## JOINT UTILITY LOW INCOME PUBLIC MEETING

### California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Programs

Southern California Gas Company San Diego Gas & Electric Company Pacific Gas and Electric Company Southern California Edison Company

Energy Resource Center, Downey May 20, 2008



### **CARE Eligibility**

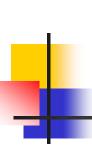
There are two ways to qualify for the CARE discount:

- Categorical eligible
  - Household receives benefits from Medi-Cal, Food Stamps, TANF, WIC, Healthy Families, and/or LIHEAP
- Income eligible
  - Maximum household income less than 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines



Effective June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009

Size of Household	Annual Income (before taxes)
1	\$30,500
2	\$30,500
3	\$35,800
4	\$43,200
5	\$50,600
6	\$58,000
For Each Additional	
Person, Add:	\$7,400



# SoCalGas Program Updates 2007 and 2008

- Categorical eligibility for CARE
- Four-year recertification for fixed income customers
- Probability Model for verification and recertification
- Internet enrollment and recertification
- Recertification by phone
- Outbound telephone campaign
- Enhance LIHEAP/GAF/CARE data exchange
- Third party outreach program

### SoCalGas – 2009-2011 Application

- Filed May 15, 2008
- Continue current best practices, with increased budgets for the most cost effective outreach efforts CARE and operation enhancements
- Administrative budgets requested
  - PY2008: \$4.7 million
  - PY2009: \$6.3 million
  - PY2010: \$6.5 million
  - PY2011: \$6.6 million
- Expand phone enrollment, third party outreach, and new leveraging opportunities
- Propose program requirement changes
  - Two year recertification cycle for sub-Metered tenants, except four-year for fixed income tenants
  - Two year recertification cycle for CARE Expanded Programs
- Continue four year recertification using probability method
- Include Section & and Public Housing participant as CARE categorical eligibility



### SoCalGas - 2009-2011 Application

- Phone system enhancements
  - Full-service CARE 1-800 number
  - Allow customers to enroll using an Interactive Voice Response (IVR)
  - IVR calls to customers who have not responded to recertification requests
- Reduce application process costs:
  - Promote paperless internet and phone enrollment/ recertification
  - Improve recognition of handwritten CARE applications
- Real-time approval for web applications and recertifications



## SDG&E Program Updates 2007 and 2008

- Program Implementation 2007
  - Implementation of Categorical Eligibility
  - On-line CARE Enrollment
  - CARE Outbound Telephone Enrollment using Automated Voice Messaging (AVM)
- 2008 Program Implementation
  - Fixed Income Recertification

### SDG&E 2009-2011 Application

- Propose same residential program requirements for Sub-Metered
  - Two year recertification cycle
  - Anniversary date renewal
  - Fixed Income Recertification
- Two year recertification cycle for Expanded CARE Facilities
- Continuation of four year recertification using probability modeling
- Telephone Enrollment
  - Addition of Inbound Telephone Enrollment
  - Continuation of Recertification Telephone Enrollment
- Addition of Section 8 & Public Housing to Categorical Enrollment
- CARE Administrative budgets requested
  - \$2.75 Current 2008 Budget
  - \$2.9 million for PY 2009
  - \$3.0 million for PY 2010
  - \$3.1 million for PY 2011



# PG&E Program Updates 2007-2008

 Categorical Enrollment: Implemented June 1, 2007

- Four-year recertification for fixed-income participants: Implemented June 1, 2007
- On-line enrollment: Implemented 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2008



### PG&E 2009 – 2011 Application

- Filed on May 15, 2008
- Propose same residential program requirements for Sub-Metered tenants
- Propose two-year certification for CARE Expanded Programs
- Propose survey of customers not responding to Recertification and Post Enrollment Verification requests
- CARE Administrative budgets requested
  - \$7,732,000 Current 2008 budget
  - \$8,761,000 for PY 2009
  - \$9,216,000 for PY 2010
  - \$9,521,000 for PY 2011



# A Look Back at 2007-08 ... A Look Ahead at 2009-11



## 2007 & 2008

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## Innovation & Outreach!



### Enhancements implemented in 2007:

- Implementation of Real Time Online Enrollment, Recertification and De-Enrollment Applications
  - English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, & Vietnamese
- Implementation of simplified Recertification Application
- Quarterly bill message enrollment notification to CARE participants
- Direct communication with sub-metered tenants
- Continued VRU Recertification
- Continued Phone Enrollment

# SCE Program Updates 2008

### Enhancements to be implemented in 2008:

- Categorical Eligibility & Fixed Income, May 2008
- Revision of CARE/FERA Applications to coincide with Categorical Eligibility, May 2008
- Transit Video Streaming Outreach, May 2008
- Customer CARE/FERA Enrollment Notification, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009
- Implementation of Probability Model for Verification and Recertification, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009
- Enhancement of SCE/So Cal Gas Datashare, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009



#### 2009-11 Planned Proposal Recommendations:

- Same residential program requirements for sub-metered tenants
- Two-year certification for CARE Expanded Programs
- Probability Model for recertification
- Multilingual program awareness campaign
  - Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Cambodian
- Work with Public Housing Authority and Section 8 agencies within SCE service territory to incorporate CARE application into agency intake process
- Expanded outreach
- CARE/FERA Administrative Budget Requested
  - \$4.2 Current 2008 Budget
  - \$5.5 million for PY 2009
  - \$5.4 million for PY 2010
  - \$5.5 million for PY 2011



## Public Input – New items



### **Next Steps**

- Next Meeting to be scheduled in
  - Available dates: