

Docket: : A.14-11-012  
Exhibit Number : \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner : Michel P. Florio  
Admin. Law Judge : Regina DeAngelis  
ORA Project Mgr. : Zita Kline  
:  
ORA Witnesses : Rosanne O'Hara  
Sudheer Gokhale



**OFFICE OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES  
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**(SECOND AMENDED)  
TESTIMONY ON SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON  
COMPANY'S (U 338-E) APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF  
THE RESULTS OF ITS 2013 LOCAL CAPACITY  
REQUIREMENTS REQUEST FOR OFFERS FOR THE  
WESTERN LOS ANGELES BASIN**

**[PUBLIC VERSION]**

San Francisco, California  
April 21, 2015

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**List of ORA Witnesses and Respective Chapters**

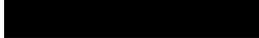
<b>Chapter Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Witness</b>
1	Introduction	Zita Kline
2	The price terms and conditions of SCE's Demand Response contracts are unreasonable (Scoping Memo Issue 4a).	Sudheer Gokhale
3	The use of BUGs to provide Demand Response is inconsistent with the CPUC's policy on back-up generation (Scoping Memo Issue 4b).	Sudheer Gokhale
4	SCE's Demand Response contracts are vulnerable to derating (Scoping Memo Issue 4c).	Sudheer Gokhale
5	The 100 MW Cap on in-front of the meter energy storage is unreasonable (Scoping Memo Issue 4d).	Rosanne O'Hara

1 **CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION**

2 Witness: Zita Kline

3 On November 21, 2014, Southern California Edison Company (“SCE”) filed its  
4 *Application of SCE (U 338 E) for Approval of the Results of Its 2013 Local Capacity*  
5 *Requirements (LCR) Request for Offers (RFO) for the Western Los Angeles Basin*, Application  
6 (A.) 14-11-012 (Application) and concurrently submitted Prepared Testimony<sup>1</sup> in support of the  
7 Application. On January 12, 2015, the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) filed a Protest to  
8 the Application. ORA respectfully urges the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to  
9 either deny certain contracts in the Application or deny the Application without prejudice “as an  
10 unreasonable means to meet the 1,900 to 2,500 MW of identified LCR need determined by  
11 D.13-02-015 and D.14-03-04” (Scoping Memo Issue 4).<sup>2</sup> ORA recommends:

- 12 - The terms and conditions of the Demand Response (DR) contracts  
13 are unreasonable (Scoping Memo Issue 4a) and should be modified  
14 as discussed below;
- 15 - The use of fossil fuel based back-up generators (BUGs) to provide  
16 DR is inconsistent with the CPUC’s policy on BUGs (Scoping  
17 Memo Issue 4b) and DR contracts that use BUGs to provide DR  
18 should be denied;
- 19 - The DR contracts are vulnerable to derating (Scoping Memo Issue  
20 4c) and should be modified as discussed below; and
- 21 - SCE’s RFO process arbitrarily limited in-front of the meter  
22 (IFOM) energy storage (ES) resources with a 100 MW  
23 procurement cap (100 MW IFOM ES cap) (Scoping Memo  
24 Issue 4d). ORA recommends removing this cap because it  
25 results in the inclusion of unreasonable offers and the  
26 exclusion of reasonable alternatives. ORA also recommends

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<sup>1</sup> Testimony of SCE (U 338-E) on the results of its 2013 Local Capacity Requirements Request for Offers (LCR RFO) for the Moorpark Sub-Area (“Prepared Testimony”), November 26, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Assigned Commissioner’s Ruling and Scoping Memo for the Application of Southern California Edison Company (U338E) for Approval of the Results of Its 2013 Local Capacity Requirements Request for Offers for the Western Los Angeles Basin (Scoping Memo), March 5, 2015, p. 4.

- 1 Chapter 2 discusses the reasonableness of terms and conditions for the DR contracts. Chapter 3
- 2 discusses the consistency of DR contracts with the CPUC's policy on backup generation.
- 3 Chapter 4 discusses the vulnerability of DR contracts to derating. Chapter 5 discusses the
- 4 unreasonableness of the 100 MW IFOM ES cap.
- 5

1                   **CHAPTER 2. THE DR CONTRACT’S TERMS AND CONDITIONS**  
2                   **ARE UNREASONABLE AND ORA RECOMMENDS SEVERAL**  
3                   **CHANGES TO THE DR CONTRACTS.**

4                   Witness: Sudheer Gokhale

5                   The terms and conditions of the DR LCR contracts insufficiently protect SCE ratepayers  
6 from potential under or non-performance of NRG’s DR contracts. In the Application SCE states  
7 that the DR contract for the LCR RFO is based largely on SCE’s current Aggregator Managed  
8 Portfolio (“AMP”) contracts.<sup>3</sup> ORA identified multiple issues with the terms of the AMP  
9 program contracts that persist with DR contracts in this proceeding (Offers 447200 – 447205 and  
10 447250).<sup>4</sup> Here, ORA provides specific recommendations to improve the performance of these  
11 contracts.

- 12                   • The DR service provider (“Seller”) Should provide a list of participating accounts to support  
13                   at least 50% of contract capacity for the month.
- 14                   • SCE should pay for capacity based on all event hours during a month instead of the average  
15                   Best-Performing Hours.
- 16                   • SCE should modify the contract’s default provisions to motivate performance and to help  
17                   ensure participating accounts provide at least 50% of their contract capacity for each month.
- 18                   • SCE should be required to conduct a test event within the first month to verify a contract’s  
19                   available capacity.
- 20                   • SCE should revise the terms of the Seller Dispatch provision to require SCE to call the event  
21                   within a 30 day period.
- 22                   • SCE should clarify that the contracts are categorized as Supply DR resources under the  
23                   CPUC’s bifurcation categories.
- 24                   • SCE should modify their contracts to prohibit dual participation of other DR programs with  
25                   contracts.

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<sup>3</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 69.

<sup>4</sup> These Offer numbers were designated by SCE.

1 **A. THE SELLER SHOULD PROVIDE A LIST OF PARTICIPATING ACCOUNTS**  
2 **THAT CAN SUPPORT AT LEAST 50% OF THE CONTRACT CAPACITY FOR**  
3 **THE MONTH**

4 In 2014, several of SCE’s AMP contracts demonstrated that they had 0 MWs of  
5 customers.<sup>5</sup> [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]<sup>6</sup> [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]<sup>7</sup> ORA is concerned that the current SCE LCR RFO  
8 contracts could fail to achieve the goals of the RFO in avoiding procurement<sup>8</sup> if the Seller  
9 provides no customers, as discussed further in Chapter IV.

10 The contract terms in the Application similarly state that the Seller shall provide a list of  
11 “participating accounts” (i.e. customers) each operating month that will constitute the DR  
12 resource for that month.<sup>9</sup> The performance of the participating accounts is used to determine  
13 capacity and energy payments.<sup>10</sup> Similar to prior AMP contracts, if the Seller performs poorly, it  
14 faces no capacity penalty but may have an energy penalty. However, if the Seller provides no  
15 participating accounts for that month, it faces no energy penalties. SCE has stated that it is  
16 technically feasible for the DR contracts submitted in the Application to provide no participating  
17 accounts.<sup>11</sup>

18 ORA recommends that a default provision be added to Section 8 of the contracts stating  
19 that the Seller must have participating accounts in each month that are capable of providing at

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<sup>5</sup> Resolution E-4695, p. 11.

<sup>6</sup> November 25, 2014, Confidential Data Request Response R.13-09-011 DR OIR-ORA-SCE-04  
Question 3, included as Attachment 2.1.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> D.13-02-015, OP 4(g) “Provisions designed to be consistent with the Loading Order approved by the  
Commission in the Energy Action Plan and to pursue all cost-effective preferred resources in meeting  
local capacity needs.”

<sup>9</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms, Section 1.5(c).

<sup>10</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms, Section 3.2 and 3.3.

<sup>11</sup> February 11, 2015, Data Request Response SET A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-005,  
Question 6. Included as Attachment 2-2.

1 least 50% of the contracted capacity.<sup>12</sup> ORA’s Attachment 2-3 includes recommended redlines  
2 to the pro forma contract on this issue and other issues discussed within this testimony. The 50%  
3 is consistent with default provisions in Section 8.1(b) of the DR contract which requires 50%  
4 capacity to be delivered in three consecutive months or the contract would subject to default.<sup>13</sup>  
5 This default provision would penalize the Seller for failing to recruit and nominate participating  
6 accounts.

7 **B. SCE SHOULD MODIFY ITS CONTRACT TO REQUIRE PAYMENT FOR**  
8 **CAPACITY BASED ON ALL EVENT HOURS DURING A MONTH INSTEAD OF**  
9 **THE AVERAGE BEST-PERFORMING HOUR.**

10 ORA has previously expressed concerns regarding whether DR contract terms motivate  
11 the aggregators to provide a response for all hours of DR events and all events in a month.<sup>14</sup>  
12 Terms that calculate payments based on the best performing hour allow the Seller to simply  
13 provide a good response in one hour but the terms provide no incentive for the Seller to produce  
14 a consistent response across all hours.

15 The DR contracts in the Application determine payment based on calculations of  
16 performance in each Sub-Load Aggregation Point (SLAP). They add the performance in each  
17 SLAP to arrive at the calculation of performance for the entire portfolio of the contract.<sup>15</sup>  
18 Section 3.2 of the standard language in the DR contracts specifies that the calculations of  
19 performance are based on the average of each SLAP’s *best* performing hour rather than all hours  
20 of each SLAP. For example, if a SLAP is called for multiple events in a month, only the best  
21 performing hour in each event would be averaged to determine the performance of the contract  
22 in that SLAP for that month. SCE would not consider poor performance across the other hours in  
23 these events to determine capacity payments.

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<sup>12</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms, Section 1.5(c) the list of participating accounts the Seller shall provide to SCE includes an estimate of the total load drop capacity of the participating accounts.

<sup>13</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms Section 8.1(b)(ii): “during the Delivery Period, the measured Total Recorded Capacity is less than or equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Contract Capacity for three consecutive months during which Full-Portfolio Dispatches have occurred.”

<sup>14</sup> March 3, 2014, ORA Comments on Proposals for Revisions to Demand Response Program for Bridge Fund Years, p. 4-5.

<sup>15</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms Section 3.2(c).

1 SCE claimed it remedied the LCR DR contract by the use of the average resource  
2 performance across the entire month to establish payment amounts.<sup>16</sup> Although this addresses the  
3 issue ORA raised with SCE’s AMP contracts regarding the Seller’s ability to receive full  
4 payment based on a single test event even if it performed poorly during rest of the month, it still  
5 fails to incent performance across all event hours during the month.

6 SCE should modify its contract to require payment for capacity based on all event hours  
7 during a month and not just based on the average of the best performing hour for each event in  
8 each SLAP. To assure performance in all event hours is also consistent with the CPUC’s  
9 resource adequacy (RA) requirement that specifies that DR needs to perform a minimum of 24  
10 hours a month and 4 hours per day for three consecutive days to receive RA credit.<sup>17</sup>

11 **C. MODIFY THE CONTRACT DEFAULT PROVISIONS TO MOTIVATE PERFORMANCE AND**  
12 **TO HELP ENSURE PARTICIPATING ACCOUNTS PROVIDE AT LEAST 50% OF THEIR**  
13 **CONTRACT CAPACITY FOR EACH MONTH.**

14 Section 8.1 (b) of the DR contact specifies that Sellers will default on the contract if they  
15 deliver less than 50% of contract capacity for three consecutive months during which Full-  
16 Portfolio Dispatches<sup>18</sup> occur.<sup>19</sup> ORA is concerned that this default provision is too easy to avoid.  
17 The Seller could simply provide a response for every third month to avoid default. Additionally,  
18 if SCE only calls a few specific SLAPs in a given month rather than the full portfolio, even with  
19 poor performance that drops the total recorded capacity to less than 50% of the contract capacity,  
20 the default provision would not be met because it was not the Full-Portfolio Dispatch required  
21 under the default provision.

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<sup>16</sup> A.14-11-012 SCE’s Reply to Protests, p.9.

<sup>17</sup> CPUC Resource Adequacy requirements for DR (per 2015 Final RA Guide (DOCX) 9/10/2014:  
[http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/70C64A46-89DE-4D90-83AB-93  
FD840B4251/0/Final2015RAGuide.docx](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/70C64A46-89DE-4D90-83AB-93FD840B4251/0/Final2015RAGuide.docx)).

<sup>18</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms Definitions “Full-Portfolio Dispatch” means a Dispatch or Seller Dispatch of all Participating Accounts submitted and verified pursuant to Section 1.5 for a given Operating Month.

<sup>19</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms Section 8.1(b)(ii) – “during the Delivery Period, the measured Total Recorded Capacity is less than or equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Contract Capacity for three consecutive months during which Full-Portfolio Dispatches have occurred.”

1 While SCE states that the new requirement in its contracts for posting collateral will  
2 “motivate Sellers to perform at levels promised in their contracts,”<sup>20</sup> motivation for the Seller to  
3 perform is dependent on utility administration. If the utility is aware of issues with contracts but  
4 does not take action to resolve them, there is no real consequence to the Seller. In 2014, SCE was  
5 aware that multiple AMP contracts had no participating accounts for several months.<sup>21</sup> SCE had  
6 the ability to terminate these AMP contracts by calling and demonstrating that these contracts  
7 could not perform for consecutive months, but SCE did not call events and therefore the  
8 contract’s default provisions were not applied.<sup>22</sup>

9 The default provision should be modified to make it more likely to motivate performance.  
10 ORA proposes the default provision, “during the Delivery Period, the measured Total Recorded  
11 Capacity is less than or equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Contract Capacity for three  
12 consecutive months during which Dispatches have occurred.” This, in addition to the default  
13 provision discussed in Section 2.A of this testimony will help ensure there are at least enough  
14 participating accounts that can be expected to provide 50% of the Contract Capacity each month.

15 **D. SCE SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONDUCT A TEST EVENT WITHIN THE**  
16 **FIRST MONTH OF A CONTRACT TO VERIFY A CONTRACT’S AVAILABLE**  
17 **CAPACITY**

18 Under the contract terms, Sellers can receive full payments based on contract capacity  
19 before any events are called if the availability of capacity is not verified at the onset of the  
20 contract delivery month.<sup>23</sup> Therefore, ORA recommends a test event within the first month of the  
21 contract to verify a contract’s available capacity. The CPUC recognized ORA’s concern and  
22 adopted this testing requirement for SCE’s 2015-2016 AMP contracts in Resolution E-4695.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> SCE’s Reply, p. 9.

<sup>21</sup> September 17, 2014, Supplemental Response of the Office of Ratepayer Advocates to Southern California Edison Company’s Re-Negotiated Aggregator Managed Portfolio Program Contracts in Compliance With Decision 14-05-025. (AL 3078-E), p. 3-5.

<sup>22</sup> SCE AMP contract Article 10: Events of Default; Termination.

<sup>23</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms, Section 3.2(a). “Before the first Full-Portfolio Dispatch is performed during the Delivery Period, the Delivered Capacity Payment shall equal the applicable Contract Capacity times the applicable Capacity Rate.”

<sup>24</sup> Resolution E-4695, p. 15.

1 It should similarly be applied to these contracts. ORA recommends the addition of an obligatory  
2 test event within the first month of the contract.

3 **E. SCE SHOULD REVISE THE TERMS OF THE SELLER DISPATCH**  
4 **PROVISION TO REQUIRE SCE TO CALL THE EVENT WITHIN A 30 DAY**  
5 **PERIOD**

6 The DR contracts allow the Sellers to set a three-day period in which SCE must call an  
7 event, called a “Seller Dispatch.” SCE adjusts the Total Recorded Capacity<sup>25</sup> used to determine  
8 payments based on the Seller Dispatch.<sup>26</sup> The terms of the Seller Dispatch provide SCE  
9 discretion over when to call events but are not consistent with an actual dispatch event, which is  
10 called with at most 24 hour notice. Allowing the Seller to specify a short three day period during  
11 which the Seller knows an event will be called by SCE casts doubt on whether the Seller would  
12 perform equally well when SCE called an actual dispatch event.

13 ORA objects to the Seller Dispatch terms because they allow Sellers to game the system  
14 by knowing the exact three-day period in which an event will occur. As such the Seller will be  
15 able to prepare participants for the three-day period in advance so that the Seller can plan to meet  
16 their contracted capacity. Seller Dispatch event conditions should mimic actual dispatch  
17 conditions as much as possible. ORA recommends that SCE revise the terms of the Seller  
18 Dispatch provision to allow Sellers to request an event but require SCE to determine when the  
19 event occurs. ORA also recommends that SCE commit to call the event within 30 days of the  
20 request to deter the Seller’s opportunity for gaming.

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<sup>25</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms Section 3.2(c) “The “Total Recorded Capacity” for any particular Operating Month shall equal (i) if a Full-Portfolio Dispatch has occurred in such Operating Month, the sum of each SLAP’s Average Best-Performing SLAP Hour for such Operating Month, and (ii) if a Full-Portfolio Dispatch does not occur in such Operating Month, subject to Section 3.2(a), the “Total Recorded Capacity” for such Operating Month shall equal the “Total Recorded Capacity” which was calculated with respect to the most recent Operating Month during which a Full-Portfolio Dispatch occurred.”

<sup>26</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms Section 3.2.

1 **F. SCE SHOULD CLARIFY THAT THE CONTRACTS ARE CATEGORIZED AS**  
2 **SUPPLY DR RESOURCES UNDER THE CPUC’S BIFURCATION**  
3 **CATEGORIES AND MEET ALL CPUC AND CAISO REQUIREMENTS FOR**  
4 **RECEIVING RA AND LTPP CREDITS AS A SUPPLY DR RESOURCE**

5 In Decision (“D.”) 14-03-026 the CPUC determined that all DR programs will be  
6 bifurcated into either Supply DR resources or Load-modifying DR resources.<sup>27</sup> In D.14-12-024,  
7 the CPUC determined that the bifurcation shall be implemented beginning in 2018.<sup>28</sup> D.14-12-  
8 024 ruled that only Supply resources that are integrated into CAISO’s energy markets will count  
9 towards meeting the RA requirement while Load-modifying resources will need to meet the RA  
10 rules to reduce to RA requirement.<sup>29</sup> Although the Application does not state if these contracts  
11 will be Supply DR or Load-modifying DR, it appears from the RA Benefit provisions of the  
12 contracts that they are meant to meet all the compliance obligations to receive RA credit.<sup>30</sup> ORA  
13 recommends that SCE clarify that the contracts are categorized as Supply DR resources under  
14 the CPUC’s bifurcation categories and meet all CPUC and CAISO requirements for receiving  
15 RA and LTPP credits as a Supply DR resource.

16 **G. SCE SHOULD MODIFY THEIR CONTRACTS TO PROHIBIT DUAL**  
17 **PARTICIPATION OF OTHER DR PROGRAMS WITH CONTRACTS**

18 The CPUC allows dual participation in both energy and a capacity DR programs. Energy  
19 programs only provide energy payments whereas capacity programs can provide both capacity  
20 and energy payments because they require a commitment from the participant. Dual participation  
21 is not allowed for two capacity programs in order to avoid paying twice for the same capacity.  
22 For example, a customer in the Base Interruptible Program (“BIP”, a capacity program) could

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<sup>27</sup> D.14-03-026, p. 28.

<sup>28</sup> D.14-12-024, p. 84.

<sup>29</sup> *Id.*

<sup>30</sup> DR Pro Forma Contract Terms, Section 5.1(a). “Seller grants, pledges, assigns, and otherwise commits to SCE the full Contract Capacity of the DR Resource and all Resource Adequacy Benefits associated with the DR Resource in order for SCE to meet its Compliance Obligations. The Parties shall take all actions (including amending this Agreement and complying with all current and future CAISO Tariff provisions and decisions of the Commission, CAISO, and or any other Governmental Body that address resource adequacy performance obligations and penalties), and execute all documents or instruments necessary, to effect the use of the Resource Adequacy Benefits of the DR Resource for SCE’s sole benefit throughout the Delivery Period.”

1 also participate in the Demand Bidding Program (“DBP”), an energy program. Section 1.5(d) of  
2 the contract describes rules for dual participation of the contracts with SCE’s current DR  
3 programs.<sup>31</sup> However, the CPUC’s direct participation rules prohibit any dual participation of  
4 customers participating in CAISO’s market, consistent with CAISO’s resource registration rules.  
5 Rule 24, which addresses direct participation in the CAISO’s market, states that, “Non-Utility  
6 DRPs<sup>32</sup> are also prohibited from enrolling and registering a customer service account in DR  
7 Services if the customer is already enrolled in a SCE’s event-based demand response program.”<sup>33</sup>  
8 Also, according to Decision 12-11-025, Ordering Paragraph (“OP”) 8: “Demand response  
9 providers are prohibited from enrolling customers in a demand response service where the load is  
10 bid into the California Independent System Operator’s market if that customer is already enrolled  
11 in a Utility event-based demand response program.” Therefore, SCE should modify its contracts  
12 to clarify that any dual participation is prohibited.

13 **H. NRG CONTRACT 447250 SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO PROHIBIT**  
14 **THE USE OF BUGS.**

15 In SCE’s testimony SCE states that NRG contract 447250 provides load reduction by  
16 curtailing customer energy consumption.<sup>34</sup> However, this curtailment could also be delivered  
17 through the use of BUGs. As discussed later, the use of BUGs to provide or enable DR that  
18 qualifies for RA credits is not allowed under the CPUC’s policy on such use and the DR contract  
19 terms should not remain ambiguous. Therefore, ORA recommends inclusion of the following  
20 term in SCE’s NRG contracts: “Seller will represent and warrant that none of its contracts use  
21 fossil fueled BUGs to provide or enable demand response load reduction.”  
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<sup>31</sup> DR Pro Forma Contracts Section 1.5(d) “Dual Participation. Seller may not identify Customers that participate in other demand response program as a Recruited Account or Participating Account, unless such Customer is in a Dual Participation Program. Additionally, Customers that are enrolled in the Capacity Bidding Program may also be a Recruited Account or Participating Account; provided, during any Operating Month under this Agreement the Customer is a Participating Account they do not place a bid into the Capacity Bidding Program for that month.”

<sup>32</sup> Demand Response Providers.

<sup>33</sup> PG&E Advice letter 4298-E (October 10, 2013), p. 9D6-10D6 (Electric Rule 24, Section C.2.d); *see also* D. 12-11-025, Decision Adopting Policies for Demand Response Participation.

<sup>34</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 70.



1 Additionally, in D.06-11-049 the CPUC found in Finding of Fact (“FOF”) 26 at p. 69, “Our  
2 objective in funding demand response programs is to reduce system demand, not to substitute  
3 system electricity with electricity generated by off-grid natural gas facilities.”

4 More recently, in D.14-12-024, OP 10, the CPUC made a broad policy statement on the  
5 use of BUGs in DR: “Fossil-fueled back-up generation is antithetical to the efforts of the Energy  
6 Action Plan and the Loading Order.” In OP 11, the CPUC explicitly prohibited the use of BUGs  
7 in DR that receives resource adequacy credits such as would be sought for SCE’s NRG contracts  
8 in this RFO: “It is reasonable to adopt as a policy statement that fossil-fuel emergency back-up  
9 generation resources should not be allowed as part of a demand response program for resource  
10 adequacy purposes, subject to rules adopted in future resource adequacy proceedings.”

