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

**Report on the Results of Operations
for
Southern California Edison Company
General Rate Case
Test Year 2012**

Non-Nuclear Generation Costs

PUBLIC VERSION

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NON-NUCLEAR GENERATION COSTS

I. INTRODUCTION

3 This exhibit presents the analyses and recommendations of the Division of
4 Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) regarding Southern California Edison Company's (SCE
5 or Edison) forecasts of Non-Nuclear Generation Operation and Maintenance (O&M)
6 expenses for Test Year (TY) 2012, and capital expenditures for 2010 through 2012.

7 This testimony addresses SCE's request for cost recovery of the expenses
8 associated with the various company-owned power plants, which include the gas-
9 fired Mountainview and Peaker plants, the coal-fired Four Corners and Mohave
10 plants, the Hydroelectric (Hydro) plants of the Northern and Eastern Divisions, and
11 the Catalina Island plants. Also addressed is Edison's request for expenses
12 associated with the Project Development Division (PDD) of the Power Production
13 Department, the Solar Photovoltaic Program, and the Fuel Cell Program.

14 DRA addresses SCE's nuclear generation costs in Exhibit DRA-8, including
15 the requests for funding of the nuclear license renewal and seismic study activities.¹

II. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

17 The following summarizes DRA's recommendations associated with non-
18 nuclear generation-related O&M expenses for 2012:

- 19 • SCE's Four Corners O&M forecast should be reduced by \$4.829
20 million.
- 21 • SCE's Mountainview O&M forecast should be reduced by \$xxxxx
22 million.
- 23 • SCE's Peakers O&M forecast should be reduced by \$2.589 million.
- 24 • SCE's Hydro O&M forecast should be reduced by \$6.840 million.

¹ SCE makes its requests for nuclear license renewal and seismic study activities in SCE-2, Vol 10, Chapters IV and V.

- 1 • SCE's Catalina Inland O&M forecast should be reduced by \$0.140
2 million.
- 3 • SCE's Solar Photovoltaic Program O&M forecast should be
4 reduced by \$xxxxx million.
- 5 • DRA makes no adjustments to SCE's forecast for Mohave O&M,
6 Project Development Division O&M, and Fuel Cell Program O&M.
- 7 • SCE's Solar Photovoltaic Program Balancing Account should not
8 be eliminated.
- 9 • SCE should establish a one-way balancing account for the Fuel
10 Cell Program.

11 The following summarizes DRA's recommendations associated with non-
12 nuclear generation-related capital budget forecast for the period 2010-2012:

- 13 • SCE's Peakers capital budget forecast for 2010 should be reduced
14 by \$20.0 million.
- 15 • SCE's Catalina Island capital budget forecast for 2010 and 2011
16 should be reduced by \$2.885 million in each year.
- 17 • DRA makes no adjustments to SCE's capital budget forecasts for
18 Coal, Hydroelectric, Mountainview, Solar Photovoltaic Program,
19 and Fuel Cell Program.

1 Tables 9-1 and 9-2 shows SCE's request compared to DRA's
 2 recommendations for all non-nuclear generation O&M expenses and capital costs:

3 **Table 9-1**
 4 **Non-Nuclear Generation Expenses for TY2012**
 5 **(In Thousands of 2009 Dollars)**

Description (a)	DRA Recommended (b)	SCE Proposed ² (c)	Amount SCE>DRA (d=c-b)	Percentage SCE>DRA (e=d/b)
Coal: Four Corners	\$39,514	\$44,343	\$4,829	12%
Coal: Mohave	\$892	\$892	\$0	0%
Gas: Mountainview	\$xxxxxx	\$49,044	\$xxxxxx	xx%
Gas: Peakers	\$8,978	\$11,567	\$2,589	29%
Hydro: Northern/Eastern	\$50,591	\$57,431	\$6,840	14%
Catalina Island	\$4,590	\$4,730	\$140	3%
Solar PV Program	\$0	\$xxxxxx	\$xxxxxx	N/A
Total ³	\$xxxxxxxxxx	\$xxxxxxxxxx	\$xxxxxx	Xx%

6 **Table 9-2**
 7 **Non-Nuclear Generation Capital Expenditures for 2010-2012**
 8 **(In Thousands of Nominal Dollars)**

