Chairman Jeff Kawar and Members
Franchise Compliance Review Committee
City of San Diego, c/o Sustainability and Mobility Department

BY EMAIL: mong@sandiego.gov and hwerner@sandiego.gov

RE: Franchise Compliance Review Committee Meeting Agenda, June 3, 2024 Item VI, Compliance Review Committee Report, SECTION 6. "Recommendations on the Automatic Renewal of the Secondary Term"

Dear Chairman Kawar and Members of the Franchise Compliance Review Committee:

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information and follow-up on written comments submitted on behalf of Community Energy Action Network (**CEAN**) for Agenda Item VI on the May 9, 2024 Franchise Compliance Review Committee (**FCRC**) meeting. These additional comments specifically address Section 6 of the Committee's draft report with respect to the description of the Phase I Report of the Public Power Feasibility Study (**PPFS**) presented at the City Council Environment Committee meeting of July 20, 2023.

This letter is submitted after conferring with Bill Powers, P.E., principal of Powers Engineering and campaign chair of the Power San Diego PAC. Power San Diego has circulated an initiative petition to create a not-for-profit municipal electric distribution utility to acquire, own and operate the electric distribution system in the City. The City's electric distribution system is currently owned by SDGE and is subject to the Electric Franchise Agreement which is under review by the FCRC.

The Committee Draft Report recognizes at Section 6 that "the City could terminate the Franchise at any time if the City Council, or the electors of the City, adopt an ordinance that authorizes the City to municipalize the provision of electric or gas services in the City pursuant to Section 104 of the City Charter or other applicable law" and we support the recommendation for the City "continuing to obtain information about **potential options for energy distribution**".

However, the PPFS Phase 1 scope of work and findings do not – by themselves – provide the City with the full suite of information necessary to properly evaluate those options. The PPFS Phase 1 study did not build on two previous San Diego municipalization feasibility studies, one funded by a local non-profit (2017) and the other funded by the City (2020), regarding public power options and costs. Neither prior study is mentioned or referenced in the PPFS Phase 1 study. Both prior studies identified a public distribution (only) electric utility as the preferred alternative for the City of San Diego.

The PPFS Phase 1 study looked only at a transmission and distribution utility. As a result, the bullet points included in the Committee's DRAFT report do not address the cost, timeline, and benefits that a not-for-profit municipal electric distribution utility could provide.

We would like to bring four attachments to this letter to your attention for inclusion in the final report to the City Council:

- Ballot Proposal Presentation: Non-Profit Electric Distribution Utility, B. Powers, July 26, 2023
- 2. Public Power Study Citizens Task Force proposal to Rules Committee, October 27, 2021
- 3. Citizens for Study of Energy Alternatives, Letter in Support, November 3, 2021
- 4. Power San Diego Initiative Ordinance, filed November 21, 2023

The significance of each attachment is explained in the following paragraphs.

**Attachment 1** is a critique of the PPFS Phase 1 Report presented by Mr. Powers at the July 26, 2023 City Council Rules Committee hearing in support of his submittal of a proposed ballot measure to establish a "non-profit electric distribution-only utility".

The Rules Committee voted at the July 26, 2023 meeting to advance Mr. Powers' non-profit electric distribution-only utility ballot proposal for staff and Environment Committee review. Staff review was not conducted. The Environment Committee did not support the ballot proposal at its September 14, 2023 meeting and did not direct the proposal back to the Rules Committee for further consideration.

Key points in the July 26, 2023 presentation included the following: The PPFS Phase 1 study report has too many flawed assumptions. The public power feasibility study prepared for the City in 2020 and a previous study provided to the City in 2017 use more balanced and appropriate assumptions including evaluation of an electric distribution-only utility that would be a self-financed special district funded by customer revenue. The City's 2020 study accurately assesses the costs of acquisition and impact on customer rates, advises a more expeditious approach with valuation of the assets to be established by a panel of appraisers, the elimination of transmission charges on locally generated solar power, and the potential for complementary development of local solar and storage facilities with San Diego Community Power.

A not-for-profit distribution utility such as that evaluated in the 2020 feasibility study would honor collective bargaining agreements, encourage and incentivize customer generation (in accord with the City policy outlined in Section 12(a) of the current Electric Franchise Agreement), avoid fixed charges and build its own solar and battery storage power if the market cannot provide those resources at competitive prices.

An additional critique of the Phase 1 Study Report is that the annual revenue growth rates for SDGE are assumed in the Financial Capacity Analysis to decline from 10% to 3% after 2027 for the remainder of the 30-year study period. This assumption is counter to projections by

Sempra/SDGE to shareholders and the CPUC that due to wildfire mitigation measures, renewable energy transmission projects, electrification of all appliances, buildings, as well as EV charging infrastructure, revenues will increase at a rate far higher than 3% per year for the foreseeable future. The Phase 1 study's unsubstantiated revenue growth assumption results in a substantial underestimate of the 30-year savings for San Diego customers (a maximum of \$15 billion is projected in the PPFA Phase 1 study versus \$50 billion or more in savings at current and projected SDGE revenue growth rates).

One of the key reasons that the PPFS Phase I study, completed at an estimated budget of \$1-2 million, was allowed to proceed with assumptions inconsistent with the two previous municipalization feasibility studies is that there was no publicly noticed stakeholder or citizen task force review of the scope-of-work or the draft report.

A proposal submitted on behalf of CEAN with support of Citizens for Study of Energy Alternatives and approved by the City Council Rules Committee at its October 27, 2021 meeting, to establish a "Citizens Public Power Feasibility Study Task Force" (see **Attachments 2** and 3) to work with staff and the consultants to vet the study scope-of-work and review study progress and report drafts, was not carried forward.

All of these factors could be expected to have led to significantly different conclusions, regarding municipalization costs, savings to customers, and the timeframe for a transition to a public power alternative, than those enumerated in the Committee's draft report.

**Attachment 4**, the Power San Diego ballot initiative, was published in November 2023. Collected signatures were submitted to the City Clerk on May 14, 2024 for sufficiency review and – pending confirmation of a sufficient number of valid signatures – presentation to the City Council for its consideration to accept or reject placing the measure on the November 2024 ballot.

The Power San Diego initiative (at page 5, Section 74.0114) states that "The provisions of the (proposed) Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions Ordinance shall govern, supersede, and prevail over any inconsistent provisions of Ordinance No. 21328, to the extent such provisions relate to the Utility Distribution System." The referenced Ordinance No. 21328 is the electric franchise awarded to SDGE effective July 2021, one of the key agreements being reviewed by the FCRC for compliance.

We respectively request that the FCRC revise the sections of the draft report related to "Public Power Feasibility Studies" in accord with the information we have provided in this letter and reference this letter and the attachments to this letter in the appropriate section of the report.

Thank you for your diligence in reviewing the electric and gas franchise agreements and the Auditor's Report. Please contact us with any questions regarding the content of this letter or the attachments.

## Sincerely,

#### **HC Jay Powell, Principal**

Cooperations – In the Public Interest, for the Common Good Community Energy Action Network



### Bill Powers, Campaign Chair

Power San Diego



#### Attachments:

- 1. Ballot Proposal Presentation: Non-Profit Electric Distribution Utility, B. Powers, July 26, 2023
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SOLARSD / FCRC Written Comments Agenda Item 6 052824 F

# **Ballot Proposal Presentation: Non-Profit Electric Distribution Utility for the City of San Diego**

B. Powers, July 26, 2023

My comments today will address two topics at once:

- 1. This non-profit <u>electric distribution-only</u> utility ballot proposal
- 2. How it differs from the City's Phase 1 Public Power Study I was out-of-state last week when the Environment Committee addressed the Phase 1 study. That is why I did not comment at that meeting.

I want to thank Councilmember LaCava for advocating for the Public Power Study, the concept has merit. However – the City should suspend further work on the Public Power Study in its current form. It has too many flawed assumptions. These flaws would be rectified by this ballot proposal.

The public power study prepared in 2020 for the City during the franchise agreement negotiations by the same contractor, NewGen Strategies, along with the prime contractor JVJ, covers the same ground as the Phase 1 Study with more balanced and appropriate assumptions. The NewGen assumptions used in 2020 should have served as building blocks for the Phase 1 Study and they did not.

In my opinion, the Study could be revised quickly to reflect the reasonable assumptions used in 2020 by NewGen. Alternatively, or in parallel, the Rules Committee can vote to advance this ballot proposal, which resolves the substantive problems with the Phase 1 Study.

Problems with the Phase 1 Study that are resolved by this ballot proposal are as follows:

- 1) The structure should be an <u>electric distribution-only</u> utility, not a transmission & distribution utility. Two prior public power studies for San Diego, PowerServices in 2017 and JVJ/NewGen in 2020, determined a <u>distribution-only model</u> offered the best economic benefit and least complexity. The distribution-only approach avoids involving the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). As the JVJ report stated ". . . approval by LAFCO is not required for the formation of a (distribution) utility to serve within the City." This would shave six years off the Phase 1 Study schedule for municipalization.
- 2) The Phase 1 Study makes much of the cost of acquiring SDG&E's poles and wires in the City. The JVJ report got it right, stating: "The purchase price assumption does not have significant effect on the cost customers would pay for service." The purchase price is spread over 30 years, over billions of kilowatt-hours per year, at low municipal bond rates. That is why the asset purchase cost does not move the needle much on customer rates. We are currently paying SDG&E for these assets. The purchase would be equivalent to a homeowner refinancing a home loan at a lower interest rate. That is all.

- 3) The non-profit utility would be a self-financed special district funded by customer revenue with no exposure to the City's General Fund. (example: Public Facilities Financing Authority of San Diego)
- 4) The Phase 1 Study includes 3.5 years of delay to determine the asset value of the poles and wires through a condemnation process. The JVJ report advised a much more expeditious approach ". . . with the valuation to be established by a panel of appraisers." There is no mention of an appraisal process in the Phase 1 Study. In my opinion, it could shave an additional 2.5 to 3 years off the Phase 1 timeline and is included in this ballot proposal.
- 5) The non-profit utility would welcome IBEW 465 workers and honor their collective bargaining agreement with SDG&E.

  Imperial Irrigation District to the east is a public utility. IBEW 465 represents IID workers. The transition of IBEW 465 workers from SDG&E to the City's non-profit utility should be seamless for the workers.
- 6) A crucial advantage of a distribution-only utility is that it pays no transmission charge on locally generated solar power. SDG&E imposes the highest transmission charge in the state on City customers, and this charge is growing fast. The SDG&E transmission charge is now so large that local solar power can be built in the City at lower cost than any power being imported over the transmission grid.

7) The Phase 1 Study assumes that San Diego Community Power (SDCP) will continue to supply power to the new utility. That will be true initially, but only true over time if SDCP concentrates on local solar and battery storage projects. The non-profit utility will encourage and incentivize customer generation, avoid fixed charges, and build its own solar and battery power if the market cannot provide those resources at competitive prices.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak.

## PRESENTATION BY JAY POWELL TO RULES COMMITTEE ITEM 3. SUB-ITEM K, PUBLIC POWER STUDY CITIZENS TASK FORCE

Chairperson, President Campbell and members of the Rules Committee and Staff:

Good Afternoon.

Jay Powell, Environmental Advocate member of the City Sustainable Energy Advisory Board speaking on behalf of the **Community Energy Action Network**, a San Diego-based, **public interest cooperation** promoting local clean and renewable energy.

I have been asked to present a proposal for your consideration to form a "Public Power Study Citizens Task Force" to be created and appointed by resolution of the City Council.

I have provided a one page summary of the proposal for distribution and display and I will summarize the key points and our request of the Rules Committee.

The City Council adopted a budget for Fiscal Year 2022 that included ..." the addition of one-time non-personnel expenditures in the amount of \$ 1 Million associated to a feasibility study to <u>pursue public power</u>."

Thank you to the City Council for funding this important study. We believe that this study would benefit from the input and participation of a citizens task force.

The proposed task force would be composed of one member and one alternate from each City Council District.

The Task Force would meet monthly through the approval of the Final Report .

The PURPOSE of the task force would be to provide written input and recommendations to the Mayor and City Council at each stage of the Public Power Feasibility Study. We have **listed six stag**es in the summary sheet and in the letter submitted to this Committee.

This would be a task force such as the "Environmental and Economic Sustainability Task Force" which was created by the City Council to develop the City's Climate Action Plan.

There are a number of public power options available to be evaluated ranging from a City utility to an area agency with an independently elected governing board.

This task force would work closely with staff and consultants to ensure that the City Council and Mayor are presented with a study report that evaluates the viable options and provides a clear road map for community-owned public power.

OUR REQUEST is that you direct preparation of a resolution to create the **Public Power Study Citizens Task Force** in accord with the purposes and structure outlined here to forward to the full City Council for their action.

This concludes my presentation. I would like to reserve the balance of my time to respond to any questions or comments from the committee members.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation.

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November 3, 2021

Honorable Councilman Raul Campillo City of San Diego 202 C Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor San Diego, California 92101 Honorable Councilman Stephen Whitburn City of San Diego 202 C Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor San Diego, California 92101 BY EMAIL: StephenWhiburn@sandiego.

BY EMAIL: RaulCampillo@sandiego.gov

Subject: Initiation of the Public Power Feasibility Study Citizens Task Force by City Council Resolution

Dear Honorable Councilmembers Campillo and Whitburn:

Thank you for your vision, commitment, and active representation for the interests of San Diego families. Your motion at the Rules Committee to establish the Public Power Feasibility Study Task Force (Task Force) demonstrated your commitment to addressing the challenges of climate change, our environment, and the economic quality of life of our San Diego communities. The unanimous support of your Rules Committee colleagues demonstrates the effectiveness of your advocacy.

Time is of essence for the appointment of this Task Force. We request your assistance in establishing the Task Force prior to adjournment of the City Council for the holidays. The City Council must act to docket and approve by resolution the establishment of the Task Force and have individual Councilmembers make appointments of Task Force members and alternates in the next two months to be able to meet at the earliest opportunity in the New Year.

The Task Force formation and appointments should occur prior to the issuance of any Requests for Proposals for conduct of the public power feasibility study to ensure meaningful participation with the study itself. Since the Council Budget authorization is for the current fiscal year, we recognize that engaging professional analysis is on a tight timeline. Equally important is to expeditiously address the adverse impacts on family budgets and the climate of our current approach to energy and identify feasible alternatives.

Please let us know how we can help you get these Councilmember appointments made and the task force up and running. The Task Force should be appointed in the month of December. This calendar will have the Task Force operational and meeting at the beginning of the New Year. Under a separate cover we will provide you an initial list of persons for consideration to be appointed by you and your fellow Councilmembers.

Again, thank you for your vision, commitment, and active representation for the interests of San Diego families and businesses.

Respectfully,

## Citizens for Study of Energy Alternatives

Barbara Jaffe-Rose Bill Powers, P.E. John W. Stump
Derek Casady Craig Rose Jerry Wanetick
Michael Brackney Elise Dearborn Sarah Sanger
Jay Powell

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO CIRCULATE PETITION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the intention of the person(s) whose name(s) appear(s) hereon to circulate a petition within the City of San Diego for the purpose of REPLACING SDGE WITH NOT-FOR-PROFIT MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITY.

#### PROPOSITION \_\_

San Diego Municipal Code Chapter 7: Public Utilities and Transportation Article 4: Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions

**Division 1: Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions** 

## §74.0101. Citation of Ordinance

This Article may be cited as the Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions Ordinance.

## §74.0102. Power San Diego. Purpose

Power San Diego is established as a not-for-profit municipal electric distribution utility to provide its customers in the City of San Diego with reliable, affordable electric service in accordance with this Article. In passing this measure the people of San Diego exercise their sovereign authority under the California Constitution and the City Charter to establish a municipal utility system and the terms and conditions for providing themselves with electric energy for heating, cooling, light, and power.

The people of San Diego intend to use every approach, power, and authority available to the City under the California Constitution and the City Charter to address the impact of electric usage on our community and on the climate, and to do so in the most transparent, effective, and affordable manner possible. This includes maximizing the use of local energy resources, especially solar energy paired with battery storage. The people of San Diego are acting with great urgency to address the crises of our times – unaffordable rates, declining reliability of service, and the rapid increase in extreme weather fueled by the climate crisis. Ownership and control by the people of San Diego of the electric distribution grid is needed to provide rate relief to residents and to best address local impact on climate change.

#### **§74.0103. Definitions**

As used in this Article, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (a) **Balancing Authority.** "Balancing Authority" means an entity in the electric system that is responsible for grid balancing.
  - (b) CAISO. "CAISO" means the California Independent System Operator.
- (c) **COC.** "COC" means the Power San Diego Community Oversight Committee that is established in §74.0202.
- (d) **Cost-of-Service.** "Cost-of-Service" means the cost of owning, operating, maintaining, and financing the infrastructure used to provide electric energy and distribution service, including establishing and maintaining appropriate reserves; cost of service does not include any return on capital investment unless a return is required as security for debt service and does not include income taxes, fees, or other taxes except as provided in this Article.
- (e) **Covered Employee**. "Covered Employee" means a SDGE electric distribution utility employee covered by an existing union collective bargaining agreement on the day this initiative is approved by the voters, except (1) managerial, (2) supervisory, (3) confidential, (4) temporary, and (5) part-time employees who work less than 20 hours per week for SDGE.
  - (f) Customer. "Customer" means a person to whom Power San Diego provides electricity.
- (g) **Electric Board.** "Electric Board" means the Electric Distribution Utility Board governing Power San Diego that is established in §74.0201.
- (h) **General Fund**. "General Fund" means the fund used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in special-purpose funds.
- (i) **In-Front-of-Meter**. "In-Front-of-Meter" means a generation source that delivers electricity directly to the electric grid.
- (j) **Net-Metering**. "Net-Metering" means a generation source, typically rooftop solar, that is located on the customer's side of customer's electric meter.

- (k) **Power San Diego.** "Power San Diego" means the municipal electric distribution utility established herein and owned and operated by the City of San Diego as a municipal utility providing electric distribution service in the City of San Diego pursuant to the terms of this Article.
  - (l) SDCP. "SDCP" means San Diego Community Power.
  - (m) **SDGE.** "SDGE" means San Diego Gas & Electric Company.
- (n) **Utility Distribution System**. "Utility Distribution System" means the utility distribution system in the City of San Diego that starts at high voltage (138 kV or 69 kV HV) to medium voltage (12 kV or 4.16 kV MV) transformers at the transmission ("T") to distribution ("D") substations, and consists of all poles, wires, appurtenances, and distribution substation hardware downstream of these T&D substations. Undergrounded distribution conductors and associated appurtenances, and the process of undergrounding distribution conductors and associated appurtenances, are elements of the Utility Distribution System.
- (o) **Utility Facility.** "Utility Facility" means any portion of a plant used or useful in providing distribution utility service and includes, but is not limited to, all distribution substation hardware, distribution poles, distribution wires, distribution appurtenances, electric power generators, energy storage devices, office buildings, equipment, equipment yards, replacement parts inventory, and transportation equipment.

#### §74.0104. Powers and Duties

In a manner consistent with the California Constitution, the City Charter, and other applicable laws, Power San Diego is hereby authorized to do all acts necessary for the exercise of the powers to fulfill its purpose, including but not limited to any or all of the following: provide electricity to customers; to make and enter into contracts; to employ agents and employees; to construct, provide for maintenance and operation of, or maintain and operate, any buildings, Utility Facility, or improvements; to acquire, hold or dispose of property; and generally to do any and all things necessary or convenient to accomplish the purposes set forth in this Article. The Electric Board established in 74.0201, has the responsibility to assure that Power San Diego adheres to its power and duties, and as otherwise provided herein.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, and consistent with the California Constitution, the City Charter, and other applicable laws, the powers and duties of Power San Diego include the following:

- (a) Issue or cause to be issued revenue bonds and any other financial instruments permitted by law for the purpose of exercising its powers and raising the funds necessary to carry out its purposes as described in this Article, and to pledge any property or revenues as security to the extent permitted by any applicable provision of law.
- (b) To employ special counsel, experts, and consultants for the purpose of advising and representing Power San Diego in all matters, proceedings and things relating to or concerning the development, finance, and distribution of electricity, and consistent with the City Charter. The fees and expenses of such counsel, experts, and consultants shall be paid from the proceeds of the revenue bonds or any other unencumbered funds of Power San Diego available for such purpose.
  - (c) To manage the electric Utility Distribution System for the following purposes:
    - (1) To deliver electricity to Customers in a safe, affordable, and reliable manner.
    - (2) To ensure excellence, timeliness, and accuracy in billing, metering, and Customer service.
    - (3) To reduce Customer rates by maximizing the development of solar power, battery storage, and energy conservation in the City.
    - (4) To encourage and support San Diegans across all income levels and Customer categories to maximize deployment of solar and battery storage, through Net-Metering and In-Front-of-Meter tariffs and programs.
    - (5) To meet or exceed the City's Climate Action Plan targets for the electric sector.
    - (6) To advance to the greatest extent practicable, economic, environmental, and social justice in the electric sector in all of the communities in the City.
    - (7) To provide for transparent and accountable governance.
    - (8) To support, secure, and sustain economic growth and benefits for the City.
    - (9) To build, own, and operate electric supply systems including but not limited to larger-scale solar and battery storage power systems and microgrids within the City limits and upon lands owned or controlled by the City for the benefit of the people.
    - (10) To regulate and control the use, sale, and distribution of electric energy and surplus electric energy owned or controlled by the City.
    - (11) To grant permits for connections with the electric works of the City and fix the

charges for these connections.

- (12) To sell, lease, or distribute outside of the City of San Diego any excess light, heat, or power over and above the amount which is necessary to serve its Customers.
- (13) To fix the rates to be charged for electric energy or surplus electric energy for use inside or outside the City.
- (14) To prescribe the time and the manner of payment for the collection of the rates and charges for electric energy.
- (15) To complete, reconstruct, extend, change, enlarge, maintain, operate, and repair a public electric distribution utility acquired, constructed, owned, and operated by the City.
- (16) To provide discounted rate structures to lower-income customers equal to or superior to those provided by the predecessor utility.
- (17) To provide for enhanced communication, coordination and cooperation on renewable energy, electric vehicle infrastructure, and energy conservation planning and development with community-based organizations, including but not limited to community planning organizations, business associations, and other community associations representing residents, businesses, and institutions from within each of the community planning areas located in each City Council electoral district, and with other City departments and City advisory boards.

## §74.0105. Initial Activities

No later than twelve months after its first meeting, and prior to making a purchase price offer for any Utility Facility or other property, the Electric Board shall adopt bylaws, retain expert professional staff and consultants, secure initial financing, conduct due diligence it considers necessary and develop a business plan as described in §74.0106. The City of San Diego will provide Power San Diego with initial expert professional staff and consultants and initial financing, to be repaid in full by Power San Diego and consistent with Charter Section 92 or any other available finance mechanism, as necessary to discharge its duties consistent with this Article.

## §74.0106. Business Plan

Power San Diego shall, within twelve months of the first meeting of the Electric Board, develop and transmit to the Mayor and City Council a business plan that addresses, at a minimum: a transition plan; long-term operating forecasts; the capital improvement plan; financial reserve policies; rate setting policies; debt management policies; investment management policies; credit strategies; key performance indicators tracking and evaluation; balance sheet management strategies; and strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats analyses. The business plan shall be updated at a minimum every two years.

## **§74.0107.** Acquisition of Property

Power San Diego shall, within twelve months of the first meeting of the Electric Board:

- (a) Identify the necessary property to be acquired;
- (b) Determine an acquisition price offer to be made for the property;
- (c) Deliver notice of the acquisition price offer, including detailed description of the necessary property to the owner(s) of the property to be acquired and all other information required by law;
- (d) The purchase price will either (1) be agreed upon, or (2) appropriate action will be taken to acquire the property in the manner required by law.

## §74.0108. Retention of Employees

To ensure continuity and an experienced local workforce, for ten years after the date that Power San Diego begins distributing electricity to Customers, Power San Diego and its contractors shall provide to Covered Employees no less than the wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment provided to them on the date this initiative is approved by the voters, including any previously negotiated increase in wages, and shall maintain no less than the total number of Covered Employees attributable to the provision of electric distribution service in the City of San Diego employed by SDGE on the date this initiative is approved by the voters.

## **§74.0109.** Annual Report

By June 30th of each year, beginning no more than twelve months after the first meeting of Electric Board, Power San Diego shall publish a report for the people of San Diego summarizing: (1) the activities and performance of Power San Diego in exercising its powers and meeting its duties to its Customers during the preceding calendar year, and (2) its plans for the current year and subsequent five years. Each annual report must describe in detail how Power San Diego's decisions, operations, and use of low-cost financing have supported and will support the City's progress toward its climate goals and how the Power San Diego focus on development of local solar and battery storage resources has affected and will affect job creation in the City.

## §74.0110. Initial 5-Year Strategic Plan

Within eighteen months after the first meeting of the Electric Board, the Electric Board shall submit to the Mayor and City Council a five-year plan to identify initial affordability, reliability, and decarbonization goals and the means to achieve them. The strategic plan will be updated at a minimum of every five years. The five-year plan under this section must include, at a minimum, programs to:

- (a) Minimize the electricity cost burden on vulnerable residential Customers.
- (b) Establish rates that provide all residential Customers with a basic amount of lower-cost electricity to address essential needs, with increasingly higher rates paid for defined levels of increasingly higher consumption.
- (c) Maximize the adoption of rooftop and parking lot solar, associated battery storage, and energy conservation in the City to lower rates and expeditiously achieve Climate Action Plan targets.
- (d) Establish a relationship with SDCP and address issues of metering and billing.
- (e) Make necessary investments in the distribution network to upgrade reliability and to improve capacity for interconnections of new local renewable generation and battery storage facilities.
- (f) Minimize use of fixed charges in Power San Diego's rate structure.

## §74.0111. Independent Performance Audit

Four years after the first meeting of the Electric Board, and at a minimum of every four years thereafter, the City Auditor shall perform an independent performance audit of the effectiveness of Power San Diego governance and operating structures to enable fulfillment of the duties of Power San Diego. The audit may suggest necessary changes to the governance structure of Power San Diego. A draft of the audit report will be provided to the COC for formal review and comment, and COC comments will be incorporated as an addendum to the final audit report. The Electric Board shall present the recommendations of the audit report, and COC comments on the audit report, at public hearings in each City Council district of the City.

## §74.0112. Rate-Setting Procedure

Rates for electric energy and surplus energy shall be fixed by the Electric Board from time to time as necessary. Except as otherwise provided, rates shall be sufficient to recover all costs of operation, including maintaining appropriate reserves, and shall be fair and reasonable. Discounted rates may be made available to lower-income customers. Power San Diego shall collect revenue which, together with other available funds, shall be at least sufficient to pay, as the same shall become due, the principal and interest on all outstanding revenue bonds, including premiums, if any, due upon the redemption of any of the revenue bonds, in addition to paying, as it shall become due, the necessary expenses of operating and maintaining the Utility Facility, and all other obligations and indebtedness payable out of the revenue of Power San Diego.

### **§74.0113. Surplus Funds**

After all Power San Diego Cost-of-Service revenue and reserves requirements are met as determined by the Electric Board, the City may transfer to the General Fund of the City any excess revenues accruing to Power San Diego. Such revenue transferred to the General Fund shall be available thereafter for use for any legal City purpose. All such surplus funds so transferred shall be credited on the accounts of the City as a reimbursement credit for an amount equal to the estimated loss in taxation which would be paid to the City by Power San Diego if it were not municipally owned.

## §74.0114. Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions Ordinance Controls

The provisions of this Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions Ordinance shall govern, supersede, and prevail over any inconsistent provisions of Ordinance No. 21328, to the extent such provisions relate to the Utility Distribution System. Any provisions of Ordinance No. 21328 inconsistent with this Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions Ordinance, to the extent such provisions relate to the Utility Distribution System, shall be rescinded as of the date that Power San Diego begins distributing electricity to Customers.

## **§74.0115.** Voter Approval

Notwithstanding any other provision of law enacted on or before the date upon which this Article is enacted, if this Article is approved by voters of the City at a citywide election, the revenue requirements, debt, or liability of Power San Diego necessary to comply with this Article are authorized by the people of the City of San Diego and are not subject to additional voter approval.

#### §74.0116. Effective Date

This Article takes effect on the date that voter approval is certified.

### §74.0117. Interpretation; Severability

This Article shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the California Constitution and the City Charter. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Article is for any reason held to be invalid by any court, then such section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase shall remain in force and effect to the maximum extent permitted by law. The invalidity of any portion of this Article shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Article.

## San Diego Municipal Code Chapter 7: Public Utilities and Transportation Article 4: Municipal Electric Distribution Utility

## Division 2: Municipal Electric Distribution Utility Terms and Conditions - Governance

## §74.0201. Power San Diego Electric Board

- (a) **Electric Board Established.** There shall be an Electric Board consisting of five members who shall be registered voters in the City. The members of the Electric Board shall be appointed to serve for five years and until their successors have been selected. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, appointments shall be made so that not more than one (1) term of office shall expire in any year.
- (b) **Qualifications.** All Electric Board members must be residents of the City of San Diego. There shall be at all times one Electric Board member from each of the five (5) disciplines listed in (1)-(5). The appointed Electric Board member(s) shall have a minimum of ten (10) years of directly relevant experience in the discipline they are appointed to fill on the Electric Board. The five (5) disciplines are:
  - (1) Lawyer: Experience in utility law, business, regulatory or finance law;
  - (2) Economist: Experience in utility or business economics;
  - (3) Mechanical or electrical engineer: Experience in electricity generation, storage, efficiency, delivery, or related technologies;
  - (4) Public health professional: Experience in medicine or public health as it relates to air pollution health effects; and
  - (5) Environmental and social justice advocate: Experience in addressing the energy needs of low-income and moderate-income persons.
- (c) **Selection.** For each Electric Board member discipline defined in (b)(1)-(5) above, at least three qualified candidates for each open appointment must be qualified by the Mayor for the specific open or vacant seat prior to selection to fill the position. Candidate applications for Electric Board member positions may be received on an ongoing basis. The Mayor shall provide candidates to fill Electric Board member disciplines in a timely manner. The Mayor must initiate the application process to fill vacancies three months prior to the end of the term of an Electric Board member. Candidates will be rated by the Mayor as "qualified" or "unqualified" based solely on the qualifications defined in (b)(1-5). The reasons a potential candidate is rated as unqualified must be documented in writing. The Mayor will forward the qualified candidate names for each open Electric Board member discipline to the City Council. Selection of the appointee will occur at the first regularly scheduled City Council meeting open to the public no later than thirty days before the term ends or within 90 days of a vacancy occurring. The qualified candidates in the candidate pool must be publicly announced prior to

selection of the appointee. Selection of the appointee will be made from among the qualified candidates by the drawing of lots, also known as "sortition", by the president of the Council. A resident of the City of San Diego may file an action in Superior Court to compel the appointment of a vacancy that is not filled within the timeline described in §74.0201(c)-(d).

- (d) **Term.** Electric Board members will serve no more than a single, five-year term. The initial Electric Board will be selected within six months of the certification of this ballot initiative. The initial set of Electric Board members, as described as (b)(1)-(5), will serve for one-year (environmental/social justice), two-year (public health), three-year (economics), four-year (law), and five-year (engineering) terms, respectively, to stagger future appointments one year apart. Vacancies shall be filled by the Mayor and City Council for an unexpired term. The filling of unexpired term vacancies will occur within 90 days of the vacancy occurring. The filling of the unexpired term vacancy may be delayed by up to 45 additional days to assure the appointee is selected by the drawing of lots from among at least three qualified candidates. If after the 45-day period three qualified candidates are not available, selection will be made by the drawing of lots from the available candidates. Appointees that fill initial terms of two years or less, or fill vacancies with two years or less remaining in the term, are eligible for a subsequent full five-year term.
- (e) **Eligibility.** The term of an Electric Board member shall be immediately terminated if the member becomes an officer, paid employee, consultant, contractor, subcontractor, or member of the board of directors of an organization that has applied for or has a contract with the City for the provision of utility service. To avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance of impropriety, applicants for the Electric Board must certify that they are willing and able to adhere to City Council Policy No. 000-04.
- (f) Roles and Responsibilities. The Electric Board has responsibility to assure that Power San Diego adheres to its powers, duties, and as otherwise provided herein. The Electric Board will engage with Mayor in meaningful consultations on filling the senior executive management positions of Power San Diego. Senior executive management positions include at least the following: Executive Director, Finance Director, and other senior executive management in the following areas: Distribution Operations and Maintenance; Strategic Planning; Engineering and Capital Planning; Customer Services; Regulatory and Compliance; IT, Communications, and Cyber-Security. The Electric Board will engage with the City Council in meaningful consultations on filling the position of Special Counsel necessary for the representation of Power San Diego consistent with Charter Section 40.
- (g) **Compensation.** Electric Board member positions will be part-time and paid. Electric Board member compensation shall be equivalent to the compensation received by members of the San Diego Unified School District Board of Directors. Electric Board member compensation will be updated every two years to match any changes to the compensation received by members of the San Diego Unified School District Board of Directors.
- (h) **Quorum; Chair.** Three members of the Electric Board constitute a quorum. The Electric Board shall elect from its members a Chair and a Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall serve as acting Chair in the absence of the Chair. Officers shall hold office for one year and until their successors are elected, unless their membership on the Electric Board expires sooner. Elections shall be held during the meeting of the Electric Board in June of each year, but the Electric Board may fill the unexpired term of any vacancy occurring in the office of Chair or Vice-Chair at any meeting.
- (i) **Meetings**. The Electric Board shall meet publicly on a monthly schedule and comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act, and shall establish a mechanism by which members of the public may communicate with the Electric Board.
- (j) **Voting.** All decisions of the Electric Board must be made by a majority vote of the Electric Board members present.
- (k) **Removal.** The City Council may remove any member of the Electric Board for misconduct, incompetency, conflict-of-interest, or for failing to attend three consecutive scheduled monthly Electric Board meetings without good cause. However, before the City Council may remove a member of the Electric Board, the Electric Board member shall be provided with written notice of the reasons for removal and all evidence offered in support, and a meaningful opportunity to present evidence in advance of a public hearing and be heard at the public hearing. Written notice of the reasons for removal and all evidence offered in support shall be provided to the Electric Board member no less than thirty days before the public hearing on removal.

## §74.0202. Power San Diego Community Oversight Committee

(a) Community Oversight Committee Established. A nine-member Power San Diego

Community Oversight Committee (COC) is hereby established pursuant to City Charter Section 43 and City Council Policy 000-13.

- (b) **Purpose.** The COC will be a temporary citizen's committee providing input to the Mayor and the City Council on the effectiveness of Power San Diego programs, constituted for a tenyear period. The City Council may, at its discretion, at the end of the ten-year period, reconstitute the COC. The COC is created and established to recommend new or modified Power San Diego programs, and to provide recommendations for overall improvement of Power San Diego operations generally and in specific City Council districts. The COC shall provide its recommendations in a written report(s) to the Mayor, City Council, and Electric Board within one hundred eighty (180) days of the end of the first, second, third, and fourth two-year intervals following the initial meeting of the COC. The COC may take advisory action against a non-performing Electric Board member. A vote of no confidence by the COC against a member of the Electric Board, by a two-thirds vote by the full nine-member COC, shall be forwarded to the City Council.
- (c) **Composition.** One COC committee member, who shall be a registered voter living in the district, will represent each of the nine City Council districts. A COC member will be nominated for each district by the City Council member for that district and confirmed by the full City Council.
- (d) **Term.** COC members may serve up to two consecutive four-year terms. Appointees that fill initial terms of two years or less, or that fill vacancies with two years or less remaining in the term, are eligible for two subsequent full four-year terms. The schedule of COC member appointments will be synchronized with the City Council election cycle to stagger the appointment of COC members. COC members will be appointed or reappointed within ninety days of the certification of the City Council election for their City Council district. The initial COC will be appointed and have its initial meeting within twelve months of the certification of this ballot initiative.
- (e) **Quorum; Chair.** Five members of the COC constitute a quorum. The COC shall elect from its members a Chair and a Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall serve as acting Chair in the absence of the Chair. Officers shall hold office for one year, and until their successors are elected. Elections shall be held during the COC meeting held in the second quarter of each year, but the COC may fill the unexpired term of any vacancy occurring in the office of Chair or Vice-Chair at any meeting.
- (f) **Meetings.** The COC shall meet at least quarterly, comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act, and establish a mechanism by which members of the public may communicate with the COC. COC will receive reasonable staff support from Power San Diego.
  - (g) **Removal**. The City Council may remove COC members for any reason.
  - (h) Compensation. COC members will serve without compensation.
- (i) **Vacancy.** Vacancies shall be filled by nomination of the Councilmember in whose district the vacancy occurs and confirmed by the City Council within 90 days of the notice of the vacancy.

## §74.0203. Power San Diego Staff

- (a) Senior executive management positions described in §74.0201(f), and Strategic Planning staff, Engineering and Capital Planning staff, Regulatory and Compliance staff, and control room operators, will be City employees.
- (b) Subject to managed competition, other staff may be employees of qualified independent contractors selected through competitive bidding. Contracts may be bid for each distinct operational function listed in §74.0201(f), except those listed in §74.0203(a). Contracts will not exceed five years in duration. In addition to the criteria set forth in Chapter 2, Article 2, Divisions 30-36 and 38 of the San Diego Municipal Code, as applicable, the following criteria shall be considered when evaluating bids and proposals: professional, operational and managerial experience; familiarity with the systems to be administered; reliability and safety; and ability to improve Customer service and employee morale.

## **§74.0204. Oath of Office**

Charter Section 211 applies to Electric Board members, COC members, and senior executive management staff.

## §74.0205. Conflict-of-Interest Code

Electric Board members, COC members, and senior executive management staff of Power San Diego shall not have any personal or financial interests that would create conflicts-of-interest with their duties. A conflict-of-interest code shall be adopted for Power San Diego, subject to City Council approval, requiring all Electric Board members and COC members to

complete and file statements of economic interests in accordance with the conflict-of-interest code.

## §74.0206. Relationship to Other Organizations

- (a) CAISO. Power San Diego will be independent of CAISO and will not use CAISO as the Balancing Authority. Power San Diego will establish and maintain a relationship with CAISO and with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to the benefit of San Diegans.
- (b) SDCP. Power San Diego will purchase power supply from SDCP. This power would be purchased from SDCP as wholesale power and distributed by Power San Diego to its retail Customers. Power San Diego will also be empowered to develop its own local generation and energy storage resources.

#### **END OF PROPOSITION**

## A STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION AS CONTEMPLATED IN SAID PETITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

#### STATEMENT OF REASONS

This ballot initiative will create a not-for-profit municipal electric distribution utility, to be known as "Power San Diego," to replace San Diego Gas & Electric (SDGE) electric distribution service. Municipal electric utilities are well-established in California. Their distinguishing characteristics are low rates and high reliability.

San Diegans pay the highest electric rates in the country, and these high rates are projected to continue to rise at 10 percent per year into the future. City ratepayers are shouldering the burden of record corporate profits. Continued control of our local electric grid by a private monopoly utility company that is driving rates relentlessly higher is detrimental to the people of San Diego.

We the people of San Diego intend to use every approach, power, and authority available under the California Constitution and the City Charter to lower electric rates, advance local climate action, and spur local economic development and employment. The mission of Power San Diego will be to provide electric service at fair, reasonable, and affordable rates while maximizing economic benefit to the people of San Diego.

San Diegans across all income levels and customer categories will be encouraged and supported to maximize deployment of solar and battery storage through favorable tariffs and programs. Local solar power will lower electric costs, including by avoiding high and rising transmission charges imposed by SDGE on all power sales regardless of where it is generated. Discounted rate structures will be made available to lower-income customers.

Power San Diego will welcome union labor and will pay its employees compensation and benefits that meet or exceed the terms of their current collective bargaining agreements.

Power San Diego will be a self-financed department of the City funded by customer revenue. It will be governed by a five-member Electric Board with oversight by a Citizens Oversight Committee.

Signatures of Proponents:

William E. Powers Date: 11/14/2023 Residence Address

San Diego, CA 92116

Harry C. Powell Date: 11/14/2023folder

Residence Address:

San Diego, CA 92116

Folder/file: SOLARSD / POWER SAN DIEGO INITIATIVE 120523 j

## PUBLIC POWER STUDY CITIZENS TASK FORCE

## FY 2022 ADOPTED BUDGET REPORT (p 112)

- " Sustainability Department Public Power Feasibility Study "
- " .... the addition of one-time non-personnel expenditures in the amount of \$ 1.0 million associated to a feasibility study to pursue public power." (p. 112)

<u>PROPOSAL</u>: City Council create and appoint by resolution a "Public Power Study Citizen's Task Force"

- Task Force composed of one member and one alternate from each City Council District.
- Task Force meets monthly through approval of Final Report

<u>PURPOSE:</u> Review and provide written input and recommendations at each stage of the Public Power Feasibility Study to the Mayor and City Council. Each stage signifies:

- (1) Preparation of RFP (s) including scope of work
- (2) Identification and Outreach to prospective bidders
- (3) Bidder review and selection
- (4) Monthly work-in-progress reports by contractor
- (5) Review and comment on Draft Report
- (6) Review and comment on Final Report

REQUEST: RULES COMMITTEE DIRECT PREPARATION OF RESOLUTION TO FORWARD TO FULL CITY COUNCIL

Presentation One Sheet Oct 27 2021 Rules Committee: SOLARSD / Public Power Study Citizens Task Force

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:12:54 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:12

NAME:

Melissa N Moriarty

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

COMMENTS:

Concerns about SDGE

- high and rising rates
- designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- ask them to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- ask them compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:13:22 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:13

NAME:

Revaz Bukhradze

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego , California 92128

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

- high and rising rates
- designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- ask them to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:15:16 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:15

NAME:

Mae

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Chula Vista, California 91915

PHONE NUMBER:

#### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

SDGE prices are excessive to the point of being punitive. My electric bill is outpacing inflation every year, to the benefit of a private company and their stockholders. A well regulated PUBLIC OPTION is the only way to protect the SD County residents from profiteers. POWER TO THE PEOPLE.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:15:39 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:15

NAME:

Alyssa Earley

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92128

PHONE NUMBER:

#### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

I'm concerned about high and rising rates and lack of transparency in fees and rate changes. Please report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power and compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

I support the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:17:27 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:17

NAME:

Gary w iliffe

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Oceanside, California 92057

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

COMMENTS:

Why are the prices of electricity always going up?

Why does SDGE have a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower for customers?

Why do customers pay for transmission and generation of electricity rather than just amount used?

I don't pay for water generation or transmission...

ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:18:30 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:18

NAME:

Alex Henry

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Carlsbad, California 92011

PHONE NUMBER:

#### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6

#### COMMENTS:

SDG&E continually raises rates, and consistently grows their profit each year. We have some of, if not the highest electricity prices in the continental United States (reference:

https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/business/story/2024-02-19/were-no-3-hawaii-and-san-francisco-pass-sandiego-for-highest-electricity-prices-in-the-nation).

I accept the situation is more complex than I understand, but I cannot believe they are doing a good job when the outcome is one of the highest residential prices in the continental US. That is unacceptable performance that should be investigated.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:20:41 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:20

NAME:

Cynthia Kan

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92108

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI.

#### COMMENTS:

The city must investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the city's exploration of municipalization. It is crucial that our energy provider aligns with the city's clean energy goals and works collaboratively to achieve them. By incorporating provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement, we can ensure that SDGE's actions do not contradict our commitment to a sustainable and clean energy future. This investigation and the resulting provisions will help safeguard the city's efforts to explore municipalization, ensuring transparency, accountability, and the prioritization of our community's environmental and economic interests.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:21:15 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:21

NAME:

Lauren Kleen

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Escondido, California 92027

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

The city needs to investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city. The city also needs to incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

They also need to explore the reason for high and rising rates, putting them among the top in the country. SDGE cannot continue to design a system meant to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower.

I also think that community members would be interested in seeing SDGE compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:22:09 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:22

NAME:

Samuel C Spiegel

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

La Mesa, California 91941

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

I am concerned that: we have some of the highest utility costs in he country with no justification and rates just keep raising

- SDGE is designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower

Please:- report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power

compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:25:37 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:25

NAME:

Andrew A

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego , California 92120

PHONE NUMBER:

#### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

- high and rising rates
- designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- ask them to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- ask them compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:26:42 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:26

NAME:

Sasha Talaie

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

SAN DIEGO, California 92119

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Item VI

#### COMMENTS:

I am deeply concerned with SDG&E's continued monopoly on the distribution of the city's power. The rates have risen and there is no sign they will drop any time soon. I fundamentally believe that a public utility should be placed under public trust and not under a for profit entity.