11 **B. THE CPUC SHOULD REJECT SCE’S ARGUMENTS THAT THE CPUC’S**  
12 **CURRENT POLICY ALLOWS THE USE OF BUGS IN DR**

13 SCE argues that until the CPUC makes a final determination in Rulemaking  
14 (“R.”)13-09-011 on the issue of whether it is prudent to allow the use of backup generation in  
15 DR programs, it is premature and improper to reject these contracts.<sup>36</sup> However, SCE ignores  
16 that the CPUC has *already* determined that fossil-fuel emergency back-up generation resources  
17 should not be allowed as part of a DR program for *RA* purposes and what remains is simply  
18 reflecting this policy in the next RA proceeding. SCE ignores the CPUC’s direction on this issue  
19 and wants the ratepayers to take the risk that these contracts may not receive any RA credit. The  
20 value of the RA credit is the very foundation for having these contracts in the first place. This is  
21 especially galling given the term of these contracts extend all the way to 2026 and the next RA  
22 proceeding may ban the use of BUGs for RA purposes in DR programs even before these  
23 contracts begin in 2017. Therefore, the CPUC should reject SCE’s arguments that the record is  
24 insufficient to make a determination of whether it is prudent to prohibit the use of backup  
25 generation in demand response programs at this time.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> *Id.*

<sup>37</sup> SCE’s Reply, p. 7.

1 **C. NRG OFFERS 447200-447205 SHOULD BE REJECTED BECAUSE THEY**  
2 **ARE BASED ON THE USE OF BUGS**

3 D.14-12-024 demonstrates the CPUC’s concern that BUGs may be participating in DR.

4 It orders the collection of information on the extent of the use of BUGs in the current DR  
5 programs so the CPUC has information on that usage before those DR programs are modified.<sup>38</sup>  
6 However, in *this* Application there is no ambiguity about the extent of use of BUGs in NRG  
7 contracts (447200-447205). Even SCE stated that for DR contracts based on offers 447200-  
8 447205, backup generators *would* serve the customer’s load while reducing the amount of energy  
9 served by the grid.<sup>39</sup> In fact, SCE differentiates these contracts from its only one other contract –  
10 NRG offer 447250, which is based on providing DR by *curtailing* customers’ energy use.<sup>40</sup>  
11 There is simply no ambiguity about whether customers would be using BUGs in contract offers  
12 447200-447205. They would. There is, therefore, no need to collect information on the use of  
13 BUGs to determine if they will be used as part of DR in *these* NRG contracts. SCE’s testimony  
14 is clear that that DR provided in NRG’s contract offers 447200-447205 is entirely based on the  
15 use of BUGs.

16 SCE’s demand response contracts based on NRG offers 447200-447205 are inconsistent  
17 with the CPUC’s policy on the use of BUGs in DR that receives RA credits and should be  
18 rejected.

19 **D. DR CONTRACTS USING BUGS ARE NOT PREFERRED RESOURCES AND**  
20 **CANNOT BE RECLASSIFIED AS DISTRIBUTED GENERATION (DG)**  
21 **CONTRACTS.**

22 In its reply to Sierra Club’s protest, SCE argues that NRG DR contracts 447200-447205  
23 do not need to qualify as DR to qualify as Preferred Resources. SCE states that these projects  
24 are distributed generation (DG) projects and DG projects qualify as Preferred Resources.<sup>41</sup> SCE  
25 is wrong. Although the BUGs used in these contracts are physically distributed in a way similar  
26 to DG, they are not considered DG under the State’s Energy Action Plan II (EAP II). EAP II

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<sup>38</sup> In D.14-12-024, OP 14 requires collection of information about hourly usage of the customer’s back-up generator and mapping the information against demand response events and load reductions.

<sup>39</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 70.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.*

<sup>41</sup> SCE’s Reply, pp. 7-8.

1 distinguished clean and efficient fossil-fired generation from DG in its loading order and should  
2 not be listed as a preferred resource.<sup>42</sup> BUGs used in the Application would be considered fossil-  
3 fired generation and not DG resources under EAP II. Also, as noted earlier, in D.06-11-049 the  
4 CPUC has already rejected PG&E's request to initiate a BUGs-based DR program. Finally, if  
5 SCE wanted these BUGs-based contracts to qualify as DG, SCE should have presented them as  
6 such and not seek CPUC approval on an ad-hoc basis. Therefore, the CPUC should reject SCE's  
7 attempts to gain CPUC approval for contracts 447200-447205 as DG preferred resources.  
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<sup>42</sup> EAP II, p. 2. September 21, 2005, "To the extent [energy] efficiency, demand response, renewable resources, and distributed generation are unable to satisfy increasing energy and capacity needs, we support clean and efficient fossil-fired generation."





1 output of the model is the optimal operation and revenue earned by using the IFOM ES projects  
2 to arbitrage prices through time based on SCE’s forecast of market conditions.<sup>49</sup>

3 In addition to the quantitative component of the LCR RFO evaluation process, SCE  
4 conducted a qualitative analysis of each project. SCE had IFOM ES qualitative concerns that  
5 resulted in SCE’s decision to impose a 100 MW cap on the resource. These concerns included:

- 6 • The costs for necessary upgrades for ES charging;
- 7 • Unknown IFOM ES discharging and charging tariff details;
- 8 • Uncertainty around the interconnection of IFOM ES and how IFOM  
9 ES will actually participate in CAISO markets; and
- 10 • The additional risk for potential capital lease accounting and higher  
11 amounts of debt equivalence due to the possible inflated valuation of  
12 AS revenue for IFOM ES resources.<sup>50</sup>

13 SCE’s uncertainty around the interconnection and market profitability of IFOM ES led  
14 SCE to assume that its IFOM ES valuation results may be higher than what will be achieved.<sup>51</sup>

15 As such, SCE chose to limit the amount of procurement of IFOM ES in its optimization by  
16 imposing a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES. [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED].<sup>52</sup> Therefore, SCE’s imposition of the 100 MW cap is based  
18 purely on qualitative factors.

19 **B. SCE’S 100 MW CAP ON IFOM ES IS ARBITRARY**

20 Based on IFOM ES’ nascent character, lack of historical participation in AS markets, and  
21 possible interconnection and market participation uncertainty, SCE assigned a 100 MW cap on  
22 IFOM ES procurement for its LCR RFO selection. SCE lacks a reasonable basis for imposing  
23 the 100 MW cap on IFOM ES. While SCE considered these risks as “qualitative concerns,” they  
24 are more properly characterized as “costs” since the uncertainty SCE points to concerns cost  
25 impacts.<sup>53</sup> As such, SCE should have articulated and justified these cost constraints in SCE’s

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<sup>49</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 43.

<sup>50</sup> SCE Testimony, pp. 16 and 53.

<sup>51</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 53.

<sup>52</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 62.

<sup>53</sup> For instance, higher debt equivalence could lead to a lower credit rating, which in turn could make

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1 contract cost evaluation. SCE failed to propose parameters or probabilities for the cost impacts  
2 that uncertainty from interconnection, tariff treatment, treatment in the AS markets, and debt  
3 equivalence will have on IFOM ES costs or benefits. Also, SCE failed to identify incremental  
4 risks associated with uncertainty that warrants a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES as opposed to a lower  
5 cap. As such, choosing to cap IFOM ES without a quantifiable showing of how this constraint  
6 leads to a least cost, best fit solution is arbitrary.

7 1. SCE failed to substantiate its concern regarding  
8 interconnection uncertainty

9 SCE failed to qualify why uncertainty regarding how IFOM ES will interconnect  
10 weighed heavily enough to warrant a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES. In particular, SCE points to  
11 potential transmission upgrade<sup>54</sup> and interconnection costs,<sup>55</sup> the application of the CAISO's  
12 Transmission Access Charge (TAC),<sup>56</sup> and IFOM ES' tariff treatment<sup>57</sup> as barriers to IFOM ES  
13 project procurement. SCE failed to substantiate these concerns because: 1) SCE failed to  
14 quantify how the risk of excessive and unknown transmission upgrade costs would impact  
15 overall costs or how a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES would alleviate this risk; 2) IFOM ES  
16 Developers, not SCE, bear the risk of higher than anticipated interconnection costs; 3) the  
17 CAISO does not apply a TAC to ES; and 4) SCE's concern regarding uncertainty related to  
18 SCE's Rule 21, the Wholesale Distribution Access Tariff, or the Transmission Owner Tariff  
19 interconnection processes is unwarranted. As such, SCE's 100 MW cap on IFOM ES is  
20 unjustified.