Description	DRA Recommended			SCE Proposed ⁴		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
Four Corners	\$29,846	\$7,222	\$4,856	\$29,846	\$7,222	\$4,856
Mohave	\$12,900	\$7,400	\$0	\$12,900	\$7,400	\$0
Mountainview	\$9,800	\$4,600	\$18,900	\$9,800	\$4,600	\$18,900
Peakers	\$11,800	\$3,200	\$3,100	\$31,800	\$3,200	\$3,100
Hydro	\$104,517	\$93,110	\$95,450	\$104,517	\$93,110	\$95,450
Catalina Island	\$4,328	\$9,225	\$1,060	\$7,213	\$12,110	\$1,060
Solar PV Program	\$191,000	\$197,000	\$203,000	\$191,000	\$197,000	\$203,000
Fuel Cell Program	\$6,300	\$12,800	\$0	\$6,300	\$12,800	\$0
Total	\$372,501	\$336,568	\$328,378	\$395,386	\$339,453	\$328,378

9

² Four Corners: Exh. SCE-2, Vol.06 (Part1), p.28; Mohave: Exh. SCE-2, Vol. 06, (Part 1), pp.69-70; Mountainview: Exh. SCE-2 Vol. 8, p.22; Peakers: Exh.SCE-2, Vol. 9, 25; Hydro: SCE-02, Vol. p.52; Catalina: Exh. SCE-2, Vol.11, p.3; Solar PV: SCE-2, Vol. 10c, pp.20-22.

³ Total does not include SCE's Project Development Division O&M request for \$6.55 million for TY 2012. DRA does not oppose this request.

⁴ See discussion sections for citations to capital expenditure requests by category.

1 **III. DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF GAS GENERATION COSTS**

2 Section III describes and analyzes SCE gas generation resources and its TY
3 2012 O&M request and capital cost forecasts for 2010, 2011, and 2012.

4 **A. Overview of SCE's Request**

5 SCE's gas generation O&M request totals \$60.611 million for TY 2012. The
6 capital budget request for 2010, 2011, and 2012 is \$41.6 million, \$7.8 million, and
7 \$22.0 million, respectively.

8 **B. Gas Generation O&M Expenses**

9 SCE owns and operates the 1050 MW Mountainview Generating Station and
10 four 49 MW peaking power plants. The Mountainview plant began operation in 2006,
11 and consists of two modern combined-cycle units that are intended for efficient,
12 load-following operation. The peaking units are also of recent vintage and have been
13 installed pursuant to the Commission's 2006 Resolution.⁵ These units are simple-
14 cycle, quick start, and are intended for peak load operations to support system
15 reliability.

16 **1. Mountainview**

17 DRA recommends two adjustments to Edison's Mountainview O&M forecast.
18 First, the \$307,000 incremental cost to cover additional compliance activities for the
19 North American Reliability Council (NERC) Reliability Standards should be denied.
20 DRA has reviewed the workpapers that describe the duties for three new positions:
21 two Program Managers and one Engineer. Edison states that these positions are
22 allocated to Mountainview O&M as part of the \$2.7 million overall impact that NERC
23 compliance is forecast across the Power Production Department O&M expense.
24 The three new positions should be absorbed into the remaining \$2.4 million NERC
25 compliance expense.⁶

⁵ Resolution E-4031, November 9, 2006

⁶ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 8 workpapers, p.20.

1 The second, and larger adjustment, involves \$xxxxx million, which reflects
2 one-third of the cost for the scheduled 2015 Hot Gas Path Inspection (plus the Parts
3 Use Tax).⁷ SCE forecasts the payment to General Electric under the Contractual
4 Services Agreement to occur in late 2014. SCE should not be allowed to recover in
5 the Test Year a cost which is normalized backwards for activities which will occur
6 beyond the current three year General Rate Case cycle. This recommendation also
7 impacts DRA's position regarding Hot Gas Path prepayments that SCE has
8 requested in rate base.

9 2. Peakers

10 DRA's recommends an adjustment of \$2.589 million for the Peakers O&M
11 based on DRA's conclusion that the fifth Peaker (McGrath) will not be installed and
12 operating by the Test Year. The adjustment is based on 2009 recorded data,
13 reflecting a full year of data for the four currently operating units. DRA does not
14 accept the SCE forecast for the unconstructed, yet-to-be-permitted, McGrath Peaker
15 (see capital expenditure discussion below). The adjustment represents a 29 percent
16 decrease from SCE's Test Year forecast. The recorded 2009 data best reflects the
17 O&M needs of the four operating peakers.