I support this committee's recommendation that the city investigate whether SDG&E has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:29:46 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:29

NAME:

Lucas Miller

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Vista, California 92081

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

Sdge is a monopoly and is destroying the infrastructure of San Diego through greedy excessive profit. SDGE needs to be a non profit organization so it does not steal money out of the pockets of our community. It truly is a disgrace how expensive utilities are with SDGE. This needs to stop and you need to take responsibility for the position of power you are in and make decisions that help the people in our community. Greedy corporate monopolies will ruin San Diego.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:31:06 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:31

NAME:

Saagar patel

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

san diego, California 92116

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6: finalize report

#### COMMENTS:

SDGE has the highest rates in the country and continues to undermine positive efforts of household solar installation. We should consider realistic alternatives to our current monopoly to ensure a fair and equitable future for all SD residents.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:31:37 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:31

NAME:

Denise Madkins

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Spring Valley, California 91977

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI.Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

for years now SDG&E has taken advantage of its customers by continually increasing prices while reporting record profits. Even with solar power electricity is overpriced. For some of us the choice is keeping the lights on or feeding our families. Electricity shouldn't be a luxury in California it should be fairly priced for all!

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:34:52 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:34

NAME:

Victoria Wheatley

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92126

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-05-29

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

**SDGE** 

COMMENTS:

do not hire SDGE, they are exploiting us with their high prices, please open up power more widely for other competitors so we don't be overcharged by SDGE monopoly thanks

ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:39:01 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:38

NAME:

Jesus Colis

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92116

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

As a resident of San Diego, I am unsatisfied with SDGE and it's ongoing price gouging of energy. San Diegans shouldn't have to choose between having the lights on vs eating since SDGE rates have cut into family budgets to satisfy their shareholders. Please reevaluate the city's relationship with SDGE

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:39:14 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:39

NAME:

Travis Hornung

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

# COMMENTS:

SDGE has clearly been working for the benefit of shareholders over San Diego residents. Batteries to store solar generated by customers would be cheaper and cause fewer forest fires. Municipalize the power grid!

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:41:35 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:41

NAME:

Sarah Ward

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92122

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6. Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

# COMMENTS:

The ever-increasing electric rates from SDGE are becoming a stranglehold on San Diego residents like myself. The current system prioritizes maximizing profits for the company over building a sustainable, cost-effective infrastructure for the future. I am deeply concerned that SDGE's focus lies in designing a system that necessitates ever-higher rates, rather than exploring options that keep them down.

This Review Committee has a critical role to play. I urge you to conduct a thorough investigation into SDGE's efforts to discourage local rooftop solar power. Rooftop solar offers a proven path toward lower rates and a cleaner environment, yet we consistently see roadblocks placed in its path. We implore you to analyze the stark difference in costs for ratepayers if SDGE prioritized local solar solutions instead of funneling resources into expensive and potentially risky transmission projects. A transparent comparison will expose whether SDGE is truly acting in the best interests of the community it serves. I trust this Committee will hold SDGE accountable and pave the way for a more equitable and cost-conscious energy landscape.

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:49:09 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:49

NAME:

Jeffrey Yen

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Six

### COMMENTS:

SDG&E is an absolute travesty of a utility. Our fees are some of the highest in the nation with no discernible benefit to service, and they have designed all of their policies in order to trap customers with fees and rate structures in order to extract the most possible value from San Diegans for their shareholders in direct opposition to our interests as citizens and ratepayers, and the interests of the community at large.

The compliance of our elected and appointed officials with SDG&E's goals is nothing less than dereliction of their duty to the people of San Diego.

I would demand transparency into SDG&E's efforts to combat the proliferation of rooftop solar and other clean energy efforts, to the detriment of the local and global environment in favor of corporate profits.

## ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:50:16 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:50

NAME: Sherry Hall

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Poway, California 92064

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI Finalize Franchise Compliance Review committee report

### COMMENTS:

I am an extremely concerned resident of San Diego regarding the high & rising rates that SDGE is imposing especially finding out that they are making a high profit off of energy needed to live. SDGE are designing systems to help themselves, instead of a system to keep our rates lower! Can we get a detailed report on SDGEs efforts against local rooftop solar power?! How about we compare what rates would be by focusing our attention on local solar instead of building expensive & risky transmission. We want the city to investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of the municipality of the city & incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking action opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals & that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:51:01 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:50

NAME: David Tran

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92114

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee - Report Discussion

### COMMENTS:

My name is David Tran, and I am a San Diegan resident. I am here today to express concerns regarding SDG&E's high and rising rates, which are burdening residents and businesses in our city. It is evident that SDG&E's system is designed to maximize their profit rather than keeping rates low for consumers.

Specifically, I urge the Franchise Compliance Review Committee to provide a detailed report on SDG&E's efforts against local rooftop solar power. There have been numerous instances where SDG&E has created obstacles for those attempting to install and maintain rooftop solar systems. We need transparency on how these actions are being justified and their impact on our community's transition to renewable energy.

Additionally, I request that the committee compare current rates with potential rates if local solar energy were prioritized over expensive and risky transmission projects. Emphasizing local solar could lead to lower costs, increased energy independence, and a more resilient energy system for San Diego.

Lastly, I strongly support the committee's recommendation that the City of San Diego should investigate whether SDG&E has taken actions to undermine municipalization efforts. It is crucial that the next Energy Cooperation

Agreement includes provisions to prevent SDG&E from acting contrary to the City's clean energy goals and undermining efforts to explore the feasibility of a municipal power utility.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. I trust that the committee will act in the best interest of San Diego's residents and businesses by thoroughly examining SDG&E's practices and their impact on our community.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:54:07 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:54

NAME:

Charles Crawford

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

SAN DIEGO, California 92129

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report -

## COMMENTS:

I'm a lifelong San Diegan, writing to inform the Committee of my displeasure about SDGE's behavior toward the public, and ratepayers. There is one simple and glaring contradiction at the root of my objection to SDGE's continued monopoly control of San Diego's energy market: Our electricity rates are higher than anywhere else in the nation while SDGE made \$936 million dollars in profit in 2023.

One need go no further. A publicly owned utility could be less efficient than for-profit SDGE by A BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR and we would still break even. SDGE and Sempra must go.

They consistently lobby against local generation, renewables, rooftop solar, and the state's clean energy goals, all for a very simple reason: profit. We should expect no different - they are a for-profit company. It is their legal, fiduciary duty to prioritize their shareholders' interests above those of city residents, of ratepayers.

With the cost of living as high as it already is here, allowing a for-profit energy monopoly to make life \$936 million dollars more unlivable for San Diegans is unconscionable.

Thank you, Charles Crawford

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:55:24 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:55

NAME: Kelly Bird

EMAIL:

### ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92104-1967

### PHONE NUMBER:

# BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

# MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

#### COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

# AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

# COMMENTS:

What are your thoughts about the high and rising electricity rates?

Why do you allow a system to maximize SDGE profit and not build a system to keep rates lower?

Can you report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power?

- Compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:56:39 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:56

NAME:

Katy Mandeville

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Ramona, California 92065

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

SDGE has ridiculously high and rising rates for electricity and is the highest billing service in the US. There appears to be no consumer protection or oversight with rates so atrocious it is impossible to view it as anything other than gouging. Competition is desperately needed in this area.

SDGE has put all their efforts into designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower nor ensure the public and vulnerable populations are cared for

Additionally, individuals utilizing very expensive solar panel systems have discrepancies in what the solar company reports is generated and what SDGE reports as received. The public also has no reports in detail on SDGE efforts to support solar panel energy collection, storage and use.

The public also wants SDGE to be accountable with transparency by comparing what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

I strongly SUPPORT the recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation

Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 12:59:07 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 12:59

NAME:

Kathleen Van Dusen

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92126

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6 Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

I have a HUGE concern for high and rising SDGE rates! SDGE is designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower.

I would like to ask the committee to report in detail on SDGE's efforts against local rooftop solar power.

Can you also please compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:04:21 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:04

NAME:

Chris E Robinson

EMAIL:



Ramona, California 92065

PHONE NUMBER:

### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

### COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

# AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Discussion Item VI. - Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

I'm sick and tired of the monopoly SDGE has and the insane rates they're charging for services.

#### Concerns:

- High and rising rates
- Designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:08:16 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:08

NAME:

Anonymous Sandiegan

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92127

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report NOW

## COMMENTS:

Explain the high and rising rates! No other city EVEN EXPENSIVE COST OF LIVING CITIES LIKE LA have rates this high!

You don't care about Sandiegans. You only care about designing a system to maximize profit and not build a system to keep rates lower

report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power

compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:09:10 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:09

NAME:

Sean Buczek

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92131

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI, Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

Every time a new bill comes in from SDG&E, it seems like it is higher. Higher both from the previous month and, most damningly to me, significantly higher than the previous year. This is despite my family's electric usage often being less than the previous bills. The extorsion level charges for transmission just continue to rise at an unmitigated rate, with some months seeing them be nearly three times the total charge for energy generation. Why is SDG&E allowed to freely continue raising rates on me and my neighbors just for them to turn around and post record profits despite no noted improvements, and often decreased, reliability and environmental safety (hello, fire season). Why are they working on building expensive, inefficient, and sometimes dangerous long range transmission lines while actively working and lobbying against localized energy production and rooftop solar?

SDG&E has only one thing on their minds: profit. It is evident to everyone living in San Diego that SDG&E cares only for their bottom line and is more than willing to squeeze dry the bank accounts of everyone living here to get those profits. They are kept in check only barely by the meager, often insufficient, protections that the state government has put in place. SDG&E forces us to pay some of the highest electricity rates in the country while doing nothing to try to improve the situation. They don't deserve to continue their monopolistic rule over San Diego, and they are certainly failing at

delivering on their promises that got them their franchise agreement in the first place.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:11:50 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:11

NAME:

Payton Thatcher

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

### COMMENTS:

Continuing to allow SDGE to operate what is effectively a monopoly is irresponsible and frankly immoral. SDGE by extension of their parent company Sempra is a publicly traded company. That means they are legally obligated to act in the best interest of their shareholders and not the citizens of San Diego that they serve. In practice, this means we get never ending rate increases with no option of finding an alternative as this board grants them what is in practice a privately owned monopoly.

You cannot possibly claim SDGE is interested in pursuing climate action goals when they are trying to kill private, homeowner rooftop solar options. You are all complicit if you continue to allow SDGE to operate as a privately held monopoly with the only goal of increasing share holder value.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:13:06 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:13

NAME:

Jessica

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Marcos, California 92069

PHONE NUMBER:

# BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

I don't know a single San Diegan resident that is satisfied with SDGE. Prices are outrageous, and continuing to increase. SDGE has become a monopoly that is maximizing rates on residents, instead of utilizing power in an efficient way to keep rates low. How is it that residents with solar are not actually utilizing the solar power they generate? SDGE is finding ways to charge residents who generate solar power from their homes.

The city needs to investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:17:02 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:16

NAME:

Mark Shoemaker

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92120

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

### COMMENTS:

Hello. SDGE's rising rates are taking a toll on people who cannot afford it. They offer lower rates if you use electricity at inconvenient hours - like when kids need to eat dinner, or when it's time to shower before school or work. There is no way families with kids and people with daytime jobs can ever save. It's predatory and wrong. They are robbing the people who can least afford it.

Best,

Mark

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:18:57 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:18

NAME:

Vesna Vukov

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92107

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

V1

### COMMENTS:

SDGE does not work for the public interest. They are designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower and that is more eco friendly. I request that committee report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power. I request that the committee compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission equipment. I SUPPORT the committee's recommendations that "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that present SDGE from taking action opposite to the city's efforts to explore municipalization". Global warming is here and getting worse. Solar power is a huge part of the solution. No company should be making a profit on public utilities.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

From: Keith Thygerson
To: Ong, Megan

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda comment for Meeting 6/03/24 - Agenda Item VI.

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:21:32 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

From:

Keith Thygerson San Diego, CA 92122

Regarding:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee 06/03/2024

Agenda Comment:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

# Comments:

I have concerns about SDGE's efforts to undermine local solar installations in order to support the building of more transmission lines at ratepayer expense.

I am concerned that SDGE's efforts are to design a system that maximizes their profit over the needs of a system to help keep generation where it is used and thereby reduce rates to users.

Please report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power.

Please investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the city's efforts to explore the municipalization of city electrical service.

From: Nicholas Keele
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report - Customer comment SDGE

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:33:46 PM **Attachments:** letter to franchise board.docx

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

# Hello,

Power San Diego notified me of an initiative to comment on the upcoming Franchise Review Report meeting on June 3. Concerning Agenda Item VI, we were encouraged to submit to the customer comment portion of the meeting. Unfortunately, <u>sandiego.gov</u> is having an issue accepting the Agenda Item VI, and is not allowing my one and only comment submission. Power San Diego gave us the alternative to email you. Attached you will find my comment on SDGE, as well as two images to coincide with the letter.

Thank you, Nick Keele.

My wife and I have been customers of SDGE since moving into our apartment two years ago. Upon our first month in the space, our first full bill from SDGE was over \$500. This was to power at 1200 sq. ft. apartment in the summer where our AC was only running at night. We knew it would be a struggle to maintain a lower bill from SDGE, and since then we have averaged between \$250 - \$350 a month for electricity. This is outrageous. As of right now, our electric bill is the largest of our utilities by more than double of our second highest, our cell phones. The worst of it is, SDGE only clarifies that they are charging for "generation" and "delivery", with no clarification on how or why these amounts can change so drastically between bills. We have done everything we can to mitigate our usage, to the extent of only running the AC at night, living in our home with only natural light and only using lighting when necessary, and leaving all of our devices off instead of on or in rest mode. Unless SDGE notifies us of a credit that they are giving us, we can expect to pay no less than \$200 - \$300 or more (mostly in winter, gotta stay warm) for electricity. I am in full support of Power San Diego to wrestle the utility from SDGE simply on the premise that they will be more clear on how we will get our electricity, why it will cost as much as it does, and what efforts they are executing to ensure that we no longer have to pay exorbitant amounts to exist in our apartment without the fear of more \$500 bills. Attached are the amounts of every full bill we have had since moving in to our apartment. Note the high variances, even between the same months of different years, and the ridiculous amounts for some of the bills. We aren't asking to use our electricity without caring for our use. We simply want to feel comfortable knowing that living in our apartment isn't going to empty our accounts month to month because the bill changed.

From: Chris King
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Franchise Compliance Review Committee Meeting 6/3 - Agenda Item: VI

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:37:41 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Comments submitted by:

Christopher King

, San Diego, CA 92126

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance

**Review Committee Report** 

As a long time resident of San Diego I am deeply concerned about the continually rising cost of electricity in San Diego. Our electricity costs have always been high but over the years they have grown outrageously becoming the highest in the entire nation.

The current system seems to be designed to maximize the profits of SDGE rather than providing cost effective and sustainable energy for San Diego. Having access to power is a crucial part of living and the system SDGE has worked so hard to impose on us is dangerously close to forcing families to choose between having electricity and eating dinner.

In the best interests of the residents of San Diego I ask the committee amend the Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report to include an investigation of SDGE's efforts against the use of local rooftop solar power.

I ask the committee to compare what energy rates would be if local solar power was emphasized over building inherently risky and expensive transmission.

I ask the committee to follow through on their recommendation that "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization".

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 1:59:14 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 13:59

NAME:

Phil Torre

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92126

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

Hello I would like to comment on the SDGE Franchise Compliance Report. I believe SDGE is working to help the city reach is climate goals by purchasing clean energy and safely transporting it via their transmission and distribution lines to the citizens of San Diego. I also believe SDGE is maintaining a safe and efficient distribution system and providing the best wildfire protection of any utility. I totally support the city continuing with the franchise agreement with SDGE,

Thank You

### ATTACHMENTS:

From: Aric Garmestani
To: Ong, Megan

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SDGE Franchise Compliance Review meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:03:17 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

# Hello Megan,

I am a concerned citizen with significant concerns regarding SDGE and their ridiculous rates for San Diego utility users.

