring to Exhibit TAS-3, attached hereto, which is a pictorial depiction of the analysis,  
9 I work from the upper right to the bottom of the chart to proceed through the analysis and  
10 identify those focus points that can be used to understand SDG&E’s credit ratings and  
11 how to achieve the targeted upgrades. The analysis begins at the broad country and  
12 industry level, which are not areas that can be altered here. The analysis next turns to the  
13 issuer, where the “competitive position” is derived from its business risk profile. When  
14 combined with the quantitatively-based financial risk profile, it produces an “anchor score”  
15 that forms the foundation for the basic rating profile of the issuer. Various modifiers can  
16 affect that score, including the commonly used and all-encompassing comparable ratings  
17 adjustment (“CRA”) modifier. Finally, the influence that a company’s ownership exerts  
18 on credit quality is incorporated into the analysis when it is part of a larger corporate  
19 family.

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<sup>15</sup> *Id.* at 64.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

1 **Q. What is SDG&E’s current credit profile according to the S&P methodology?**

2 A. With the recent downgrade, SDG&E’s business risk profile is assessed as “Strong,” and  
3 its financial risk profile as “Significant.” Those two scores result in an anchor score of  
4 ‘bbb’ (anchor scores are expressed in lower-case categories that correspond to the  
5 capitalized ratings scale). One modifier, the CRA, is employed to raise the stand-alone  
6 credit profile (“SACP”) to ‘bbb+’. The result is a basic rating, called by S&P an issuer  
7 credit rating (“ICR”), of ‘BBB+.’<sup>17</sup> The overall Sempra credit profile is at the same level  
8 as SDG&E’s rating, so it does not alter the utility’s ratings.

9 **Q. What is the requisite improvement in SDG&E’s credit metrics necessary to be**  
10 **credit supportive?**

11 A. As noted, a credit ratings assessment involves both a quantitative and qualitative  
12 assessment of business and financial risks. In other words, it is art as well as science.  
13 Nevertheless, there are certain means by which SDG&E can quantitatively lower its  
14 financial risk to be credit supportive. In my opinion, wildfire risk has impaired  
15 SDG&E’s business risk profile to an extent that a meaningful improvement in the  
16 financial risk profile would be required to restore ratings at or close to their former  
17 position in the “A” category. Financial metrics that support a solid position well within  
18 the next highest financial risk assessment – called “Intermediate” in the S&P lexicon –  
19 would support the ratings objective.

20 S&P looks at many credit metrics in the cash flow/leverage analysis that it bases  
21 the financial risk profile on. It communicates primarily through reference to what is  
22 called its “core” ratio of FFO-to-debt. That payback ratio, a measure of leverage, is the

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<sup>17</sup> S&P Global Ratings, San Diego Gas & Electric Co. Downgraded to ‘BBB+’, Outlook Remains Negative (January 21, 2019) at 3.

1 most prominent marker of financial risk cited by S&P, so I will use that as a gauge for the  
2 degree of financial improvement that I believe would be necessary for SDG&E to begin  
3 to restore its credit quality to the benefit of ratepayers. According to S&P, SDG&E's  
4 calendar-year 2018 adjusted FFO-to-debt was 19.84%. The metric has averaged about  
5 23% over the past three years. Using the financial benchmarks S&P applies to most  
6 utilities, including SDG&E, the midpoint of the FFO-to-debt range of 23%-to-35% in  
7 S&P's methodology is 29%. I believe getting above that midpoint would support  
8 improved credit ratings, so targeting above the mid-point to about 30% to 32% FFO-to-  
9 debt is a prudent course to take.

10 **Q. What does that imply in terms of SDG&E's profitability and returns?**

11 A. Raising the FFO-to-debt metric 100 basis points above the last-achieved figure – or 70  
12 basis points above the recent average – would imply much greater returns if profitability  
13 alone was the sole tool to execute the improvement. Turning again to S&P's published  
14 figures, SDG&E's FFO has averaged \$1.39 billion. Net income has averaged roughly  
15 \$550 million over the preceding three-years, with an average debt level of about \$6.1  
16 billion.

17 To reach a targeted metric result of 30%, SDG&E's would have to average about  
18 \$1.8 billion in FFO, and around \$720 million in net income, if its average contribution to  
19 FFO held steady over that time. As such, about a 300+ extra basis point return would be  
20 minimally necessary to start to achieve the ratings objectives laid out above. A more  
21 robust target that would better support restoring SDG&'s ratings is a metric midway  
22 between the midpoint and the top of the range – 32%. This implies a 400+ basis-point  
23 improvement.

