

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298



April 7, 2023

File Nos.: A.22-05-015/016

Joseph Mock
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Southern California Gas Company
555 W. Fifth Street, GT14D6
Los Angeles, CA 90013-1011
JMock@semprautilities.com

RE: Request for Extension to Submit a Draft Proponent's Environmental Assessment for the Ventura Compressor Modernization Project by May 24, 2023

Dear Joseph Mock:

In your letter dated March 31, 2023, on behalf of Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), you request an extension of time to submit a draft Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) by May 24, 2023, and the related Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the Ventura Compressor Modernization (VCM) Project in compliance with the General Order 177 on or after August 24, 2023 (Request).

On December 5, 2022, I required SoCalGas to file a consolidated VCM Project application to comply with the Assigned Commissioner's Scoping Memo and Ruling in the Consolidated General Rate Case (GRC) Applications (A.) 22-05-015 and 22-05-016 (GRC Scoping Memo) and the General Order (GO) 177, adopted in Decision (D.) 22-12-021 (Executive Director's Letter), while also approving a similar extension request. The Executive Director's Letter allowed 120 days from the issuance of GO 177 to file the application, resulting in an April 7, 2023 deadline to file an application.

The Request states that SoCalGas has made substantial efforts to produce a PEA and CPCN application within the expected timeline, such as 1) it has neared completion of a comprehensive PEA; 2) met with Commission's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) staff to review the future application, and 3) continued engagement and communication with the community by holding public meetings in March 2023 regarding the status and next steps on the project. The Request seeks additional time to submit a draft PEA to Commission's CEQA team by May 24, 2023. The Request states that providing the PEA to the Commission's CEQA division on May 24, 2023 would mean an application could be filed on or after August 24, 2023. The Request further states that SoCalGas will continue to work with CEQA staff to determine the appropriate timing for submitting the draft PEA, consistent with standard procedures for such projects.

Considering safety and reliability concerns surrounding the VCM Project, I had anticipated that SoCalGas would file a CPCN application within 120 days of the issuance date of the GO 177 to prevent delays in the Commission's project review. Based on the Request, SoCalGas has made some progress but is still uncertain about the timeline for submitting its draft PEA and filing an

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application. To allow SoCalGas to comply with the GRC Scoping Memo and the requirements for a PEA and a CPCN application as per D.22-12-021, I am granting a further extension under Commission's Rule 16.6 for SoCalGas to file a consolidated application. The deadline for submitting the draft PEA is extended to May 24, 2023, and the deadline for filing the CPCN application is extended to on or before August 24, 2023.

Due to the uncertainty surrounding the application timeline, SoCalGas shall provide a progress update to the service list of A.22-05-015/016 and Rulemaking (R.) 20-01-007, and the Executive Director, by July 10, 2023.

Pursuant to Rule 16.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, SoCalGas must promptly inform all parties to the general rate case proceeding A.22-05-015/016 and R.20-01-007 of the extension and must state in the opening paragraph of the consolidated VCM Project application that the Executive Director has authorized the extension.

Sincerely,

Ryan O. Dulin for Rachel Peterson

Rachel Peterson
Executive Director