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borrowing capital more costly for the utility and ratepayers.

<sup>54</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 16.

<sup>55</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 53.

<sup>56</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 16.

<sup>57</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 16.

1 a. SCE failed to quantify how the risk of excessive and  
2 unknown transmission upgrade costs would impact  
3 costs overall or how a 100 MW cap would alleviate  
4 this risk

5 SCE cites to IFOM ES procurement challenges that include uncertainties surrounding the  
6 costs associated with “necessary upgrades for the charging of ES.”<sup>58</sup> Nevertheless, SCE’s choice  
7 to cap IFOM ES procurement is not justified in light of the absence of quantitative cost impacts  
8 from this uncertainty.

9 SCE did not quantify how the risk of excessive and unknown transmission upgrade costs  
10 would impact costs overall. As elaborated by SCE in its response to an ORA’s Data Request,  
11 SCE did not require ES bidders to have interconnection studies initiated or completed for

12 [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]<sup>60</sup> [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]<sup>61</sup> [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]<sup>62</sup>  
19 [REDACTED]  
20 [REDACTED]

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<sup>58</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 16.

<sup>59</sup> February 20, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 03a, attached here as Attachment 5-1. [REDACTED]

<sup>60</sup> [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] February 20, 2015 Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 03a.

<sup>61</sup> February 20, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 01b(i), attached here as Attachment 5-2.

<sup>62</sup> February 20, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 01b(i).

1 [REDACTED]

2 [REDACTED]

3 [REDACTED]<sup>63</sup> [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]<sup>64</sup> Rather than resorting to an arbitrary cap because of “unknowns,” SCE  
5 could have developed parameters for interconnection costs by considering existing transmission  
6 connections and load on the circuit when evaluating IFOM ES offers. From SCE’s testimony  
7 and data request responses, it is unclear whether resource characteristics, i.e. substation location,  
8 cannot be the sole factor providing the risk mitigation SCE is seeking. It is even less clear why a  
9 100 MW cap, as opposed to, say a 150 MW or 200 MW, provides the level of risk mitigation  
10 SCE is seeking since SCE has not articulated the incremental risks between varying MW  
11 constraints on IFOM ES.

12 b. IFOM ES Developers, not SCE, bear the risk of higher  
13 than anticipated interconnection costs

14 SCE’s decision to cap IFOM ES at 100 MW due to uncertainty related to interconnection  
15 studies was unjustified because SCE expects IFOM ES developers to assume the risk of  
16 additional costs. [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]<sup>65</sup> Under the RFO  
18 terms, IFOM ES developers are expected to bear the risk of higher interconnection costs. The  
19 Independent Evaluator report noted:

20 ES bidders were encouraged to develop transmission cost estimates  
21 and translate these into transmission cost caps in the contracts and  
22 final offers. These transmission cost caps represent the limit for  
23 reimbursable network upgrade costs that a counterparty might  
24 encounter in the interconnection process. If the study’s network  
25 upgrade costs ended up higher than the cap, SCE had the right to  
26 terminate the contract. Thus, bidders did not want to set this cap

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<sup>63</sup> February 20, 2015 Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 01b(ii).  
The characteristics of the resource were a single resource at the existing Alamitos site that will be  
interconnected at the transmission level (220 kV) in an area where there is less likelihood of charging  
restrictions and congestion. SCE Testimony at p. 75.

<sup>64</sup> February 20, 2015 Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 01b(ii) and (iii).

<sup>65</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, pp. D-68 – D-69. See also SCE Testimony, p. 14.

1 too low.... SCE (and Sedway Consulting) used the cap to calculate  
2 transmission cost adders in the evaluation of the final offers.<sup>66</sup>

3 In other words, the conservative estimates of transmission and interconnection costs were not  
4 only included in the final offers for IFOM ES resources, these costs were born by the developers,  
5 rather than SCE. This was consistent with the application process for other generation resources.

6 Even with the transmission cost adders included in the bid prices, [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]

21 This excerpt describing [REDACTED] further illustrates [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

26 [REDACTED]

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<sup>66</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-12.

<sup>67</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, pp. D-68 – D-69.

1 c. SCE's concern as to whether the CAISO would assess  
2 a Transmission Access Charge (TAC) to IFOM ES in  
3 addition to the Locational Marginal Price is invalid

4 SCE noted that because the CAISO's charging and discharging tariffs "are not clear on  
5 whether grid-connected storage will pay transmission access charges,"<sup>68</sup> SCE imposed a 100  
6 MW cap on IFOM ES. With the CAISO's clarification that a TAC will not apply to ES, there is  
7 no basis for SCE's concern and therefore, the 100 MW cap is arbitrary.

8 The CAISO released guidance on whether a TAC would apply to grid-connected storage  
9 on November 18, 2014 in its Final Draft Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection. As noted  
10 by SCE, the CAISO clarifies the applicability of TAC in the "Draft Final Proposal:"

11 Regarding the question of whether storage charging is subject to  
12 ISO charges normally assessed to load such as TAC and measured  
13 demand uplifts, storage charging is not subject to these under the  
14 [non-generator resources] NGR model.<sup>69</sup> The ISO does not allocate  
15 TAC to NGRs because NGRs are treated as generators and the  
16 TAC is allocated to load and exports, not generators.<sup>70</sup>

17 Furthermore, the CAISO "does not consider NGR resources in the charging mode as  
18 'consuming' energy, but rather storing energy" for later resale in the CAISO's markets.<sup>71</sup> As part  
19 of its justification, the CAISO elaborated that "a storage resource fully dedicated to serving a  
20 reliability function and receiving all of its compensation through the TAC would be a woefully  
21 underutilized asset prohibited from participating in the market, and therefore unable to provide  
22 its full potential."<sup>72</sup> The CAISO clarified that IFOM ES will not be assigned a TAC. As a result,  
23 SCE's concern that a TAC applied by the CAISO may impact valuation of IFOM ES is negated.

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<sup>68</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 16.

<sup>69</sup> The NRG model was the initial model for ES devices to participate in ISO markets. NRGs are generation resources (As defined by the ISO tariff) with a MWh limitation that can be seamlessly moved within an operational range consisting of positive generation only, negative generation (charging) only, or positive and negative generation. November 18, 2014, CAISO Draft Final Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection, p. 26.

<sup>70</sup> February 20, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 02a and b, attached here as Attachment 5-5. See also November 18, 2014, CAISO Draft Final Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection, p. 27.

<sup>71</sup> November 18, 2014, CAISO Draft Final Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection, p. 26.

<sup>72</sup> November 18, 2014, CAISO Draft Final Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection, p. 32.

1 d. SCE’s concern regarding uncertainty related to SCE’s Rule 21, the  
2 Wholesale Distribution Access Tariff, the Transmission Owner  
3 Tariff, and the CAISO Tariff interconnection processes is  
4 unwarranted

5 SCE stated that there is uncertainty associated with interconnection of IFOM ES charging  
6 and discharging tariffs that contributed to the decision to cap IFOM ES procurement at 100  
7 MW.<sup>73</sup> SCE identified the following interconnection tariffs:

- 8 • SCE’s Rule 21 Tariff;
- 9 • SCE’s Wholesale Distribution Access Tariff (“WDAT”);
- 10 • SCE’s Transmission Owner Tariff (“TOT”); and
- 11 • The CAISO Tariff.