18 C. Gas Generation Capital Expenditures

19 1. Mountainview

20 The Mountainview capital expenditure forecast for 2010, 2011, and 2012 is
21 \$9.8 million, \$4.6 million, and \$18.9 million, respectively.⁸ DRA makes no
22 adjustments to this forecast.

⁷ \$xxxxx million is derived from \$xxxxx plus \$xxxxx, which are one-third of the Hot Gas Path Inspection and Parts Use Tax, respectively. SCE Responses to Questions 7-9, 11, DRA-SCE-049-TXB.

⁸ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 08, p.49.

1 **2. Peakers**

2 The SCE Peaker capital expenditure forecast for 2010, 2011, and 2012 is
3 \$31.8 million, \$3.2 million, and \$3.1 million, respectively.⁹ The 2010 forecast
4 includes \$20.0 million for completion of the McGrath Peaker.¹⁰ DRA recommends
5 \$0 for the McGrath Peaker project.

6 The McGrath Peaker project would be located in the City of Oxnard. Since
7 2007, the City has mounted significant legal challenges to the company’s attempt to
8 site and construct this power plant. Currently, the case is pending before the Los
9 Angeles Superior Court¹¹, and will determine whether SCE can move ahead with
10 construction. Final permits have not been issued and construction has not
11 commenced. Given the uncertainty over the final resolution of the City’s challenge,
12 DRA recommends that the \$20 million allocated for the project be removed from the
13 2010 forecast.

14 **IV. DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF COAL GENERATION COSTS**

15 Section IV describes and analyzes SCE’s coal generation resources and TY
16 2012 O&M funding request and 2010, 2011, and 2012 capital budget request for
17 coal generation resources.

18 **A. Overview of SCE’s Request**

19 SCE owns significant shares of two coal generation resources. The Mohave
20 plant is currently being decommissioned. The decommissioning project should be
21 complete during this General Rate Case cycle. SCE is the operator of the Mohave
22 plant, and has a 56 percent ownership stake.

23 Edison’s other coal resource is a 48 percent share (720 MW) of units 4 and 5
24 of the Four Corners Generating Station. SCE’s 50-year participation in this project is

⁹ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.09, p.15.

¹⁰ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.09, p.15.

¹¹ SCE Response to Question 1, Data Request DRA-SCE-046-TXB.

1 scheduled to expire in 2016, absent any action or agreement with Arizona Public
2 Service (APS) and the other project co-owners. The company provides information
3 for two scenarios in this general rate case: a “sale case” and a “decommission
4 case”.

5 In Application (A.)10-11-010, SCE presents a “Purchase and Sale
6 Agreement” between SCE and APS, the operator of the Four Corners plant. Under
7 the terms of the agreement, the forecast closing of the sale is October 1, 2012. The
8 sale case assumes that SCE will contribute to the operation and maintenance of the
9 facility on a “business as usual” basis, until the transaction closes.

10 The decommission case assumes that owners of the plant will somewhat
11 reduce the historical maintenance and overhaul practices because the generating
12 station will be nearing the end of its useful life. There would be reduced costs under
13 the decommission case.

14 SCE justifies its funding request pursuant to the sale case scenario.
15 Consequently, DRA focused its review on this scenario.

16 **B. Coal Generation O&M Expenses**

17 **1. Four Corners O&M**

18 As discussed previously, SCE makes its Four Corners funding request under
19 the sale case scenario. The sale case is \$2.8 million greater than the decommission
20 case. As set forth in Table 9-1 above, DRA recommends a \$4.829 million reduction
21 in the forecast. A significant portion of the reduction, \$4.129 million, is reflected in
22 the non-labor accounts of 512 and 513. These expenses are related to the
23 scheduled 2014 overhaul of Unit 5. However, under the sale scenario, which is
24 forecast to occur in 2012, this 2014 overhaul would not be part of SCE’s ownership
25 obligation, since SCE would no longer be a co-owner. In addition, the \$4.829 million
26 adjustment reflects the five-year recorded costs for the years 2005-2009 of \$39.514
27 million. Therefore, DRA’s recommended budget for Four Corners O&M is \$39.514
28 million.

1 As discussed above, SCE forecasts the transfer of its ownership of Four
2 Corners to occur on October 1, 2012. Accordingly, SCE should only recover nine
3 months of the revenue requirement associated with the O&M expenses.