1 **Q. Is that the only way the CPUC could support the restoration of ratings?**

2 A. No. As a practical matter, reinstating ratings to a more solid investment-grade level and  
3 eventually restoring them in the mid-“A” category will require sustained effort over a  
4 long-time frame and include more tools than only higher equity returns. Stronger balance  
5 sheets and ratesetting protocols that enhance profitability, cash flow, and cash-flow  
6 stability could also be part of a regulatory toolkit needed to address the goal. The  
7 Company will have to do its part to use the tools the CPUC can offer to follow through  
8 and affect the changes needed to restore credit quality. I singled out the issue of equity  
9 returns to highlight the magnitude of the task and quantify part of the costs that  
10 unmitigated wildfire risks have imposed on utilities and ratepayers.

11 **VI. CONCLUSIONS**

12 **Q. Please summarize your key conclusions.**

13 A. As the Commission has recognized, strong investment-grade credit ratings should be  
14 targeted by the Commission to support SDG&E’s ability to provide safe, reliable service  
15 at a reasonable cost to the benefit of its ratepayers. One way to support that goal is to  
16 authorize a return on equity that corresponds to SDG&E’s cost of capital that includes a  
17 risk premium for heightened wildfire risk as recommended by Messrs. Reed and Coyne  
18 (Ex. SDG&E-05, Ch. 1 (Concentric)). Their recommended risk premium is consistent  
19 with that I estimate would be required to restore SDG&E’s credit rating to a strong  
20 investment grade.

21 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

22 A. Yes. This concludes my prepared direct testimony.

1 **VII. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

2 See Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-1 for a full statement of qualifications.

**Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-1**  
**Résumé of Todd Shipman**

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**Todd Shipman, CFA**  
**Executive Advisor**

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Mr. Shipman has over 30 years of experience in utility regulation, utility credit analysis, consulting, and capital market strategies. He is an expert witness and specializes in credit rating advisory and hybrid securities. Mr. Shipman's breadth of experience, which extends from financial analysis to regulatory intervention to capital markets, allows him to effectively advise on many areas within the energy industry.

Mr. Shipman is an adjunct faculty member at Boston University, where he teaches advanced undergraduate finance courses that cover capital markets, economic policy, and corporate finance.

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**PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

**Concentric Energy Advisors**

Executive Advisors 2018 - Present

**Boston University Boston, MA**

Lecturer January 2017 - Present

Adjunct faculty member in the Questrom School of Business, Department of Finance and Economics. Teach advanced undergraduate finance courses that cover capital markets, economic policy, and corporate finance.

**S&P Global Ratings New York, NY, and Boston, MA**

Senior Director April 2014 - May 2018

Director April 2000 - April 2014

Associate Director March 1997 - April 2000

Sector Specialist on the Global Infrastructure Ratings North American Utilities team. Performed credit surveillance of utilities, pipelines, midstream energy, and diversified energy companies. Chaired most team rating committees. Wrote credit reports and commentaries and led outreach efforts to investors and the regulatory community, including speeches and training seminars. Lead analytical role developing global rating criteria for utilities, master limited partnerships, and hybrid capital securities.

**Electric Utility Research Inc (defunct), San Francisco, CA**

Senior Vice President May 1996 - March 1997

Edited and contributed to an investor newsletter covering the electric utility industry.

**Sithe Energies Inc. New York, NY**

Manager, Regulatory Affairs November 1993 - May 1996

Managed state regulatory matters for a major independent power company. Coordinated interventions in regulatory proceedings. Assisted in identifying development opportunities. Participated in investor relations activities.

**Regulatory Research Associates Jersey City, NJ**

Vice President October 1993 - November 1993

Senior Analyst August 1989 - October 1993

Analyst August 1985 - August 1989

Analyzed and reported on actions by state regulators affecting the financial status of electric, gas, and telephone utilities for a firm that provided research to the Wall St. community. Contributed to the firm's sell-side research.

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**EDUCATION**

J.D., Texas Tech University School of Law, Lubbock, TX May 1984

B.B.A., Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX May 1981

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**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Chartered Financial Analyst

Wall Street Utility Group

Fixed Income Analysts Society Inc

Society of Utility and Regulatory Financial Analysts

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**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

President, Board of Directors, The Good Shepherd School, Charlestown, MA

**Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-2**  
**Ratings Scales**

**EXHIBIT SDG&E-TAS-2**

**RATINGS SCALES**

Characterization of debt and issuer (source: Moody's)	Rating	
	S&P	Moody's
Highest quality	AAA	Aaa
High quality	AA+	Aa1
	AA	Aa2
	AA-	Aa3
Strong payment capacity	A+	A1
	A	A2
	A-	A3
Adequate payment capacity	BBB+	Baa1
	BBB	Baa2
	BBB-	Baa3
Likely to fulfil obligations, ongoing uncertainty	BB+	Ba1
	BB	Ba2
	BB-	Ba3
High credit risk	B+	B1
	B	B2
	B-	B3
Very high credit risk	CCC+	Caa1
	CCC	Caa2
	CCC-	Caa3
Near default with possibility of recovery	CC	Ca
Default	SD	C
	D	

**Exhibit SDG&E-TAS-3**

**Issuer Credit Rating**

## Issuer Credit Rating