12 SCE’s decision to limit procurement of IFOM ES due to uncertainty related to SCE’s  
13 Rule 21, WDAT, or TOT interconnection processes is not justified, as SCE did not require bids  
14 to follow these interconnection processes. Of the four tariffs SCE listed as contributing to  
15 interconnection uncertainty, only the CAISO Tariff applied to IFOM ES bids considered in the  
16 LCR RFO.<sup>74</sup>

17 Moreover, the CAISO did not need to change its existing Tariff rules to accommodate  
18 IFOM ES. Consistent with how energy storage is treated in the NGR model, the CAISO  
19 developed an approach whereby it treated energy storage resources as a “generator” for both  
20 aspects of its operation, i.e. charging and discharging.<sup>75</sup> By doing so, the existing Tariff rules  
21 accommodated ES interconnection. Furthermore, after examining ES’ ability to behave as either  
22 a negative or positive generator, and to quickly switch between both, CAISO determined that its  
23 interconnection process<sup>76</sup> would be able to accommodate energy storage interconnection requests

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<sup>73</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 16.

<sup>74</sup> Per phone conversation with SCE including Jesse Bryson and Tristan Reyes Close, at 3:30 P.M. PST on March 13, 2015.

<sup>75</sup> November 18, 2014, CAISO Draft Final Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection, p. 3.

<sup>76</sup> This includes the Phase I Interconnection Study, which Queue Cluster 7 ES developers have already completed and Queue Cluster 8 ES developers will be required to complete.

1 without any further tariff charges.<sup>77</sup> Therefore, SCE’s concerns regarding IFOM ES tariff  
2 treatment is insufficient to justify a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES.

3 2. SCE did not quantify the cost impact from potential over-  
4 valued IFOM ES ancillary service revenue and did not justify  
5 whether this potential cost outweighed the benefit of lower-  
6 cost IFOM ES bids

7 Contrary to SCE’s assertions, the 100 MW cap on IFOM is arbitrary considering the  
8 transmission capacity of the Alamos substation and SCE’s failure to quantify incremental  
9 uncertainty that a larger IFOM ES project would have on SCE’s costs. Uncertainty related to AS  
10 revenues from IFOM ES was one of the key reasons SCE decided to limit procurement of IFOM  
11 ES to 100 MWs. [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED] nd

13 [REDACTED]<sup>78</sup> [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED]<sup>79</sup> [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED]<sup>80</sup> With these concerns in mind, SCE decided that AS revenue forecasts were overly  
18 optimistic and thus, decided to limit the procurement of IFOM ES. Nevertheless, the 100 MW  
19 cap on IFOM is unnecessary given the transmission capacity of the Alamos substation and  
20 SCE’s failure to quantify incremental uncertainty that a larger IFOM ES project would have on  
21 costs.

22 SCE mitigated AS market revenue concerns by selecting the AES Alamos 100 MW  
23 storage project because the transmission interconnection at this particular circuit was less likely  
24 to experience congestion or charging constraints. The Independent Evaluator noted that:

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<sup>77</sup> November 18, 2014, CAISO Draft Final Proposal on Energy Storage Interconnection, p. 5.

<sup>78</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-72.

<sup>79</sup> [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-72.

<sup>80</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-72.

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[REDACTED]

<sup>81</sup>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]<sup>82</sup>

SCE’s decision to favor IFOM ES located at the Alamitos Substation is reasonable; however, it is not clear from the evidence provided by SCE whether the Alamitos substation does not also have sufficient available capacity for more than 100 MW of IFOM ES charging and discharging.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]<sup>83</sup>

Furthermore, SCE did not quantify or study the possible impact on profit from uncertainty stemming from the “optimistic” AS market performance and how IFOM ES will actually participate in CAISO markets. This unduly skews SCE’s final assessment of IFOM ES. SCE also did not evaluate the duration or frequency that IFOM ES may be curtailed or the impact of curtailment on total revenues. Without any kind of sensitivity analysis, it is not possible to justify whether SCE’s decision to cap procurement of IFOM ES at 100 MW and procure other more expensive resources was reasonable. SCE’s decision to ignore better-valued ES resources in favor of other projects increases ratepayer costs without providing even an estimate of possible impacts to justify the additional expense.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<sup>81</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-88.

<sup>82</sup> February 20, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 03b.

<sup>83</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-89.

1 [REDACTED]<sup>84</sup> Instead, the decision to cap IFOM ES at 100 MW resulted in  
2 additional procurement of [REDACTED]<sup>85</sup> [REDACTED]  
3 [REDACTED]<sup>86</sup>

4 Similarly, the additional 100 MW of IFOM ES could have deferred the procurement of  
5 the 98 MW of peaking Gas-Fired Generation (GFG) from Stanton Energy Reliability Center,  
6 LLC (Wellhead). Replacing 100 MW of peaking GFG capacity with IFOM ES would directly  
7 contribute to the state’s policy objectives, such as the 1.3 GW Energy Storage mandate.  
8 Replacing peaking GFG capacity with IFOM ES would also benefit ratepayers by reducing  
9 greenhouse gas emissions and diversifying SCE’s preferred resources portfolio.

- 10 3. SCE assigns undefined risk to IFOM ES because of the  
11 effects of capital lease accounting treatment on IFOM ES  
12 contacts

13 SCE notes that its former IFOM ES contracts would result in capital lease accounting  
14 treatment, “which has an unacceptable level of debt equivalents.”<sup>87</sup> [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]<sup>88</sup> While credit ratings are important to utilities and ratepayers alike, SCE  
18 mitigated this concern through its inclusion of the Embedded Put Option into IFOM ES  
19 contracts.

20 Debt equivalence refers to a credit rating agency’s practice of assigning risk factors and  
21 imputed amounts of debt to the fixed financial obligation of long-term contracts. Rating  
22 agencies modify their calculations of the utility’s capital structure and related credit statistics by  
23 adding debt equivalence to the debt that is already on the utility’s balance sheet.<sup>89</sup> Increased debt  
24 equivalence makes SCE’s balance sheet more leveraged and reduces the quality of SCE’s cash

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<sup>84</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-89.

<sup>85</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 58.

<sup>86</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix C, pp. C-1 – C-4.

<sup>87</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 33.

<sup>88</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-21.

<sup>89</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 31.

1 flow in credit rating calculations.<sup>90</sup> Per D.04-12-048 and D.08-11-008, utilities can recognize the  
2 effect of debt equivalence on the utility’s credit quality and cost of borrowing during its contract  
3 valuation processes. Consistent with these decisions, SCE considers debt equivalence in its  
4 valuation process using the 20 percent risk factor authorized by the CPUC, but does not believe  
5 that the risk factor is sufficient to capture the impact of debt equivalence here.<sup>91</sup> As such, SCE  
6 included an “Embedded Put Option” into IFOM ES contracts to disqualify it from capital lease  
7 accounting treatment.

8 SCE did not quantify how a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES procurement reduces the risk of  
9 greater debt equivalence. Nor does SCE evaluate the selection of offers with lower NPV or  
10 higher levelized net costs resulting from the imposition of a 100 MW cap against the risk of  
11 greater debt equivalence, especially considering that debt equivalence is generated for all  
12 resources that have a Power Purchase Agreement. For instance, GFG contracts for combined-  
13 cycle gas turbines also result in capital lease accounting treatment.<sup>92</sup> [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]<sup>93</sup> It is unclear what additional aspect of debt equivalence the 100 MW cap on IFOM ES  
16 will mitigate that was not already captured in the least-cost, best-fit evaluation process.

17 Moreover, SCE mitigated its underlying concern of a credit rating downgrade<sup>94</sup> by  
18 adding an Embedded Put Option to IFOM ES contracts. SCE determined the value of the  
19 Embedded Put Option to the seller, and the cost to the customer, by using results from a  
20 distribution analysis to derive the energy and AS value associated with dispatchable ES units.<sup>95</sup>  
21 The Embedded Put Option allows the seller to transfer annual control of the energy rights to SCE  
22 at a “put” price that SCE can modify up until CPUC approval of the contract. This results in

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<sup>90</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 32.