4 **2. Mohave O&M**

5 SCE proposes to continue the Mohave Balancing Account (MBA) regulatory
6 treatment for all O&M expenditures during 2012 through 2014 which are related to
7 the closure of the Mohave Generating Station.¹² The MBA mandates that Mohave
8 O&M funds shall not be redirected to other spending categories. This protects
9 ratepayers from any impudent funds shifting while the coal plant is being
10 decommissioned. DRA supports this proposal. DRA makes no adjustments to the
11 Mohave O&M TY 2012 request.

12 **C. Coal Generation Capital Expenditures**

13 **1. Four Corners Capital**

14 SCE's capital cost forecasts for the Four Corners Generation Station are
15 \$29.846 million, \$7.222 million, and \$4.856 million for 2010, 2011, and 2012,
16 respectively.¹³ As discussed above, SCE's proposed sale of its share of the Four
17 Corners facility would close by October 1, 2012, based on the information provided
18 in A.10-11-010. In addition, under the terms of the SCE's agreement with APS, any
19 non-emergency and non-life extending capital expenditures incurred during 2012 will
20 be reimbursed back to SCE at closing. Hence, the 2012 capital forecast is
21 essentially a placeholder until the transaction closes and the revenue requirement
22 associated with Four Corners can be updated. DRA does not oppose the 2010,
23 2011, and 2012 capital budgets.

24 As discussed above, SCE forecasts the sale of its share of Four Corners to
25 close on October 1. Accordingly, SCE should only recover nine months of the

¹² Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 6 (Part 1), p.65.

¹³ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 6 (Part 3), p.5.

1 revenue requirement not just for O&M, but also plant, depreciation expense and
2 reserve, rate base items (such as materials and supplies and working cash) and
3 pensions & benefits for the SCE labor costs associated with the Four Corners
4 Generating Station.

5 **2. Mohave Capital**

6 SCE forecasts \$20.3 million in capital expenditures for its share of the
7 decommissioning project at Mohave for 2010 and 2011.¹⁴ The MBA discussed
8 above also applies to the capital expenditures. DRA does not oppose SCE's Mohave
9 request.

10 **V. DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF HYDRO GENERATION COSTS**

11 Section V describes and analyzes SCE's hydroelectric system resources and
12 TY 2012 funding request for O&M and the 2010-2012 capital cost forecast.

13 **A. Overview of SCE's Request**

14 SCE's hydro facilities are predominantly in the Big Creek (or Northern)
15 system, which total 1,014 MW. The Eastern Region system totals 161MW. The Test
16 Year 2012 O&M request totals \$57.6 million, which includes \$9.6 million in future
17 adjustments above the recorded 2009 base year amount which forms the basis of
18 SCE's forecast. The hydro capital expenditure forecasts for years 2010, 2011, and
19 2012, are \$104.5 million, \$93.1 million, and \$95.5 million, respectively.¹⁵

20 **B. Hydro Generation O&M Expenses**

21 SCE's hydro O&M expense request is significantly higher than average
22 recorded figures. Based on SCE's data, DRA calculates the 2005-2009 average
23 recorded annual expense to be \$41.785 million (2009 \$). Rather than relying on this
24 data to form the basis of its forecast, SCE chose \$48.0 million as its base forecast,

¹⁴ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 06 (Part 2), p.50.

¹⁵ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 07 (Part 2), p.2.

1 evidently relying upon higher than normal 2009 recorded expenses. SCE then layers
2 in several complicated “future adjustments” totaling \$9.628 million to develop a Test
3 Year forecast of \$57.4 million. SCE explains that these future adjustments come in
4 seven distinct categories. The two most significant categories are discussed below.

5 **1. NERC and Other Agency Compliance**

6 The first future adjustment is termed “NERC and Other Agency Compliance.”
7 The cost forecast starts at \$106,000 in 2010 and escalates to \$2.714 million in TY
8 2012. Most of these costs are to cover additional personnel, 18 by 2012, to meet the
9 increasing needs of the NERC and other regulatory agencies. Edison reports that
10 these new personnel include dispatchers, technicians, electricians, and a librarian.

11 **2. Optimize System Operations**

12 The second future adjustment by SCE is to “Optimize System Operations.”
13 The costs start at \$224,000 in 2010 and jump to \$1.264 million by TY 2012. This
14 new cost category includes 10 additional personnel such as maintenance mechanics
15 and a Program Manager. A non-personnel cost is for “Hydro Modeling Upgrade” to
16 improve data gathering, forecasting, and grid operator requirements, according to the
17 company.