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

My concerns include:

- High and rising rates
- Designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- I would request you to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- I would also request you to ask them compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

Thanks,

Aric

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:04:09 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:04

NAME:

Greg Schuett

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Julian, California 92036

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

**SDGE** 

### COMMENTS:

SDGE has one of the most expensive electricity rates in the country. They also need to do more to support roof top solar. Instead of working g with the CPUC to put a monthly fee on all users including those with rooftop solar, SDGE should be offering to install rooftop solar on homes but charge the customer for the electricity it produces. Maybe offer to freeze the kw rate for 20 years if they agree to get solar panels on their roof.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:05:38 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:05

NAME:

Aric Garmestani

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-06

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

### COMMENTS:

SDGE has by far the highest rates for utilities in the country, and they cloak this gauging of citizens by saying they're hardening against climate disasters. Please scrutinize what they pay their executives and how that relates to what they charge us. SDGE is a FOR PROFIT company, this should not be allowed to happen, to make money on a government condoned monopoly.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:07:32 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:07

NAME:

Judy B. Harrington

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92116

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

# COMMENTS:

Almost everyone I know is upset about utility rates, Sempra profits and the new pricing structure that basically disincentivizes solar energy and energy conservation. A neighbor posted on Nextdoor actually calculated how much MORE electricity to use to reduce her bill. Why not consider performance-based rewards instead of this counter-productive system? <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/13/opinion/electricity-demand-surging.html?unlocked\_article\_code=1.sE0.mn0P.JMbYtUu989yz&smid=url-share">https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/13/opinion/electricity-demand-surging.html?unlocked\_article\_code=1.sE0.mn0P.JMbYtUu989yz&smid=url-share</a>

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:08:57 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:08

NAME:

Jordan Yerkes

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92119

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

# COMMENTS:

SDGE keeps rates high and designs systems to minimize the impact of my rooftop solar. SDGE makes incredible profits off of us, this committee should look for more efficient options and remove SDGE's monopoly.

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:16:19 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:16

NAME:

Ransom Hamrick

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92103

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

### COMMENTS:

As a concerned voter and resident of San Diego, I am writing to express my urgent concerns regarding SDGE's performance and practices, especially in light of the upcoming San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee meeting on June 3rd.

First and foremost, I am deeply troubled by the high and rising energy rates imposed by SDGE. This increase in rates is becoming unsustainable for many households and businesses in our community. It is imperative that the Committee takes a closer look at the factors contributing to these escalating costs and seeks ways to mitigate them. I am increasingly convinced that having an entity like SDG&E, an organization primarily focused on maximizing their profits rather than keeping rates affordable for consumers, in care of something as basic and necessary as energy distribution is not in the best interest of San Diego constituents. This profit-driven approach is detrimental to the well-being of our community and contradicts the principles of fair and equitable energy distribution.

Furthermore, I would like to better understand SDGE's efforts to counter local rooftop solar power initiatives. As an engineer in charge of many highly sustainability building projects, rooftop solar is a critical component of our city's move towards clean and sustainable energy, and any actions taken by SDGE to undermine these efforts must be scrutinized and

# addressed.

I also urge the Committee to compare the current and projected rates of SDGE with a scenario that emphasizes local solar energy instead of investing in expensive and risky transmission projects. It is crucial to explore how prioritizing local solar can lead to more stable and lower energy costs for residents.

Lastly, I fully support an investigation into whether SDGE has acted to hinder the exploration of municipalization. Any future Energy Cooperation Agreement should include provisions that prevent SDGE from acting in ways that contradict the city's clean energy goals.

Your attention to these pressing issues is vital. Thank you for considering my concerns and for your commitment to ensuring a fair and sustainable energy future for San Diego.

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:18:27 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:18

NAME: Luke Rafla

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item, Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

As a local San Diego resident, it's incredibly frustrating to see SDG&E's rates among the highest in the nation. We're being squeezed financially, and it feels like SDG&E's parent company, Sempra Energy, is prioritizing profits over our well-being. Sempra's relentless pursuit of shareholder returns means we end up with sky-high energy bills month after month.

What's even more disheartening is the inaction of our elected officials. They've done little to address this issue, leaving us to bear the brunt of these exorbitant costs. It feels like they're turning a blind eye to our struggles, failing to advocate for more affordable energy prices. We've placed our trust in them to protect our interests, but their lack of action speaks volumes.

The absence of substantial regulatory intervention is alarming. SDG&E continues its pricing practices without any real check, raising serious concerns about the influence of corporate interests in our local politics. Who are our current energy policies really serving? Certainly not the average San Diegan who is struggling to keep up with these costs.

We need transparency and accountability from SDG&E and Sempra Energy. More importantly, we need our representatives to step up and fight for fairer energy rates. It's time for robust leadership and regulatory oversight to

ensure that our public utilities serve the public good, not just corporate profits. As residents, we deserve better.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:19:13 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:19

NAME:

Thaddeus Braun

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92129

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

SDGE is the worst utility company in the USA (ok, 2nd worst behind PGE). I can only expect high and rising rates in my future in San Diego since they design systems solely to maximize their profit and not build/invest in systems to keep rates lower.

- \* I would like SDGE to report in detail on their efforts against local rooftop solar power they do everything to protect profits, not help the consumer.
- \* I would ask them to compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

Finally, I support the committee's recommendation that the city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

If I had my way, SDGE would be gone in a heartbeat as they only exist to make profit for their shareholders, blinding them to the opportunities in San Diego that exist to lower rates, make clean energy, and promote local generation. SDGE is the (2nd) worst!!

ATTACHMENTS:

From: Ransom Hamrick
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee, June 3rd 2024, Agenda Item VI

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:20:45 PM

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## Megan

As a concerned voter and resident of San Diego, I am writing to express my urgent concerns regarding SDGE's performance and practices, especially in light of the upcoming San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee meeting on June 3rd.

First and foremost, I am deeply troubled by the high and rising energy rates imposed by SDGE. This increase in rates is becoming unsustainable for many households and businesses in our community. It is imperative that the Committee takes a closer look at the factors contributing to these escalating costs and seeks ways to mitigate them. I am increasingly convinced that having an entity like SDG&E, an organization primarily focused on maximizing their profits rather than keeping rates affordable for consumers, in care of something as basic and necessary as energy distribution is not in the best interest of San Diego constituents. This profit-driven approach is detrimental to the well-being of our community and contradicts the principles of fair and equitable energy distribution.

Furthermore, I would like to better understand SDG&E's efforts to counter local rooftop solar power initiatives. As an engineer in charge of many highly sustainability building projects, rooftop solar is a critical component of our city's move towards clean and sustainable energy, and any actions taken by SDGE to undermine these efforts must be scrutinized and addressed.

I also urge the Committee to compare the current and projected rates of SDGE with a scenario that emphasizes local solar energy instead of investing in expensive and risky transmission projects. It is crucial to explore how prioritizing local solar can lead to more stable and lower energy costs for residents.

Lastly, I fully support an investigation into whether SDG&E has acted to hinder the exploration of municipalization. Any future Energy Cooperation Agreement should include provisions that prevent SDG&E from acting in ways that contradict the city's clean energy goals.

Your attention to these pressing issues is vital. Thank you for considering my concerns and for your commitment to ensuring a fair and sustainable energy future for San Diego.

Should you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Ransom Hamrick

San Diego, CA 92103

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:24:21 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:24

NAME:

Casey Stockton

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92101

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

I'm concerned about rising electricity bills. SDGE is designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower. I am asking that you report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power. I am advocating that you compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission..

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:27:02 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:26

NAME:

Cameron Dall

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92129

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

SDG&E has locked me and my family into unreasonably high rates with no recourse. My 2 bedroom condo of 700 square feet ranges from \$200-\$500 a month depending on the time of year. A condo of the same size and energy usage in New York, a city infamous for extremely high living costs, would have an energy bill between \$75-\$195. The rate of SDG&E at the time of writing this is 48 cents per KWh, New York only 18 cents per KWh. To put simply, SDG&E is charging its residents almost 3 times as much as the most expensive city in the country.

Residents charged at this rate are trapped and unable to switch to other providers. When my household tried to switch to San Diego Community Power for relief from these exorbitant rates, SDG&E added a \$200 flat fee for "line maintenance" which would get charged to every single bill before even accounting for actual energy usage. This is a monopolistic tactic that should be illegal. Writing this makes me fear retribution from SDG&E themselves as they are one of the most insidious entities in the nation.

The greed demonstrated by SDG&E, combined with the safety violations, the abhorrent lack of green energy initiative, and borderline illicit monopolistic practices make SDG&E the worst power company in the nation that needs to be replace with a more competent option.

No other company in the nation, let alone this city, has failed the people in this city as much as SDG&E.

## ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:38:14 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:38

NAME:

Carrie Danielson

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Julian, California 92036

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

## COMMENTS:

The new monthly charge for electric is ridiculous. SDGE should offer to install rooftop solar and charge for the electricity they produce but freeze rates for 20 years.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:41:21 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:41

NAME:

Ricardo Aleman

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92104

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item: VI

COMMENTS:

To the San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the high and rising electricity rates from SDGE, particularly for electric vehicle (EV) charging, even during super off-peak hours. It feels unfair that the rest of the country enjoys significantly cheaper electricity rates, making driving unnecessarily expensive for residents of San Diego.

The discrepancy in electricity rates compared to other regions is not only a financial burden but also discourages the adoption of electric vehicles, which contradicts the city's clean energy goals. High electricity rates directly affect the cost of driving and make it difficult for San Diego residents to benefit from the environmental and economic advantages of EVs.

I also urge the committee to address the following points in the Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report:

- 1. High and Rising Rates: Detail the impact of these rates on residents, particularly those who rely on electric vehicles.
- 2. Profit Maximization vs. Rate Reduction: Investigate whether SDGE designs its system primarily to maximize profit rather than to keep rates affordable.
  - 3. Efforts Against Local Rooftop Solar: Report on SDGE's actions against

local rooftop solar power initiatives and how these actions affect ratepayers.

4. Comparison of Rates: Compare current rates with a hypothetical scenario where the emphasis is on local solar power rather than building expensive and risky transmission infrastructure.

Additionally, I support the committee's recommendation that the city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization. Provisions should be incorporated into the next Energy Cooperation Agreement to prevent SDGE from acting against the city's clean energy goals and hindering municipalization efforts.

Thank you for considering my comments. Addressing these concerns is crucial for ensuring that San Diego residents can benefit from fair electricity rates and support our city's clean energy objectives.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Aleman

ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:42:41 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:42

NAME:

Julianne Velante

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92139

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

- high and rising rates
- designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- ask them to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- ask them compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:47:26 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:47

NAME:

Sacha Fontaine

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

La Jolla, California 92037

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

## COMMENTS:

This comment is in regards to agenda item 6; the comment form has an issue attributing the comment to the agenda:

The high and rising rates of San Diego Gas and Electric may have excuses however other utilities have managed to deal with the same challenges yet provide more affordable rates.

I encourage the committee to investigate municipalization of power.

### ATTACHMENTS:

 From:
 Phyllis Perlroth

 To:
 Ong, Megan

 Subject:
 [EXTERNAL] SDGE

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:52:27 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

#### Hi,

My name is Phyllis Perlroth. Over the past year, I have become increasingly concerned regarding SDGE and how they conduct business within the San Diego community. In 2020, I had solar installed on my rooftop. In 2021, my bill was minimal and I was more than pleased with my choice. In 2023, my bill was more than 8x what it was in 2022. My power usage is down and my rates continue to rise, even with the solar panels.

In my opinion, SDGE does not want customers to have rooftop solar because it deducts from their profits. How could my bill increase year over year by 8x when my usage went down? SDGE is recording record profits (I follow the stock market and select companies) and they don't want anything to interfere with their profit margins. I think a comparison regarding local solar versus more expensive and risky transmission could prove very enlightening.

I am requesting that the city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement, that prevents SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

While I understand inflation, this is beyond reasonable and must be addressed. I have spoken to several of my neighbors and they have the exact same concern and I will be encouraging them to write in to the Compliance Review.

Thank you so much for your time and attention to this concerning matter. I am not sure having only SDGE as an option is a good one.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Perlroth

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:55:55 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 14:55

NAME:

Caryn Sandoval

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San diego, California 92116

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

As a proud San Diego citizen, multi-business owner, and athletic community leader, I am urging the Committee to consider the unethical nature and effects of the monopoly that SDG&E holds over our beloved city. As our city grows and becomes an example of a future-proofed city that others across the world can model after, it is pivotal that we adopt a community-first approach to electric utility. We need to prioritize the efficacy of a basic utility, which includes affordability. Prioritizing the profits of a for-profit company is not putting our citizens first, it's putting shareholders first. Our citizens are literally giving away their hard-earned money to a corporation for a basic need. It should go back to the city. Plus, what futuristic city relies on old transmission methods? Solar is what is coming, whether we fight it or not. What could our rates be if we allowed our people to easily access and install local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission? Let's set an example for cities across the world. Let's be a San Diego we can be proud of.

## ATTACHMENTS:

From: <u>David Ahn</u>
To: <u>Ong, Megan</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Franchise Compliance Review Committee Meeting June 3

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 2:57:25 PM

Importance: High

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Public Comment for Franchise Compliance Review Committee Meeting

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

Committee members, I thank you for the work you do in representing San Diegans and holding SDG&E accountable to us.

SDG&E is a de facto monopoly that is gouging the public and taking active steps to squash competition from rooftop solar and from efforts to municipalize power in San Diego County.

I strongly urge you to not finalize your report until after hearing from a significant portion of SDG&E's customer base. If you listen to SDG&E's PR department, they're doing a great job of containing costs and giving millions to help the community. The truth is the pain they cause **all** San Diegans by price gouging **far outweighs** the few they help.

I challenge you to find even 10% of their non-employee customers who are happy with SDG&E's. I have yet to meet a San Diegan who is happy with SDG&E. I am furious with SDG&E. How can we not be angry when we're:

- paying the highest power rates in the nation
- they've raised rates 65% between 2020 and 2023
- have scheduled another 53% in rate hikes over the next 4 years
- 2027 rates will be about 252% of the 2020 rate
- they talk about being committed to renewable energy but have aggressively gamed their price structure to maximize profits and penalize people like me who installed rooftop solar (11/2015) or choose to use CCA power (2022 on)
- SDG&E charges WAY MORE for delivery alone than generation + delivery in most areas
- their mismanagement caused wildfires, and instead of expenses coming out of their profits, they want ratepayers to pay!

Have they no shame? They obviously don't. So what they will get is accountability. We must have municipal power in San Diego County, because we're fed up with SDG&E making billions off the backs of regular San Diegans who are struggling just to make it.

Please take a representative sample of the customers' opinions into account when you finalize your report, not just employees or the few who benefit from their aid programs.

Please report on SDG&E's efforts to stop and disincentivize rooftop solar; I have yet to recoup my rooftop solar investment in 2015 due to SDG&E's billing jiu-jitsu.

Please analyze SDG&E's plans to use expensive and dangerous transmission lines to bring in

power from remote areas rather than encouraging local generation that requires minimal transmission so they can maximize profits and increase costs to ratepayers.