<sup>91</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 47.

<sup>92</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 33.

<sup>93</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-70.

<sup>94</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 32.

<sup>95</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 47.

1 lower debt equivalence than the original assessed capital lease accounting treatment.<sup>96</sup> As stated  
2 by SCE, the Embedded Put Option “mitigated much of the identified risk associated with capital  
3 lease accounting”<sup>97</sup> because it results in lower debt equivalence than the original assessed capital  
4 lease accounting treatment.<sup>98</sup>

5 4. SCE did not sufficiently justify why it assigned additional  
6 risk to IFOM ES contracts stemming from the potential affect  
7 AS market prices might have on SCE IFOM ES contracts

8 SCE asserts that, due to the uncertainty of future AS market prices, the 100 MW cap  
9 mitigates excessive consequences from the put option that SCE incorporated into IFOM ES  
10 contracts. While SCE might face uncertainty, it did not quantify the cost impacts that seller  
11 action would have on IFOM ES NPV or justify why a 100 MW cap on IFOM ES is any more  
12 beneficial than a larger MW cap.

13 Specifically, SCE states that the put option “watered down the potential energy and AS  
14 benefits that would normally flow to benefitting customers”<sup>99</sup> because it could lead the seller to  
15 always either retain or put the dispatch rights to SCE.<sup>100</sup> The put option gives sellers the right to  
16 either retain or to give SCE the seller’s dispatch and scheduling rights at a pre-set strike price.<sup>101</sup>  
17 The strike price considers IFOM ES’ valuation in the AS market and would be established by  
18 SCE at contract execution.<sup>102</sup> SCE finds this problematic because, depending on AS market  
19 trends, market prices could make long-term strike price “always look decidedly favorable or

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<sup>96</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 33. SCE’s Least-Cost, Best-Fit optimization model accounts for debt equivalents in the NPV of each offer. March 9, 2015 Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-008, Question 01c, attached here as Attachment 5-6.

<sup>97</sup> February 20, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-ORA-SCE-006, Question 01d(i), attached here as Attachment 5-7.

<sup>98</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 33.

<sup>99</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-21.

<sup>100</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-21.

<sup>101</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-21. If the option is exercised, the dispatch capability will be conveyed to SCE. If it is not, the seller will retain the dispatch rights and SCE will not receive any market revenues associated with the contract and will allocate 100 percent of the cost of the contract to all benefitting customers. SCE Testimony, p. 86.

<sup>102</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-21.

1 unfavorable, causing the seller to always retain the dispatch rights . . . or always put the dispatch  
2 rights to SCE.<sup>103</sup>

3 SCE did not justify why the above detailed concerns warranted a 100 MW cap on IFOM  
4 ES. First, SCE set the strike price, not the seller, and thus, could have reasonably controlled the  
5 probability of the seller exercising the strike price. [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]<sup>104</sup> Lastly, SCE did not quantify or identify  
8 what impact IFOM ES performance and participation in energy and AS markets or SCE’s  
9 possible overvaluation of IFOM ES would warrant a cap specifically set at 100 MW. Therefore,  
10 the 100 MW cap on IFOM ES arbitrarily limits IFOM ES projects.

11 **C. ORA RECOMMENDATIONS**

12 ORA recommends that the 100 MW cap on IFOM ES be removed because it includes  
13 unreasonable projects and excludes reasonable offers. Furthermore, [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]

16 1. The 100 MW cap on IFOM ES should be removed because it  
17 results in the selection of unreasonable alternatives

18 With a cap on IFOM ES, SCE necessarily chose more offers from different energy  
19 sources, including GFG peakers and BTM ES, at a significant cost.<sup>105</sup>

20 The selection of the Wellhead GFG peakers, with a combined contract capacity of 98  
21 MW, is an unreasonable option compared to other IFOM ES offers, including [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED] because the Wellhead project incurs

23 similar capital lease treatment as does IFOM ES [REDACTED] Similar to IFOM ES

24 contracts, GFG contracts for combustion turbines also “result in capital lease accounting

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<sup>103</sup> A seller would always retain the dispatch rights if long-term market prices move higher than SCE forecasted while a seller would always put the dispatch rights to SCE if long-term market prices move lower than expected. SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-21.

<sup>104</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-72.

<sup>105</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 58.

1 treatment with unacceptable level of debt equivalents.”<sup>106</sup> SCE was unable to use an Embedded  
2 Put Option for the 98 MW peakers because the energy and AS values associated with the low  
3 utilization peakers were too low and did not represent more than a minor amount of output.<sup>107</sup> In  
4 order to address the peakers’ debt equivalence issue, SCE restructured its GFG contract into a  
5 RA contract. Therefore, debt equivalence concerns should not restrict bid acceptance.

6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED]<sup>108</sup>  
9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]<sup>109</sup> however, this results in a less cost-effective outcome.  
11 For instance, IFOM ES [REDACTED]<sup>110</sup> [REDACTED] As an  
12 illustration, [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED]<sup>111</sup> [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]<sup>112</sup> [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]<sup>114</sup> Similarly, the NPV of [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED]

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<sup>106</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 33.

<sup>107</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 61.

<sup>108</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, pp. D-79 and D-89.

<sup>109</sup> [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SCE Testimony, p. 62.

<sup>110</sup> Capacity payments represent the total fixed contract payments SCE is expected to make under the contract for delivery of the energy and capacity benefits. SCE Testimony, p. 46.

<sup>111</sup> Ice Bear SPV, LLC offer No. 431049.

<sup>112</sup> Hybrid-Electric Building Technologies, LLC offer No. 467009.

<sup>113</sup> Stem Energy Southern California, LLC offer No. 402039. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

<sup>114</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix C, pp. C-1 – C-4.

1 [REDACTED]<sup>115</sup> The table below illustrates this  
2 comparison.

3 **Table 5.1<sup>116</sup>**

Offer	LCR MW <sup>117</sup> and Technology	Capacity Price per kW-mo	Net Present Value (million)
AES ES Alamitos, LLC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Ice Bear SPV, LLC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Hybrid-Electric Building Technologies, LLC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Stem Energy Southern California, LLC	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

4 2. The 100 MW cap should be removed because it excludes  
5 reasonable alternatives

6 By limiting IFOM ES procurement, SCE excludes cheaper, better fit options. In addition  
7 to the 100 MW IFOM ES offer that SCE selected, [REDACTED] and

8 [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]  
10 [REDACTED]

11 In terms of locational benefits, SCE selected the AES 100 MW IFOM ES offer located at  
12 the Alamitos substation in part because of its locational benefits.<sup>118</sup> These locational benefits  
13 hold true for [REDACTED] In  
14 addition, CAISO determined that the Southwest sub-area of the Western LA Basin<sup>119</sup> is the most  
15 effective location, [REDACTED]<sup>120</sup>

<sup>115</sup> [REDACTED]. SCE Testimony, Appendix C, pp. C-1 and C-4.

<sup>116</sup> All cost information can be found at SCE Testimony, pp. C-1 to C-4.

<sup>117</sup> LCR MW is defined as the forecasted August 2021 net qualifying capacity (“NQC”).

<sup>118</sup> [REDACTED] and are in a preferred location in regards to congestion, transmission capacity, and charging restrictions. SCE Testimony, pp. 57-58.

<sup>119</sup> SCE Testimony, p. 19.

<sup>120</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-66.

1 Turning to the cost characteristics of [REDACTED] it is  
2 important to note that “in addition to meeting reliability criteria and consistency with the  
3 Loading Order, LCR procurement by SCE must be at least cost to ratepayers.”<sup>121</sup> [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED]<sup>122</sup> [REDACTED]

6 [REDACTED]<sup>123</sup> [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED]<sup>124</sup>

9 3. [REDACTED] presents ratepayers with a  
10 more cost-effective option while also furthering the State’s  
11 greenhouse gas reduction objectives

12 [REDACTED] offer presents ratepayers a more cost-effective option while also  
13 reducing reliance on GFG peaking resources compared to the combined selection of the 98 MW  
14 Wellhead project and the 100 MW IFOM ES offer. [REDACTED] results in an  
15 [REDACTED] savings as compared to the combined levelized costs of the 98 MW peakers and  
16 the 100 MW IFOM ES project.

17 This selection is also congruent with D.14-03-004.

18 Assuming SCE pursues a least-cost/best-fit approach to the increased  
19 discretionary portion of procurement authority (the additional 500 – 700  
20 MW), it is likely that SCE would procure mostly gas-fired resources if  
21 such resources are less costly than preferred resources. From a ratepayer  
22 perspective, this may be beneficial; however, the Loading Order calls for  
23 prioritization of cost-effective preferred resources, in some cases even if  
24 they are more expensive than other resources. We will modify SCE’s

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<sup>121</sup> D.13-02-015, p. 79.

<sup>122</sup> The levelized net cost is similar to SCE’s \$/kW-mo net cost metric except that SCE does not levelize the total dollar net costs but instead divides them by the sum of the of the kW-months of capacity associated with each offer. SCE calculated the net cost of offers by subtracting the net present value of the contract payments and debt equivalence costs from the net present value of the energy and capacity benefits. SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-26.

<sup>123</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, p. D-89.

<sup>124</sup> [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SCE Testimony, Appendix D, pp. D-79 and D-89.

1 proposal to ensure that SCE procures a higher percentage of authorized  
 2 resources from preferred resources and energy storage.<sup>125</sup>

3 While ES is not defined as a “preferred resource” yet, it shares similar characteristics and the  
 4 CPUC treats it in line with “preferred resources.”<sup>126</sup> Similarly, as found by Assembly Bill 2514  
 5 (Stats.2010, ch. 469), expanding the use of energy storage systems could optimize the use of  
 6 wind and solar generation, assist in integrating increased amounts of renewable energy resources  
 7 into the grid, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Therefore, cost-effective IFOM ES  
 8 should be pursued over more costly GFG resources in this LCR RFO.

9 In addition to the locational benefits and lower levelized net cost discussed above, the  
 10 NPV [REDACTED] FG  
 11 [REDACTED]<sup>127</sup> [REDACTED] provides a  
 12 [REDACTED] to ratepayers. Table 5-2, below, illustrates SCE’s  
 13 selection of the 98 MW GFG project and the 100 MW IFOM ES project in comparison to the  
 14 [REDACTED]

15 **Table 5-2**

	Wellhead 98 MW GFG CT and AES 100 MW IFOM ES projects	[REDACTED]	Difference between SCE’s selection and the [REDACTED]
Total Levelized Net Cost <sup>128</sup>	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Total Net Present Value <sup>129</sup>	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

<sup>125</sup> D.14-03-004, p.93.

<sup>126</sup> For instance, D.14-03-004 requires SCE to procure “a higher percentage of authorized resources from preferred resources *and energy storage*” while maintaining SCE’s minimum procurement authorization for gas-fired generation resources. D.14-03-004, pp. 2 and 93 (emphasis added).

<sup>127</sup> [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] SCE Testimony, Appendix C, p. C-1.  
 February 26, 2015 Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-Sierra Club- SCE-003, Question 09, at sheet titled [REDACTED] attached here as Attachment 5-4. See also, SCE Testimony, Appendix D, pp. D-79 and D-89.

<sup>128</sup> SCE Testimony, Appendix D, pp. D-79 and D-89.

<sup>129</sup> February 26, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-Sierra Club- SCE-003, Question 09, at sheet titled “LCR Summary All Offers,” column J, line 1570.

1           Furthermore, [REDACTED] does not necessarily add risk in comparison to  
2 the combination of a 98 MW peaker and a 100 MW IFOM ES. As discussed above, SCE has not  
3 quantified the cost impact of any risk associated with IFOM ES. SCE also did not identify why a  
4 smaller or larger MW cap is any more or less cost-effective and qualitatively beneficial than a  
5 100 MW cap. Similarly to the selected 100 MW IFOM ES project, the [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED] set at [REDACTED]<sup>130</sup> Furthermore, if  
7 [REDACTED], AES would have to assume the excess costs. [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED] is a reasonable selection in light of the project’s location, levelized net  
9 cost and capacity costs, NPV, cap on transmission upgrade costs, and the Embedded Put Option  
10 built into all IFOM ES contracts. Selecting [REDACTED] instead of the  
11 Wellhead peakers and the AES 100 MW IFOM ES project not only saves ratepayer money, but  
12 also reduces GHG emissions. Therefore, [REDACTED] is a more reasonable  
13 option than the cap proposed by SCE.

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<sup>130</sup> February 26, 2015, Data Request Set A.14-11-012 LCR RFO-Sierra Club- SCE-003, Question 09, sheet titled “Component Discounted All Offers,” at column I lines 69 and 543, attached here as Attachment 5-3.

**APPENDIX A**  
**QUALIFICATIONS OF WITNESSES**

1 **QUALIFICATIONS AND PREPARED TESTIMONY**  
2 **OF**  
3 **SUDHEER GOKHALE**  
4

5 Q.1. Please state your name and address.

6 A.1. My name is Sudheer K. Gokhale. My business address is 505 Van Ness Avenue, San  
7 Francisco, California.

8 Q.2. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

9 A.2. I am employed by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as a Senior  
10 Utilities Engineer in the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) in the Electricity Resources and  
11 Pricing Branch.

12 Q.3. Briefly describe your educational background and work experience.

13 A.3. I have Bachelor of Science Degrees in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering from the  
14 University of Bombay and a Masters of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the  
15 University of California at Berkeley.

16 From November 1980 to June 2005, I was employed by Pacific Gas and Electric  
17 Company (PG&E) in various capacities. I have testified before the CPUC as an expert witness  
18 for PG&E in several CPUC proceedings in the following areas: Nuclear and Fossil Plant  
19 Decommissioning, Depreciation Expense and Reserve, and Rate Base. I have been employed by  
20 the CPUC since July 2005. Since joining the CPUC, I have prepared protests and comments for  
21 ORA in numerous Demand Response proceedings before the CPUC.

22 Q.4. Are you a registered professional engineer?

23 A.4. Yes, I am a registered Professional Engineer in Mechanical Engineering and Electrical  
24 Engineering in the State of California.

25 Q.5. What is your area of responsibility in this proceeding?

26 A.5. I am responsible for ORA's testimony in SCE's Application No. 14-11-012 for the  
27 Demand Response contracts.

28 Q.6. Does that complete your prepared testimony?

29 A.6 Yes, it does.

1                                   **QUALIFICATIONS AND PREPARED TESTIMONY**  
2   **OF**  
3   **ROSANNE O'HARA**  
4

5 Q.1. Please state your name and address.

6 A.1. My name is Rosanne O'Hara. My business address is 505 Van Ness Avenue, San  
7 Francisco, California.

8 Q.2 By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

9 A.2. I am employed by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as a Public  
10 Utilities Regulatory Analyst I in the Office of Ratepayer Advocates' (ORA) Electricity  
11 Planning and Policy Branch.

12 Q.3. Please briefly describe your educational background and work experience.

13 A.3. I received a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies, with an emphasis in Economics  
14 and Political Science from the University of California, San Diego. The relevant course  
15 work included economic policy and statistics. I also received a Master of Science from  
16 the London School of Economics in Development Management and a law degree from  
17 the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. Prior to joining ORA, I was a  
18 judicial extern and law clerk for the Administrative Law Division of the CPUC. As such,  
19 I reviewed comments, testimony, and briefs on a variety of water, transportation,  
20 telecommunication, and energy proceedings unrelated to the current proceeding. In  
21 March 2015, I joined ORA's Electricity Planning and Policy Branch and have been  
22 examining energy storage related issues.

23 Q.4. What is your area of responsibility in this proceeding?

24 A.4. I am sponsoring Chapter 5.

25 Q.5. Does this conclude your statement of qualifications?

26 A.6. Yes.  
27