18 **3. Treatment for SCE’s Future Adjustments**

19 DRA has several concerns regarding SCE’s proposed future adjustments to
20 the Hydro O&M forecast. First, adding 28 new personnel, with the majority of the
21 hires scheduled for TY 2012, represents a nearly 10 percent increase in total Hydro
22 Division staffing. Many of these new hires seem to have tasks which should be
23 covered within the current Hydro staff of dispatchers, technicians, and electricians.

24 Second, the future adjustment categories not related to staffing increases,
25 such as the maintenance activities (Flowline & Penstock and Powerhouse &
26 Structure), are forecast to ramp up dramatically in TY 2012. SCE has not explained
27 why these activities have sudden cost increases timed with the Test Year.

28 Given these concerns, DRA recommends that to approve the Future
29 Adjustments, the base year forecast should be adjusted back to reflect the historical
30 average O&M costs. The base forecast is \$41.785 million under DRA’s approach.

1 Adding SCE's future adjustments to DRA's base brings the total TY Hydro O&M to
2 \$50.591 million. This represents a \$6.840 million reduction to SCE's request.

3 **C. Hydro Generation Capital Expenditures**

4 The hydro capital expenditure forecasts for years 2010, 2011, and 2012, are
5 \$104.5 million, \$93.1 million, and \$95.5 million, respectively. DRA recommends no
6 adjustments to the Hydro generation capital forecasts.

7 **VI. DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF CATALINA COSTS**

8 **A. Overview of SCE's Request**

9 SCE provides electricity for Catalina Island customers with a system of diesel
10 generators and micro turbines totaling 9.4 MW. Edison requests \$4.730 million for
11 TY 2012 O&M,¹⁶ and \$7.213 million, \$12.110 million, and \$1.060 million in capital
12 expenditures for 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively.¹⁷

13 **B. Catalina O&M Expenses**

14 SCE forecasts \$4.730 million for TY 2012 O&M expenses. DRA analyzed the
15 three FERC accounts for Catalina, 548, 549, and 553 and recommends certain
16 minor adjustments. The adjustments are based on reliance on the five-year historical
17 average, or the 2009 recorded data. DRA's total adjustment is \$140,000, of which
18 \$87,000 is for Account 553. The \$87,000 expense is for four power packs, where
19 SCE spread the total cost of the packs over three years. This does not appear to be
20 an appropriate Test Year expense, because the funds are available through current
21 authorized base rates.

¹⁶ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.11, p.4.

¹⁷ The annual Catalina capital forecasts are derived from SCE's revenue requirement model.

1 **C. Catalina Capital Expenditures**

2 SCE forecasts \$7.213 million, \$12.110 million, and \$1,060 million in capital
3 expenditures for 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively. DRA recommends two
4 adjustments to the SCE forecasts. Both adjustments are based on the fact that these
5 projects were previously approved in the 2009 General Rate Case.

6 **1. Control Room Betterment Project**

7 SCE requests \$1.147 million to complete a Control Room Betterment Project.
8 As Edison states, it requested and the Commission approved this project in the 2009
9 GRC.¹⁸ The company states that other projects made it necessary to delay this
10 project.¹⁹ DRA believes it is inappropriate for SCE to ask the Commission to “re-
11 approve” this project. Therefore, DRA recommends that the Commission reject
12 SCE’s request. The resulting adjustment totals \$573,500 per year in both 2010 and
13 2011.

14 **2. Main & Garage Buildings Betterment**

15 SCE requests \$4.623 million to complete the Main & Garage Buildings
16 Betterment Project. Similar to the Control Room Project, this project was approved in
17 the 2009 GRC but not constructed. Edison states the deferral was related to a
18 Settlement Agreement with the South Coast Air Quality Management District
19 (SCAQMD).²⁰ This does not justify a second request to fund the same project,
20 because the availability of funding should not be affected by an outside agency’s
21 schedule. DRA recommends an adjustment of \$4.623 million, to be split evenly
22 between 2010 and 2011. The Catalina capital forecasts should be reduced by
23 \$2.312 million in both 2010 and 2011, reflecting the Main & Garage Buildings
24 Betterment Project adjustment.

¹⁸ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.11, p.25.

¹⁹ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.11, p.26.

²⁰ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 11, p.26.

1 **3. DRA Recommendation for Catalina Capital**

2 The two projects that DRA recommends removal from the 2010 and 2011
3 budgets total \$2.885 million for each year (\$2.312 million plus \$0.573 million). SCE's
4 Catalina capital forecasts for 2010 and 2011 should be reduced by \$2.885 million in
5 each year.

6 **VII. DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS OF THE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC**
7 **PROGRAM AND THE FUEL CELL PROGRAM**

8 Section VII describes and analyzes SCE's TY 2012 funding request for O&M
9 and 2010-2012 capital cost forecasts related to the Solar Photovoltaic Program
10 (Solar PV) and the Fuel Cell Program (FCP).

11 **A. Overview of SCE's Request**

12 The activities analyzed here include the Solar PV Program and the Fuel Cell
13 Technology Program.²¹ Both programs were previously approved in separate
14 Commission proceedings. In this GRC, SCE makes certain requests which are
15 inconsistent with the decisions authorizing these programs.

16 **B. Solar PV Program O&M Expenses and Balancing Account**
17 **Treatment**

18 SCE's TY 2012 request for the Solar Photovoltaic (PV) O&M activities total
19 \$xxxxx million. This includes \$xxxxx million for the Solar PV Program labor and non-
20 labor expense, and \$xxxxx million for the Solar PV lease expense.

21 SCE's testimony states:

- 22 • The Solar Photovoltaic Program is authorized funding pursuant to D.09-
23 06-049.
- 24 • *SCE is not requesting additional capital beyond those amounts already*
25 *authorized in D.09-06-049 (emphasis added).*

²¹ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.10 includes the Project Development Division O&M TY 2012 request of \$6.55 million. DRA does not oppose this request.

- 1 • SCE is requesting to include recovery of the associated solar photovoltaic
2 program revenue requirement in the total general rate case revenue
3 requirement, consistent with how SCE recovers other utility owned
4 generation revenue requirements (emphasis added).²²

5 SCE also states that it is requesting funding for Test Year 2012 O&M
6 expenses for the Solar PV Program.²³ SCE's TY2012 request for the Solar PV
7 Program O&M activities total \$xxxxx million over and above those O&M funds
8 already authorized in D.09-06-049. This includes \$xxxxx million for the Solar PV
9 Program labor and on-labor expense, and \$xxxxx million for the Solar PV lease
10 expense.

11 Essentially, SCE is making two significant proposals for the Solar PV
12 Program. The first is to add certain funds beyond those already authorized in
13 D.09.06-049. The second is to change the ratemaking treatment of the program from
14 a one-way balancing account to traditional GRC base rate revenue requirement
15 treatment. Both of these proposals should be denied.

16 **1. Solar PV Program Funding**

17 The Solar PV Program is authorized \$41.31 million (2008\$) in O&M and
18 \$962.5 million (2008\$) in direct capital expenditures during the 2008 through 2014
19 program period.²⁴ Elsewhere in the authorizing decision, the program was
20 expected to last five years.²⁵ Assuming the five-year program life, SCE is currently
21 authorized to collect \$8.262 million (\$2008\$) annually in O&M funds for the Solar PV
22 Program.

²² Exh. SCE-02, Vol.10, Summary page.

²³ Exh. SCE-2, Vol.10, p.10.

²⁴ D.09-06-049, (mimeo), p.44.

²⁵ D.09-06-049, (mimeo), p.7, p.8.

1 SCE's showing appears to request an additional \$xxxxx million in annual
2 O&M funds, or \$xxxxxx million over the three year rate case cycle.²⁶ All of this
3 request should be denied, for several reasons. First, it is premature to request
4 additional funding for a program that was expected to last five years, but has been
5 rolled out for just over one year at the time of this GRC application. Second, based
6 on recent information from SCE, the recorded program O&M expenditures through
7 March, 2011, totaled \$4.74 million, well below what has already been authorized.²⁷
8 In other words, SCE has over \$36 million in program funds available before it would
9 need an additional authorization for Solar PV funds. An additional \$xx million, as
10 requested in the SCE testimony, is unwarranted, and will not be a prudent use of
11 ratepayer funds.

12 Finally, a recent filing by Edison provides strong evidence that additional
13 funds are not warranted. In the Petition For Modification (PFM) of D.09-06-049,
14 dated February 11, 2011, SCE requests that the Solar PV Program, Utility-Owned
15 Generation (UOG), be reduced from a 250 MW program to 125 MW program.²⁸
16 SCE also states that the revisions requested in the PFM could result in
17 approximately \$300 million in savings to the revenue requirement on a present value
18 basis.²⁹ So clearly, SCE should recognize that its Solar PV Program request in the
19 GRC is inconsistent with not only the program activities to date, but its own recent
20 recommendation to the Commission.³⁰ The currently authorized funding should be
21 more that adequate to carry the program through the 2012-14 general rate case

²⁶ Exh. SCE-02, Vol. 10, pp. 19-22.

²⁷ SCE's Response to Data Request DRA-SCE-256-SJL, Q.5 Attachment.

²⁸ PFM, p.2.

²⁹ PFM, p.3.

³⁰ Responses to Data Request DRA-SCE-256-SJL indicate that SCE will maintain its position filed in its GRC testimony regarding the Solar PV Program until such time that the Commission acts on the PFM.

1 cycle. For all of the above reasons, SCE's Solar PV Program funding request should
2 be denied.

3 **2. Solar PV Program Balancing Account**

4 In addition to the increase in funding, SCE requests elimination of the Solar
5 PV Program Balancing Account (SPVBA).³¹ The SPVBA was authorized in D.09-
6 06-049. Balancing accounts are established for certain programs or activities that
7 are distinct from traditional utility O&M activities and spending practices. The SPVBA
8 was adopted based on Edison's proposal.³² There is no reason to eliminate the
9 SPVBA at this time, particularly since the program may undergo a significant
10 modification based on SCE's PFM, which will result in lower spending patterns for
11 the UOG program. The SPVBA should be maintained through this general rate case
12 cycle to ensure that the currently authorized funds are directed only to Solar PV
13 Program activities.

14 **C. Fuel Cell Technology Program**

15 SCE requests that currently authorized funding for the Fuel Cell Technology
16 Program be maintained.³³ DRA does not oppose this request. SCE also requests
17 elimination of the Fuel Cell Memorandum Account.³⁴ DRA opposes this request.

18 The Fuel Cell Program Memorandum Account (FCPMA) was established
19 pursuant to D.10-04-028. As stated in SCE's Preliminary Statement, "The purpose of
20 a Memorandum Account is to record all costs incurred by the Company for Specific
21 Projects authorized by the Commission."³⁵ The Preliminary Statement also states
22 that "Entries (of the revenue requirement) will be recorded in the FCPMA until such

³¹ Exh. SCE-10, p.30.

³² D.09-06-049, mimeo, p.8

³³ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.10, pp.33-38

³⁴ Exh. SCE-10, p.35.

³⁵ www.sce.com, SCE Tariff Books, Preliminary Statement, Sheet 1

1 time as recovery of the Fuel Cell Program revenue requirement is included in a
2 General Rate Case revenue requirement.”³⁶ DRA agrees that this is the
3 appropriate proceeding to now include the recorded costs of the FCP within the
4 authorized funding of \$19.1 million capital and \$8.9 million for O&M in the base
5 revenue requirement.

6 However, as the FCP is a “specific project” activity as defined in the
7 Preliminary Statement, and D.10-04-028 did not authorized spending above the
8 amounts noted above, the FCPMA should be replaced with a one-way balancing
9 account beginning in January 1, 2012. One-way balancing account treatment is
10 consistent with D.10-04-028, which states that SCE “may file either a petition for
11 modification or a separate application to seek recovery of the excess (spending over
12 \$19.1 million capital, \$8.9 million O&M).”³⁷ This treatment will also ensure that the
13 ratepayer funds authorized for the program are not redirected to other activities or
14 shareholder accounts.

15 **D. Solar PV Program and Fuel Cell Technology Program Capital** 16 **Expenditures**

17 SCE’s forecasts for capital expenditures for the Solar PV Program are \$191.0
18 million, \$197.0 million, and \$203.0 million for 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively.³⁸
19 The forecasts for Fuel Cell Program capital expenditures are \$6.30 million, \$12.80
20 million, and \$0 for 2010, 2011, and 2012, respectively.³⁹ DRA makes no
21 adjustments to these forecasts.

³⁶ www.sce.com, SCE Tariff Books, Preliminary Statement, Sheet 58

³⁷ D.10-04-028, Ordering Paragraph 4c.

³⁸ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.10, p.11.

³⁹ Exh. SCE-02, Vol.10, p.35.