



## **PG&E Low Income Programs Monthly Report for August 2008**

This Low Income Programs Monthly Report complies with Ordering Paragraphs 14 and 17 of Decision (D.) 01-05-033, requiring the utilities to comply with reporting and program evaluation requirements previously established for the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Low Income Energy Efficiency (LIEE) programs, including the reporting of costs and effects from these programs on an annual basis using the Reporting Requirements Manual. Reporting categories are consistent with the definitions contained in the Reporting Requirements Manual filed on January 10, 2002, as revised with Energy Division, following the February 21, 2007 public workshop. Additionally, utilities are required to file regular monthly status reports on the results of their Low Income Programs.

A complete listing of the Low Income Programs Reporting Tables is included in Attachment A to this report.

### **Monthly Low Income Programs Reporting**

This Low Income Programs Report includes actual LIEE and CARE results and expenditures through August 2008. *All results reported in this monthly report update and supersede data reported in previous reports.*

**2008 Reporting.** D.06-12-038 authorized PG&E's CARE and LIEE programs and budgets for 2007-2008. The authorized CARE administration budget is \$7,557,000 for 2007 (plus \$287,500 for PG&E's 2007 Cooling Center Pilot Program) and \$7,732,000 for 2008. The authorized LIEE program budget is \$77,733,500 per year, plus any unspent carryover from previous years.

The Joint Utilities, the Energy Division and the Division of Ratepayer Advocates worked together on a proposal to update and streamline low income reporting tables for 2007. Some of the previous reporting tables were specific to California State Senate Bill X1-5, enacted in 2001, which required Low Income Rapid Deployment Program funding restrictions and criteria that are no longer relevant to the current programs. Additionally, there have been many changes to the low income programs since 2001 that were not adequately represented in program reports.

D.06-12-038, Ordering Paragraph 9, specified that the Joint Utilities should collaborate with the Energy Division on reporting and comply with reporting requirements set forth by the Energy Division. The Joint Utilities, in consultation with the Energy Division and the Division of Ratepayer Advocates, are using the new reporting criteria agreed to in a November 8, 2006 conference call, beginning with the January 2007 report submitted February 21, 2007. A public workshop to discuss low income program reporting was held at the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on February 21, 2007. Workshop participants reviewed and reached consensus on the LIEE monthly reports and reporting categories.

PG&E is using the most recent measure energy savings by climate zone developed in the

Joint Utility 2001 LIEE Program Evaluation and the Standardization Team's Cost Effectiveness Report for all measures where these are available. For measures not included in the program year (PY) 2001 Evaluation, PG&E is using the best data available from the Database of Energy Efficiency Resources (DEER) or other sources. An impact evaluation of the PY2005 LIEE program was completed on December 19, 2007.

**Customer Eligibility.** In March 2003, the Joint Utilities updated and revised the penetration rate calculation methodology in compliance with D.02-07-033 and Assigned Commissioner's Ruling (ACR) dated December 27, 2002, as described in previous reports.<sup>1</sup>

To qualify for the CARE and LIEE programs, a residential customer's household income must be at or below 200 percent of Federal Poverty Guidelines, as required in D.05-10-044.

The Joint Utilities updated their annual customer eligibility estimations as required in a June 24, 2004 Commission Scoping Memo and filed these new annual estimates of the number of CARE-eligible customers for 2008 on October 15, 2007 (as later authorized going forward by D.06-12-038, Ordering Paragraph 10). PG&E uses these new eligibility estimates in these 2008 reports. As a result of this annual demographic adjustment, the estimated CARE and LIEE-eligible populations in PG&E's service area have both slightly decreased. As a result of the decrease in eligible population, PG&E's 2008 CARE and LIEE penetration rates have increased slightly from the penetration rate reported at the end of 2007 and are thus not comparable to penetration rates reported for 2007.

## **Low Income Program Highlights**

### **CARE Program Updates**

On April 23, 2008, the Commission issued its annual update to the CARE and LIEE program income guidelines effective June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009. PG&E has incorporated the new CARE and LIEE income guidelines into its tariffs and all program materials, as described in Advice 2924-G/3268-E filed on May 14, 2008.

### **CARE Program Automatic Enrollment**

PG&E currently exchanges data with Southern California Edison Company (SCE) and Southern California Gas Company (SCG) to automatically enroll their CARE customers who also receive PG&E service. PG&E also participates in data exchanges regarding qualified low income customers with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). PG&E provides natural gas in the SMUD electric service area and will automatically enroll qualified low income customers served by SMUD into CARE.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Joint Utility Methodology for Calculating CARE Penetration* (February 6, 2002) and the *Joint Utility CARE Eligibility Update* (February 21, 2003) can be found as Attachments A and B in PG&E's *Nineteenth Annual Progress Report to the California Public Utilities Commission on the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Program, January 1, 2007-December 31, 2007*, submitted April 30, 2008.

PG&E has resumed the automatic enrollment of LIHEAP customers, as authorized in D.02-07-033. 16,315 LIHEAP customers have been automatically enrolled into CARE in 2008.

### **CARE Program Outreach in August**

PG&E's CARE Program rolled out multiple outreach direct mailings to increase enrollment of eligible customers:

- College Initiative: 6,650 English/Spanish applications were mailed to community colleges within PG&E's service areas so they could be available to students and their families who are in need of financial assistance.
- Recert Direct Mail: 7,177 English/Spanish direct mail pieces were mailed to customers who failed to recertify.

The CARE Program participated in outreach events in Oakland, Woodland, Quincy, Livermore, Hayward, Stockton, Richmond, Redwood City and Sacramento where program representatives were available to answer questions and help customers enroll in the program.

### **Low Income Energy Efficiency Program**

PG&E contracts directly with both community-based organizations and private contractors who provide a wealth of experience in the communities they serve. PG&E currently has 17 installation contractors and three appliance contractors who serve 48 counties and over 70,000 square miles in PG&E's service area.

PG&E has nine contracts with Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) agencies that are not working within PG&E's LIEE program. PG&E is coordinating with these LIHEAP agencies to install ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> refrigerators in homes receiving PG&E electric service where the LIHEAP contractors have installed all other measures under the State Weatherization Program. This allows both the LIEE and LIHEAP programs to leverage their resources and help additional low income homes. Through August, 603 refrigerators have been installed, which equates to \$622,296 leveraged through this program.

LIEE leveraged with Rebuilding Together Peninsula (RTP) to provide energy efficient measures to 42 families who participated in this year's spring event. RTP is an organization that provides rehabilitation services to homes occupied by low income families throughout San Mateo County. RTP was able to stretch their funds further and provide a greater service to the families who participated because LIEE was able to install certain energy efficient measures, which otherwise would have been installed and funded by RTP.

On April 30<sup>th</sup> LIEE participated in a rehabilitation effort which took place at the Laurel House in San Mateo, CA, which is a part of the Women's Recovery Association. The Laurel House is a nonprofit organization on CARE that provides services to live-in women who are suffering from substance and physical abuse. LIEE incorporated a number of energy efficiency measures to serve the facility.

In 2008, the LIEE team contracted with three community action agencies (CAA) to pilot the Energy Education Workshop program. The workshops address customers' energy usage, utility bill assessment and energy saving practices. The objective is to provide energy education to low income customers and have them adopt energy saving behaviors to lower their energy bills. In August 2008, 17 customers participated in the workshops.

PG&E and its contractors use PG&E's Energy Partners Online database (EPO) for LIEE activities. The database shows which customers received LIEE services, what year they were provided, and which customers are participating in CARE. With this information, the contractors are better able to market to the community, e.g., contacting only those customers who have not received LIEE services in the past.

Through EPO, contractors are provided information about customers who have requested LIEE services (referrals). Each home that receives LIEE services where the customer is not on the CARE rate is then signed up for the CARE discount. In the month of August, 2,501 LIEE participants were enrolled in CARE.

LIEE program materials are provided in seven languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Russian, Korean, and Hmong.

In addition, PG&E continues to combine its LIEE and CARE outreach activities in order to leverage low income outreach efforts and provide PG&E low income customers with the knowledge and tools to access all of PG&E's free energy services.

**Attachment A**  
**Low Income Programs Monthly Reporting Tables**

**LIEE Tables**

**Table 1L** – LIEE Program Expenses

**Table 2L** – LIEE Measure Installations & Savings

**Table 3L** – Average Bill Savings per Treated Home

**Table 4L** – LIEE Homes Treated by County

**Table 5L** – LIEE Customer Summary

**CARE Tables**

**Table 1C** – CARE Program Expenses

**Table 2C** – CARE Enrollment, Recertification, Attrition, and Penetration

**Table 3C** – CARE Standard Random Verification Results

**Table 4C** – CARE Enrollment by County

**Table 5C** – CARE Capitation Contractors

**Table 6C** – CARE Participants as of Month-End