Please explore Power San Diego's efforts to municipalize power in San Diego County. They have a very real plan to save ratepayers from enriching SDG&E further in perpetuity. Something's got to give.

Thank you again for your work on the committee.

David Ahn

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 3:03:09 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 15:03

NAME:

Patricia Ann Shields

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Julian, California 92036

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

My concerns regarding SDG&E/SEMPRA:

Increasing rates

Building a power line through sensitive habitat which will cause great environmental harm in order to import electricity when supporting rooftop solar would be much more beneficial

I would like to have detailed information on what SDG&E has done, continues to do, to block local solar initiatives. In an area with approximately 250 sunny or partly sunny days/per year, solar simply makes sense.

Explore how SDG&E has/has not supported the city's clean energy goals It is common knowledge that SDG&E makes money by building the power transmission towers, even if no electricity is sent through them. This needs to be explored.

## ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 3:30:55 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 15:30

NAME:

Anthony Fuentes

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

National City, California 91950

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

### COMMENTS:

In regards to the Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report, I would like to make it known my support of transitioning away from SDGE to a municipal energy provider. SDGE has long been a plight on our city. As a for-profit, investor-owned corporation, its executives' top priority is to maximize profits - which all San Diegans have been experiencing through increasing energy rates - rather than creating an affordable, reliable energy system. I would like for the committee to report in detail on SDGE's efforts against local rooftop solar power as well as compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 3:43:14 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 15:43

NAME: David

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

The SDGE monopoly is one of the most significant driving factors of the rapid rise in cost of living in San Diego. Their rates oscillate between 1st and 2nd highest in the nation and continue to increase. The City must throughly investigate and halt the exorbitant exploitation of their citizens at the hands of SDGE's greed. There is no reason SDGE should reap profits of \$936 million while approximately 1,300 people become homeless a month in San Diego County due to rapidly rising costs.

SDGE should not be viewed as a City partner in enacting the City's Climate Action plan. At the end of the day SDGE will always choose what is most important to them, profit. Sempra and SDGE's sole motivation is to maximize profits for shareholders that don't even live in the region. The citizens of San Diego will be bled dry by this insatiable need for more money unless this committee throughly investigates SDGE's systemic undermining and back room dealing against policies that would benefit the citizens and meet climate goals.

This committee needs to provide detailed reports pertaining to rate changes based on localized solar and SDGE's lobbying against local rooftop solar prior to the adoption of this next agreement. Furthermore, I support this committees recommendation that the City investigate how SDGE has significantly lobbied against municipalization efforts by manipulating data and cost estimates by paying consulting firms a premium to create reports in

their favor. SDGE has shown they will continue to reinvest their vast profits into their system of exploitation. The City must take a stand against this monopoly since City Council and the Mayor won't antagonize their largest donors.

## ATTACHMENTS:

From: Karen Sowa
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for June 3rd Meeting - Agenda Item VI: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review

Committee Report

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 3:53:09 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Megan Ong San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee SD Central Downtown Library 330 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Ms. Ong,

I am writing to express my deep concern and frustration with SDG&E's performance and practices under the current Franchise Agreement. As a resident of San Diego County, I have been personally affected by the exorbitant price hikes and the company's attempts to undermine the benefits of local rooftop solar energy for families like mine.

The cost of energy provided by SDG&E has been rising at an alarming rate, making it increasingly difficult for residents and businesses to manage their utility bills. SDG&E appears to prioritize maximizing their profits rather than building a system that keeps rates affordable for consumers. This practice is unsustainable and unfair to the community that relies on their services.

Additionally, the lack of alternative options to SDG&E forces us to purchase power from them, causing unfair financial stress on my family and many others in the area. Having lived in the Bay Area and Massachusetts before moving to San Diego County, I have never experienced power bills as outrageously high as those from SDG&E. It is outrageous and unacceptable.

Moreover, SDG&E's efforts to stifle the growth of local rooftop solar power are particularly troubling. Instead of supporting clean, renewable energy solutions that would benefit the environment and reduce costs for residents, SDG&E seems focused on maintaining their control over energy distribution and profits. I urge the Committee to report in detail on SDG&E's actions against local rooftop solar power and to compare what rates would be if local solar power were emphasized instead of investing in expensive and risky transmission projects.

I strongly support the Committee's recommendation that the city investigate whether SDG&E has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization. It is crucial that the next Energy Cooperation Agreement includes provisions that prevent SDG&E from acting against the city's clean energy goals and undermining efforts to explore municipalization.

In conclusion, I request that the Committee take into consideration the concerns of residents who have been negatively impacted by SDG&E's practices. Ensuring that SDG&E acts as a true partner in achieving the city's Climate Action goals is essential for the well-being of our

community and the environment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Karen Sowa

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 4:06:40 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 16:06

NAME:

Harry Nelson

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92111

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

4

COMMENTS:

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review

Committee Report

I am seriously concerned about our high and rising rates with SDG&E. I have a photovoltaic rooftop system, and the first couple of years I generated enough to cover my usage and had no true up balances due. Over the last few years, our consumption has decreased as there are less people in our house, PV system electric generation stayed level, and yet I have seen rising true up balances due each year. The CA PUC seems to just be a rubber stamp to any increase Sempra wants SDG&E to make in order to show profit growth. What is the review committee going to do to ensure that San Diegans, who are required by law to be SDG&E customers, are protected from this profiteering? And what is the committee doing to ensure that roof top solar programs continue to grow?

Private ownership of public utilities is not the answer. When basic services are run for a profit, they cease to be for the benefit of citizens and commerce, and instead become income streams for super wealthy corporations.

Finally, I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate

whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

## ATTACHMENTS:

To: Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan

Subject: Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

Date: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 4:13:24 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 16:13

NAME: Julie Cakici

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92127

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI

#### COMMENTS:

I am writing to ask that the committee not approve SDG&E's franchise renewal as they continue to show they are not good partners for San Diego. They continue to put profits over people as evidenced by continued rate increases, lobbying against green energy, and passing along the 'costs of doing business' to the customers. We have no power over this company, and they celebrate this by continuing to charge us the highest rates in the nation. Please conduct a thorough review of their efforts against rooftop solar and assess what rates would be if solar was promoted over building risky transmission. If this industry is going to continue to make a billion dollars in profit per year, I'd rather San Diego get that profit and put it back into the community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 4:35:37 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 16:35

NAME:

Jason Wallace

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

La Jolla, California 92037

PHONE NUMBER:

#### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

The public has long been told that renewable sources of electricity drive the marginal cost of production down towards a small amount. Southern California is one of the most ideal places for renewable generation, and we do generate a significant amount of power this way.

I believe the committee should investigate why, contrary to the above, we have the highest electric rates in the nation. I'd like to ask that the committee looks into whether SDGE exploits their position as the given monopoly. Did they undermine the efforts towards the creation of a public utility? What are their plans to not only hold rates steady, but LOWER rates as we move to cheaper means of production?

I'm normally pro-business, however myself, and every neighbor I speak to about this, believe that SDGE is exploiting their monopoly position to charge ever increasing rates. As a for-profit company, their fiduciary duty is to maximize profits. And this comes at a direct expense to citizens of SD.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 4:47:05 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 16:47

NAME:

Meg Goldfeather

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92116

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

V. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

More than 33,000 citizens have signed a petition to get a measure on the ballot to oppose the City renewal of or continuation of the franchise with SDGE. SDGE continues to take actions that are detrimental to and the opposite of San Diego's clean energy goals, such as: taking actions against rooftop solar and maximizing profits over an efficient delivery system that would keep rates lower. San Diego SDGE rates are more than double and often triple what other cities with municipal (public) utilities pay. Our housing and rental costs are seen as exorbitant to the rest of the Nation. Our utility rates do not have to be and should not be exorbitant as well. The City of San Diego is competent to own and operate the grid to drastically lower the rates of electricity for its voters and should take the first step in this direction by not renewing the franchise with SDGE and not accepting the report of the Compliance Review Committee.

Diego

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 5:02:35 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 17:02

NAME:

Jonathan Merlin

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

National City, California 91950

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

SDG&E Discussion: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

SDG&E has been prioritizing profits instead of customers for too long. The rates keep climbing higher and higher as they post record profits for their shareholders. SDG&E has designed a system to maximize its profit and not build a system to keep rates lower. Can you please report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power? Also, can you please compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmissions?

### ATTACHMENTS:

From: <u>Carolyn Chase</u>
To: <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Franchise Compliance Review Committee Comments for June meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 5:02:37 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I reviewed the available DRAFT report

I request that you not finalize the report today, but consider the comments and continue the item for comments to address.

## 1. Please improve/increase public outreach

I only recently found out that this Committee exists, so I question the outreach that has been done on behalf of this effort. I have signed up for many email lists from the City. I'm on the Mayor's newsletter list and two council district lists - some Park & Rec lists and others - and yet, I never heard that these meetings are taking place.

## 2. Where is the emphasis on rates?

I was disappointed that I did not find enough of an emphasis on rates. Furthermore, an interesting question asked of SDGE about rates went unanswered (comparing rates before and after Franchise renewal).

Businesses and residents are suffering from the highest rates in the nation AND even with the recent CPUC ruling, we will still be in the top two or three - with significant rate increases coming.

SDGE's responses to the questions about 337,000 residential customer accounts with more than one month past due and an average debt of \$744 - was both "canned" and incomplete. These numbers are shocking! Yes they have programs to help - but what is not being addressed is designs for higher rates with increases to continue.

### 3. How will we avoid what is currently happening with water rates??

So they overbuilt infrastructure for unreaslistic growth projections and now they expect the ratepayers to make up the difference by raising everyone's rates.

Isn't is possible that this is what is happening in the energy area? They are pursuing growth and profits at the expense of conservation and local control. By making design decisions that maximize profit, rate payers become on the hook for expensive projects that need not be built were other design choices made. **Please ask SDGE to address their plans for local solar** and to do a public cost comparison vs seeking to provide remote power that requires expensive and riskier transmission.

## 4. Please ask SDCP to answer the questions that were asked.

They did not. The PowerPoint was not very helpful.

**5. Please ask SDGE to answer the questions that were asked that they did not answer.** This includes in the first page of Appendix B those listed under "Other Questions" and continues down the page with "Section 1."

The SDGE answers provided only began with Section 2.

## 6. Please go another round of follow-up question with SDGE

For instance, in every case where a question was asked about Sempra, their response was non-responsive. They did not even care to introduce us to who we should contact for answers. They eschew any responsibility for their corporate owners, except, it seems to design systems that maximize return and increase rates year after year, upon year for the foreseeable future.

They could be more responsive, they are choosing not to be and that must be noted.

Q12: Why are they not planning micro-grid projects in the City of San Diego? Is it that they expect others to do these project? and related to Q13:

What is the current status of the MIP application process? These answers say it expected to open for projects by now or soon.

Re Q2b; When will they provide estimates for costs and funding sources for each identified project in the Implementation Plan? Does their answer that they will "seek to add estimates" mean that they have no estimates for their projects? That's hard to believe. Please require them to provide their project planning estimates that they do have.

Q4 Incomplete answer. They did not answer the question: "Does SDGE expect this higher delinquency experience will continue or believe that it might adversely impact rates?"

Q25 - re SDGE stance on NEM 3 which greatly disadvantaged local solar. SDGE's response to this question is to ignore the question and change the subject. It shows a true lack of leadership by citing their "high level of solar penetration" when the potential is so great. Please ask them to answer the question and list the actions that disadvantage local solar in any way.

Thanks again for the opportunity to comment and please add me to receive any future notices.

Carolyn Chase San Diego, CA

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 5:58:55 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 17:58

NAME:

Robert J Adams

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92129

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

I'm very concerned about the rising rates, making it nearly impossible to reduce our bill, even when we conserve. Homeowners are being penalized two ways by SDGE! Customers that convert to solar, mean less revenue for SDGE. And for those that reduce their usage, also means less revenue. SDGE is raising rates to find ways to still make huge profits off customers. We need true competition in this state/county!

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 5:59:45 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 17:59

NAME: Michelle

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92103

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

#### COMMENTS:

- Extremely high & unjustified rates
- Their current system is set to maximize profits instead of serving the public.
- SDGE needs to provide a detailed billing report for transparency.

I support the committee's recommendation that "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 6:06:58 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 18:06

NAME:

Jalal Mustafa

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92101

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

V

COMMENTS:

Dear San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee,

I am writing to express my extreme dissatisfaction with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDGE) and their service.

Unreasonable Rates and Profit Focus:

SDGE's rates are far too high and continue to rise.

It's clear their system prioritizes maximizing profits over keeping costs down for residents.

Local Solar Opposition:

I am deeply concerned about SDGE's efforts to undermine the growth of rooftop solar power in San Diego.

A transparent report detailing these efforts is essential.

We need to explore the cost benefits of prioritizing local solar over expensive and risky transmission projects.

Negative Comparison to Other Providers:

Having experienced utility providers in other regions of California, I can confidently say SDGE falls short in both service quality and affordability.

Recommendations:

I strongly support the Committee's recommendation to investigate SDGE's potential interference with the city's exploration of municipalization.

The next Energy Cooperation Agreement must include clear measures preventing SDGE from undermining San Diego's clean energy goals and municipalization efforts.

Thank you for considering my comments. I urge the Committee to take a strong stance against SDGE's practices and prioritize the well-being of San Diego residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

A (new-ish) San Diego resident since 2022

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 6:10:56 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 18:10

NAME:

Wes Zahler

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92104

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

?

COMMENTS:

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

As a resident and small business owner in the region, I have concerns about the high and rising energy rates and the fact that SDG&E appears to be designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower.

I would as ask that you report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power. I would also ask that you consider what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

I strongly SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

Thank you.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 6:23:27 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 18:23

NAME:

Kyle Brown

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

006

### COMMENTS:

It is simply unacceptable that the citizens of San Diego pay one of the highest electricity rates in the country. Our weather is perfect and SDGE doesn't have to deal with any of the usual natural disasters that might destroy power lines such as tornadoes, blizzards, or hurricanes. It makes no sense why our delivery costs are so high and the only rational explanation is that Sempra and SDGE are exploiting a monopoly. I am supporting the recommendation that the city investigate SDGE.

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 7:32:51 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 19:32

NAME:

Eileen Shin

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92101

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item

### COMMENTS:

SDGE is financially harming the residents of San Diego. Their rates are one of the highest in the U.S., and the dividend payouts are more important than the financial strain and stress that the SDGE rates has caused on millions of San Diego constituents. Worse, SDGE is designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower.

The lack of oversight, and the failure to protect residents from SDGE's exorbitant rates is unconscionable.

## ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 7:56:16 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 19:56

NAME:

Kathleen French

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92120

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6 SDGE contract

# COMMENTS:

Sempra is making record profits by charging San Diegans the highest electrical costs in the nation. It doesn't matter how much we conserve, they just raise transmission fees. They are an enemy of the city, of the people, and of the planet

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 7:56:53 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 19:56

NAME:

**Scott Davis** 

EMAIL:



San Diego, California 92101

PHONE NUMBER:



BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Item: VI

# COMMENTS:

I am very disturbed that a utility service that is an essential cannot be changed by the will of its own people. For example, a consumer has options to change their telephone provider or Internet provider.

By contrast, San Diegans are at the mercy of SDGE's exorbitant rates, which has caused anxiety and financial strain on millions of SD residents. Also, please elaborate and explain what SDGE's efforts are against local rooftop solar power?

It is the duty of San Diego civic leaders to protect its constituents from SDGE's monopoly and corporate greed that is harming millions of residents.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

 From:
 Brenton Woo

 To:
 Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 9:11:59 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Hi Ms. Ong,

Re: this meeting on June 3: <a href="https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/6.3.2024-meeting-agenda.pdf">https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/6.3.2024-meeting-agenda.pdf</a>

As a 92116 resident, I'm unhappy with SDGE high and rising rates. Particularly with the existence of their "transmission" fee. Since electricity is something critical to modern life, perhaps it would be better to not have it controlled by a profit driven organization, but by one that prioritizes quality service.

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

Thanks Brenton Woo

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 9:15:40 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 21:14

NAME:

Nicholas Spitulski

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92104

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Franchise Compliance Review for SDGE

### COMMENTS:

I don't believe SDGE has been a good partner for San Diego or acted with San Diegan's best interests at heart. As a customer, in the past year, I've upgraded appliances and even relocated to an apartment on the cooler side of the building - my consumption has gone down around 30% year over year - yet my bill only half that, at most.

I don't understand why a public utility is being provided by a private corporation, essentially consuming public funds for the benefit of share holders. It is my hope this committee will report on experiences like mine, and worse, and urge an investigation into price gouging and business practices that are aimed at maximizing profits instead of supplying an affordable, clean, and safe utility to the public. Please put the public back in public utility and stop the profiteering on an essential service.

### ATTACHMENTS:

\_

https://www.sandiego.gov/system/files/webform\_1030632/40329/sdge-may-23-2024-vs-sep-23-2022.jpg

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 9:27:26 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 21:27

NAME:

Lance Pepin

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

### COMMENTS:

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

The monopoly that SDG&E has over our electricity cost needs to be majorly scrutinized. We can no longer allow one organization to have this much control over essential infrastructure.

My concerns about SDGE:

- high and rising rates
- designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- ask them to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- ask them to compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

The citizens of SD are up in arms over the rising cost of our electricity. We will be watching very closely how this review committee votes on this issue

and if you do not vote in favor of the people we will vote you out. SDGE days are numbered!

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 9:49:44 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 21:49

NAME:

William Harrington

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92116

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item. Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

Of the 3,000 electric utilities in the US, SDG&E appears to be among the most expensive 1% for its customers. The City administration and the public deserve a reasonable and complete explanation of why its costs and profits deviate so significantly from the median. All signs point to rates continuing to increase in the future.

Yet almost 25% of the residents of San Diego are delinquent in their utility bills. When the City or State is picking up the tab, SDG&E profits in a way that no business in a competitive industry can or should.

The recently proposed rate restructuring penalizes the adaption of new rooftop solar. That moves us further away from increasing our locally generated electric supply and makes us more dependent on distant and unreliable sources of power in times of need. Jobs in the solar industry are just as important as those of SDGE employees.

Utility monopolies are regulated to ensure that those monopolies operate in the interests in the public. Electric utility regulation in California appears to be a hollow promise under Governor Newsom's CPUC. Let's make sure that the City of San Diego is more diligent in looking out for the welfare of its citizens and their energy needs.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 10:36:19 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 22:36

NAME:

Daniella G

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92154

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

vi

## COMMENTS:

Concerned with SDGE continuing to hike up rates despite having record breaking earnings. SDGE's ability/ financial pull to undermine the city's exploration of alternative options raises questions on possible conflict of interest and or which elected officials in the city are benefiting from it.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 10:43:35 PM

Submitted on Tue, 05/28/2024 - 22:43

NAME:

Anna Mira

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92105

PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item: 6. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

My concerns about SDGE:

- 1 high and rising rates
- 2 SDGE designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower

Please report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power.

Please compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

The city should investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 7:32:07 AM

Submitted on Wed, 05/29/2024 - 07:32

NAME:

James Ferguson

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

SAN DIEGO, California 92104

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

ITEM VI SDGE

## COMMENTS:

I feel strongly enough to write from my European vacation. SDGE is a usorious monopoly that sends billions to investors that incur zero risk for the overages, deferred maintenance, and system defects. They design a grid to maximize long distance transmission fees, and limit inside the distribution grid improvement to accommodate solar, batteries, and microgfids. When I asked them why my 200 Amp panel was frying, Per an electrician, they answered there were a lot of solar systems in the neighborhood and " these old circuits just can't handle the load. So they send the power back". This while they send > 1 million a day in profit from San Diego alone. Am I tired of paying double the average rate in California, and triple the national rate while they maintain the same profit margin and continue raising rates 10% per year? YES!

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 9:06:42 AM

Submitted on Wed, 05/29/2024 - 09:06

NAME:

Karen McKenna

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6 Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

I purchased a home in San Diego in 2022 and immediately installed solar along with two Powerwalls. I spent a lot of time trying to analyze my SDGE bill that first year. I have a Master's Degree, but reading SDGE's bill must take much higher learning than I've received. I have studied my bill, but it appears to me we lost about \$1000 of credits due to us our first year with solar. Our true-up happened and we got a \$200 credit. The other \$1000 just disappeared. I have not had 8 hours to study year two yet. Even with 20 solar panels and 2 Powerwalls our electric bill is outrageous due to fees!

SDGE has the highest rates in the NATION and is trying to get even more money from their monopoly with higher distribution fees. Soon the rich will buy enough solar and Powerwalls to leave the grid--especially when they try to bill based on income, not on usage. This means the poor will be the ones left to pay the highest rates in the nation.

Something needs to be done to corral this monopoly and soon. Something needs to be done to convince them to switch to solar energy. Please do not let things go on as they are. Citizens are struggling and complaining. Look at comments on Reddit or Facebook or Twitter. SDGE customers are mad and frustrated and desperate. Please make SDGE revise their billing so a person with a high school education can read it. Please help us. Don't just rubber stamp current SDGE practices.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 9:43:19 AM

Submitted on Wed, 05/29/2024 - 09:43

NAME:

**Edward Maddox** 

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92107

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

6: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

There is not a more universally disliked company in San Diego than SDG&E.

We already pay the highest energy rates in the country. And those of us who have taken out solar loans now are expected to pay a monthly flat fee proposed by SDG&E on top of the solar loan payment. How are you ok with this?

The system is set up to encourage SDG&E to spend more and more since their profits are capped at 20%. The only way for them to make more money for their shareholders is to increase operating expenses to skim money from a larger pot.

I simply ask that you to do your job to serve the interests of the people you represent, and not perpetuate fleecing the public to fill the pockets of Sempra and SDG&E millionaires and billionaires.

## ATTACHMENTS:

From: Russell Elrod
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 3rd vote: SDG&E item

Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 10:34:38 AM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Dear Megan,

San Diego pays the highest rates in the nation, even more than Hawaii (who has an abundance of solar service). This will only continue as there is No Competition! Rate payers are indefinitely paying for SDG&E upgrades and power line failures. I urge you to investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

Russell Elrod

San Digo 92116

From: Alice McNally
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments for 6/3 Agenda item IV, Finalize Compliance Review Committee Report

Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 1:19:34 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

I am very much against the renewal of the "Franchise Agreement" that grants SDGE monopoly energy service in the City of San Diego.

- 1. SDGE is a Monopoly, and San Diego and needs Choice of cheaper, clean energy generated by sustainable energy sources.
- 2. SDGE is for Profit and not for the planet. They charge too much and pay themselves and the shareholders too much.
- 3. They do not encourage clear power but push fossil fuels and fracking, which are responsible for Global warming and climate change.
- 4. They have taken away the discounts and incentives for rooftop solar which is detrimental to the planet.
- 5. We deserve better....

Alice McNally

Del Mar, CA 92014

From: Anna Perino
To: Ong, Megan

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please Submit Comments for June 3 meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 4:45:00 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Dear Megan Ong:

Comments Regarding:

Meeting on June 3rd,

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

Comments:

It is no secret that SDG&E, does not have the public's interest at heart. However, SDG&E has been brazen in its decades-long persuit of raising rates, failing to upgrade its/our grid and then charging us again when the parts finally fail.

We must keep them in their place, while we continue in our stated quest to transition to a municipality led energy group. I worry that they are undermining this effort, as well as undermining our efforts to put more solar on rooftops, not less.

Thank you, Anna Perino

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:23:25 PM

Submitted on Wed, 05/29/2024 - 17:23

NAME:

Michael Standal

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Imperial Beach, California 91932-1735

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

COMMENTS:

I've concerns re: SDGE, specifically:

- high and rising rates
- designing a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower
- ask them to report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power
- ask them compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission

#### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:34:23 PM

Submitted on Wed, 05/29/2024 - 17:34

NAME:

Ruth Sandven

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92107

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Franchise Compliance Review Report

### COMMENTS:

San Diego currently has the second highest electric rates in the USA. One in four customers is behind in their utility payment.

SDGE has attacked rooftop solar making it more expensive and less affordable to middle income families.

SDGE has unbridled greed which results in billions of dollars a year in profits made possible by consistently increasing utility rates. A for profit utility is first and foremost responsible to its shareholders.

I support the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization"

I would also like to see the city investigate whether SDGE required a loyalty oath of the electrical workers union as part of the union contract.

The City of San Diego must stand by it's commitment to perform a Phase II and Phase III study on the municipalization of the electrical utility.

We must have options other than SDGE.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 6:53:05 PM

Submitted on Wed, 05/29/2024 - 18:53

NAME:

Cherry Robinson

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

agenda item 6

## COMMENTS:

SDG&E is serving our community very poorly. Currently 26% of SDG&E residential customer base are at least one month behind on their bills. That information is readily available and yet SDG&E continues to increase rates. We are already promised 10% a year increase for the next 4 years in addition to the 24\$ a month fee increase allowed by the CPUC. There is no cap on that fee and it will likely increase as what they requested was a 70\$ fee. This is NOT SUSTAINABLE. If our current rates are not sustainable how will we pay these already promised increases?

There are several municipal utilities here in California whose rate payers are not seeing this kind of increase. Rate payers of those municipal utilities report a very high level of satisfaction with their level of satisfaction with their service.

No matter what kind of face SDG&E tries to show to the public, they do not care about their rate payers! IF they did; they would not have a clause in their contract with the unions saying the the union members must support them in any public contest, they would help communities and property owners in lower income brackets put solar on their properties to help lower their bills in place of slapping a usage fee on us and saying that they have to have it so they can build huge new infrastructure to bring solar power in from the desert solar farms they plan to build and make money on for many decades to come. Those high power lines will be yet again another way of increasing our fire risk. There are literally millions of buildings, parking lots and homes

where solar could be placed near where the power will be used and plenty of space to to put in battery storage within our communities. It is time for us to invest in ourselves and stop putting money into the hands of those who have shown us over and over in very real and dangerous terms that they only care about their bottom lines. Some say we can not afford it. Seriously, we cannot afford not to take care of ourselves!

# ATTACHMENTS:

From:

To: Ong, Megan

Subject: IFYTERNAL Comment Asserts Them: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Evenships

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee

Report

**Date:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 9:25:35 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

As a San Diego resident, I have been paying the high and rising rates of SDGE for years. As the cost of living rises and climate change heavily impacts our weather, water availability, and ocean health, knowing SDGE's profit margin is also increasing, with little benefit to San Diegans or our beautiful region is frustrating.

SDGE has intentionally designed a system to maximize their profit, rather than creating a system that provides reliable, sustainable, and affordable power. What happens when no one can afford electricity?

My household has been fortunate to be able to invest in solar panels. We did so out of concern for both the environment, wanting to prioritize green energy, and to have some control over our energy costs. However, SDGE has devoted significant efforts to limit and de-incentivize rooftop solar. Consumers deserve to know the details of these damaging actions and to know what rates could be if San Diego emphasized local solar instead of funding SDGE expensive and risky transmission infrastructure. Please require SDGE to be transparent.

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization."

Thank you for protecting our City and beautiful region by holding SDGE accountable for the damage they've caused and the continued efforts to prevent our divestment from corporate greed and environmental damage.

Cassondra Koldewyn

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 11:04:01 AM

Submitted on Thu, 05/30/2024 - 11:03

NAME:

Susan Lewitt

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report SDG&E

COMMENTS:

SDG&E has made efforts to help with my electric and gas usage, but I think their program lacks quality. they added insulation to my attic, but when inspected a couple years later, there was very little insulation there and I had to pay to get it done the right way. They refit our showers with low flow water heads, but they seam to use more water than the old ones because they have caused leaks. When I asked for help from SDG&E to remedy these problems they were no help.

Seven years ago, I installed solar and my electric bill should have gone down to zero, but SDG&E has been charging too much. There was several months in the first year or so when they somehow managed to kick my system off the grid and I was not getting any credit for the power produced by my solar panels. When these solar panels were installed, the waiting period to get the permits to get it started was way too long (at least 6 weeks).

SDG&E is one of the highest priced utilities in the country. They are not interested in climate change solutions, just maximizing their profit which is roughly \$1 million per day. They would rather have solar farms that take away land from natural protected areas that should be native flora and fauna. These solar farms only put money into their pockets. They would most likely pass on the cost of expense and risky transmission lines needed for solar

farm output. Also, please have them report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power because that is not their aim.

# ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 1:02:08 PM

Submitted on Thu, 05/30/2024 - 13:02

NAME:

Bianca Romani

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92104

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

## COMMENTS:

The average SD citizen does not know that SDG&E made of profit of \$1,000,000,000 last year! Our rates are the highest in the USA. They need to emphasize solar and not transmissioning. The 'fixed charge' program DOES NOT encourage conservation. The under grounding of power lines has a surplus of money in its coffer and SDG&E is charging TOO MUCH without any oversight to their budget.

## ATTACHMENTS:

To: Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:59:23 PM

Submitted on Thu, 05/30/2024 - 15:59

NAME: Nanci Kelly

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92107

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI (6)

### COMMENTS:

I have followed the actions of SDG&E over the past 50+ years that I've resided in San Diego. We all know about their 'highest' rates and the amount of money they take out of our city to pay their excessive top level salaries and their shareholders - even the money that remains here, in the form of "charity" and "community involvement" is OUR money, yet they determine how they can use it to benefit their corporate ends. So, daily customer service and return on our "investment" is an important issue There is, however, a secondary and more important issue for which they need to be evaluated. That is their responsibility for exploiting the biosphere that belongs to my 2 granddughters and all of our children and grandchildren. Their selling off of all their renewables in 2019 and committing to global LNG will make our biosphere unlivable in the future - the future that belongs to my family, all of our families into the 7th generation. SDG&E is working against our people - no amount of marketing and greenwashing will reverse that and they must be held accountable. The workers will be supported - we must move beyond. SDG&E.

### ATTACHMENTS:

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 6:37:00 PM

Submitted on Thu, 05/30/2024 - 18:36

NAME:

Matthew Cooney

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92107

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI (6) -- Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

### COMMENTS:

I am very concerned about to continuation of SDGE in San Diego. Their rates are some of the highest in the country, and are still rising, while they are making record profits. They have shown no interest in lowering rates, but rather designed a system to maximize their profit while San Diego has no alternatives. Please report in detail on SDGE's efforts against local rooftop solar power, and compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that the city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization.

Thank you.

### ATTACHMENTS:

From: Susan Carson
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 3rd Meeting & VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 7:47:34 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Megan,

Thank you for taking the time to be involved and also for taking the time to read a lot of emails that you are getting like mine. I was ecstatic to happen upon someone asking if I'd be interested in signing a petition to fire SDG&E and replace them with Power San Diego! Everyone is aware that the SD public are forced to pay the highest electricity rates in the country (aside from possibly Hawaii). Power San Diego has now made us aware of exactly what SDG&E charges in comparison to other public (not for profit companies like SDG&E).

We spent over 17k a number of years back on solar and SDG&E is obviously feeling the squeeze by so many people like us who paid the money to install solar panels. We are being told that we must "go green" but yet we are having to pay HIGH USAGE FEES for electricity between the hours of 4pm - 9 pm (SDG&E's time of use). I do not know of any other electricity provider who charges higher rates during a certain period of time every single day of the year! I was shocked to find a "high usage fee charge" during the summer one night when we were tired of the heat and we turned on the AC at 11 pm!!! Why are we being penalized for using electricity at all? SDG&E is not prioritizing the use of solar panels because it's taking money out of the shareholder's pockets. This is truly absurd!

My son and his family live in La Mesa and pay roughly \$500/month for electricity during the summer months. They do not have solar but the message that is being sent by SDG&E is "we won't reimburse you for that any longer". My son was shocked to find out how much we actually pay for electricity per year even with the upfront expenses involved with putting solar on. Why again are we not seeing some sort of reimbursement for that? Again, part of the SDG&E plan is to keep income in the pockets of shareholder's and do whatever is necessary to continue to maximize that with little regard for the public. Everyone is well aware that SDG&E has plans to continue to raise rates too.

I feel strongly that the utility company should not be a for profit agency but be a public utility company with the goal to provide a quality product at an affordable price. The other public utility companies in the state of CA are doing this and it is downright upsetting to know that we are under the control of a monopoly. It's great for a company to make money but it's sickening to think that SDG&E has become extremely greedy in terms of providing a service to the SD public. I think the actual greed kicked in when they decided to penalize us for using electricity during 4-9PM every single day of the year!

Lastly, very concerning is it for our family to have SDG&E access our personal financial data including social security numbers in order to decide our the amount of our "fixed rate" on top of their charges each month! I think it's easy to understand why people like ourselves would be worried about a data breach which happens more often than not. We are excited to know that Power San Diego is in our area and is trying to do the right thing which is provide a service to the public without regard to making money for themselves.

Thank you for your work,

Susan and Dan Carson

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 9:11:52 PM

Submitted on Thu, 05/30/2024 - 21:11

NAME:

Paul Martin

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92107

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report!

### COMMENTS:

As a lifetime SD County resident, now 10 years in the city proper, I am exhausted by SDG&E's ceaseless greed and drive for more profit. Their work is average, yet they charge some of the highest (and increasing!) rates for energy in the nation. The City should demand a detailed report on SDG&E's efforts to squash local rooftop solar power (I have long experienced this directly). We should also demand a rate comparison if local solar were emphasized versus long-distance energy transmission. And, of course, the City should investigate SDG&E's efforts to sabotage, and otherwise undermine the effort to "fire SDG&E" as our energy provider. Please remember who you represent, the citizens, not the corporations, of San Diego.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

 From:
 Megan Simon

 To:
 Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] 6/3 Franchise Compliance Review Committee Public Comment

**Date:** Thursday, May 30, 2024 9:28:07 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

## Hello Megan,

I tried to submit my below comment to the June 3rd Franchise Compliance Review Committee meeting but there was a continued error for the Agenda Item field.

I'm trying to submit for Agenda Item VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

Will you please help share my comment below? Please let me know if you need any more information from me.

Thank you,

Megan D. Simon

Poway, CA 92064

Comment:

Just a few weeks ago, a worker hired by SDG&E threatened to punch my electrician in my driveway. The worker was provoking him, calling him names, a serious of profanities and a wide array of insults. My electrician tried unsuccessfully to de-escalate. I reported this to SDG&E as did my electrician, who was told that there are many complaints already about this worker. The SDG&E worker also took off my meter of his own accord, and left my family without power for an additional 21 hours with no explanation.

This man was sent to my home by a company that made \$1 billion in profits last year and charges the highest price for electricity in the country. I was told by someone from the SDG&E emergency line that I would receive a call back from this gentleman's supervisor to submit my complaint. Despite my attempt to reach them again, they never did. I am a new mom, with a vibrant, young 2-year old trying my best to raise a family in a city I once felt proud of.

I don't feel proud paying into a poorly run business that jeopardizes the families they serve. Please report in detail why SDG&E should be permitted to collect such obscene profits when they have a monopoly over a public utility. Please also share their efforts against local rooftop solar and why they are not following best practices and instead leaning into risky and expensive transmission. Why should I sit in silence as you enable them to pocket my family's dollars while sending a violent man to my home with no accountability? I'm at a loss for what to do and whether I can feel safe. Thank you so much for listening and now I hope sincerely

that you're ready to take action

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 6:23:31 AM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 06:23

NAME:

Loren Donelson

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

#### BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report n

### COMMENTS:

San Diego has some of the highest electricity rates in the entire US and they continue to rise.

SDGE continues to design a system to maximize profit and not a system to keep rates lower.

Please report in detailSDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power.

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization

### ATTACHMENTS:

From: Samantha Song
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] re: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report 6/3/24 Meeting

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 7:21:56 AM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

#### Hello,

This is a comment in regards to VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report for meeting date 6/3/24.

I am deeply concerned about the continuous rise in rates from SDGE, which not only burden consumers but also indicate a prioritization of profit maximization over sustainable and affordable energy solutions for the community. I urge SDGE to provide a detailed report on their efforts regarding local rooftop solar power adoption.

We purchased our single family home in 2022 and decided within our first year of home ownership that we needed to get solar because of the shift from NEM 2.0 to NEM 3.0, essentially no longer making solar cost-effective for households. Now that we have solar, SDGE has implemented a fixed charge for all residential customers, regardless of solar panels or not. Why should we essentially get punished for making a costly financial investment towards clean energy? We are also producing additional energy for the city off of our own roofs. This is another setback for those who have not yet but do want to move towards solar and works against any Climate Action goals.

I fully support the committee's recommendation to investigate whether SDGE has undermined the exploration of municipalization by the city. It's imperative to incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that align with the city's clean energy goals and prevent SDGE from hindering municipalization efforts.

Thank you, Samantha Song San Diego Resident

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 7:22:33 AM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 07:22

NAME:

Delphine Pastiaux-Murphy

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

SAN DIEGO, California 92119

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

## COMMENTS:

As a SD resident who has invested into rooftop solar in the last few years, I would like to get a detailed report on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power that make my investment much less profitable than it was set to be and will stop other homeowners from making that same investment despite its obvious benefits for the community;

I'm asking Committee members to compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

I would like to know exactly what might justify choices that result in high and rising electricity rates when cheaper and more environmentally sustainable options are available: what reasons are there to continue with the current Franchise, other than just allowing SDGE to design a system destined to maximize their profits, as is the mission of any private company? Why would the City of San Diego choose to support this option over building a system to keep rates lower and at the same time takes us towards a more environmentally sound future?

In my view, SDGE DOES NOT act as a partner to the city as it pursues its Climate Action goals, on the contrary.

As a result, I fully support the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration

of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization".

Thank you.

# ATTACHMENTS:

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 9:14:35 AM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 09:14

NAME:

JoAnn Samuels

EMAIL:



Ramona, California 920650454

#### PHONE NUMBER:

#### **BOARD OR COMMISSION:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

#### COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

#### AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item: VI (6) Discussion item: Final Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

## COMMENTS:

To Whom it may Concern:

We have concerns about SDG&E:

- 1) We are concerned about the high and rising rates
- 2) We are concerned about them designing a system to maximize their profit and NOT build a system to keep rates lower
- 3) We want you to report in detail, on SDG&E's efforts against local rooftop solar power
- 4) We want you to compare what rates would be by empasizing local solar INSTEAD of building expensive and risky transmission
- 5) We want you to SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDG&E has taken actions to undermine...the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDG&E from taking actions opposite to the city's clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization".

## ATTACHMENTS:

[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 10:59:42 AM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 10:59

NAME:

Clark Shetter

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

# COMMENTS:

SDGE designed a system to maximize its profit and not build a system to keep rates lower.

Please compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmissions.

## ATTACHMENTS:

[webform submission:values:attachments multiple file]

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 11:08:50 AM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 11:08

NAME:

Colby Behrends

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92108

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI Finalize Franchise Review Compliance Report

## COMMENTS:

Hello, I have been a resident of San Diego, CA for 5 years now. I'm incredibly frustrated with the high cost of living (that keeps getting higher). I believe that the government wants to do its part in helping its citizens find affordable ways to live here. However, private corporations like SDGE are working very hard to pad their pocketbooks with no regard to the cost to San Diego tax payers. I didn't even know that this committee existed last week; and I'm frustrated to hear that SDGE is regarded as a positive experience by anyone in San Diego. I believe that responsible and reliable energy in SD is very important, so I've gladly gone along with every price increase and ignored the "Fire SDGE" campaign that so many of my neighbors have signed on to. That was until I heard that SDGE was boasting bout "record profits" last year. Even more shocking is how SDGE has tried to smear the Power San Diego team from being able to get the city and its citizens to even explore the idea of a municipal power program. I love this city and I don't want to leave; but I'm not going to stay here and continue to pay more and more when it's clearly unnecessary. Our values as a city and humans demand that we at least consider other possibilities. Not reckless ones like SDGE is advertising; but a real solution that could help citizens while maintaining a responsible energy grid. It is the governments responsibility to hear us out and explore that option. It is also the government's responsibility to keep SDGE from spreading lies and working to prevent that discovery from happening. Above all else, you should know that

my and MANY San Diegans feelings towards SDGE are NOT positive. Thank you for your time. - Colby B, Mission Valley

# ATTACHMENTS:

 $[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]$ 

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 12:46:42 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 12:46

NAME:

Rose Hanscom

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92110

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda VI

## COMMENTS:

I have very serious concerns about SDG&E. Their rates are exceptionally high and are rising. The company is designing a system to maximize their profit and not to build a system to keep rates lower. Please report in detail on SDG&E's efforts against rooftop solar power. Please compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar power instead of building expensive and risky transmission. Thank you. Rose Hanscom

## ATTACHMENTS:

[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 1:53:58 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 13:53

NAME:

Jill D Ramsey

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92105

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

six

## COMMENTS:

Agenda item VI: SDG&E is at direct opposition to conservation and clean energy goals. The flat rate, per household charge eliminates motivation to conserve energy and negatively effects existing and potential rooftop solar installation. They are profit driven, answering to shareholders, with no responsibility to their customers or to California's climate goals. They hold a monopoly through their franchise agreement, so they are entirely free of competition which allows them to raise rates at their discretion. Their financial reports showing record profits prove that they expect no meaningful opposition or accountability and will continue to raise rates at will. Further, they have no reason to end their price gouging unless and until they are held to some measure of accountability to the people forced to buy their product. They have no reason to increase investment in renewable or clean energy. Under the current franchise, they are encouraged to undermine the public's efforts to install clean solar, conserve power and reduce dependence on natural gas.

## ATTACHMENTS:

[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 3:10:17 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 15:10

NAME:

Barbara K Robinson

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92123

PHONE NUMBER:

BOARD OR COMMISSION:

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee

## COMMENTS:

I believe more opportunity to comment is needed in order to collect adequate feedback. I am concerned about rising rate, a system that maximizes their profits over reasonable consumer rates. I would like to see rare comparisons, taking solar usage in mind, and a detailed report of any efforts opposing local roftop solar power.

## ATTACHMENTS:

[webform submission:values:attachments multiple file]

From:
Ong, Megan

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comment Item 6 6/3/24 Franchise Compliance Review

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 3:10:58 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

I am getting an error message when submitting online, not sure if it went thru, so emailing just in case.

My name is Kelly Lyndon, I live in the city of San Diego, and volunteer with San Diego 350 and other orgs to advocate for accelerating equitable climate action.

I attended the 5/23/24 Environment Committee meeting where SDG&E presented on "Major Projects and Undergrounding" and "Climate Equity". The Energy Cooperation Agreement provides guidance on the content of these periodic presentations, and my assessment is that these presentations did not follow the prescribed content. There was no description of Major Projects, and Vice-Chair von Wilpert expressed her dismay that this wasn't included. I spoke regarding the lack of content on supporting the city's Climate Action Plan goals. I recommend that SDGE align with staff prior to submitting the presentations in ECA section 9 "Ensuring Transparency" and follow the prescribed content.

#### From FCA:

Major Projects & Undergrounding. Twice a year, SDG&E shall offer to present to the appropriate City Council Committee on planned major energy and gas projects, status of undergrounding projects, and 20SD undergrounding fund collections.

Supporting Climate Equity. Twice a year, SDG&E shall offer to present to the appropriate City Council Committee on the ways SDG&E is supporting the City's Climate Action Plan goals, SDG&E's support for SDCP, and other projects SDG&E is working on to support GHG reduction efforts.

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 4:15:51 PM

**Attachments:** <u>franchise-compliance-review-committee-report-comments-jwstump-pdf.pdf</u>

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 16:15

NAME:

John william Stump

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

CITY HEIGHTS, California 92105

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI. Franchisee Compliance Review Committee Report and Audit Report

#### **COMMENTS:**

I am submitting comments for your June 3, 2024, meeting agenda item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report. I request the opportunity to make public testimony, on this item, and that this letter be included in the report and Minutes of this meeting. Mayor Todd Gloria and Councilman Sean Elo-Rivera, through his leadership of the City Council, have imposed a monopoly for profit energy utility on the inhabitants and businesses of the City of San Diego that needs objective review as to whether it meets the best interests of people of San Diego or even delivers on the Franchise contract. I want to thank the FCRC members and staff, the City Auditor and staff, City Attorney and staff for their kind assistance and their review of my comments. I request that my comments be published as submitted, in the report and record as presented. My submittal shall not be edited or reduced in size to diminish readability.

All the very best,

John Stump, taxpayer, ratepayer, elector, and property taxpayer.

COPY: San Diego City Auditor, San Diego Independent Budget Analyst, San Diego Ethics Commission, San Diego City Clerk

# ATTACHMENTS:

\_

 $\underline{https://www.sandiego.gov/system/files/webform\_1030632/40798/franchise-compliance-review-committee-report-comments-jwstump-pdf.pdf}$ 

#### JOHN W. STUMP III

Attorney at Law

CITY HEIGHTS, CALIFORNIA 92105-4515

TELEPHONE: EMAIL:

May 31, 2024

#### 2022-24 FRANCHISE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Via: Megan Ong, Program Coordinator mong@sandiego.gov, hwerner@sandiego.gov, publicpower@sandiego.gov sustainability@sandiego.gov
Sustainability and Mobility Department
City of San Diego
202 C Street
San Diego, California 92101

RE: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

## Dear Honorable 2022-24 FRANCHISE REVIEW COMMITTEE,



I am submitting comments for your June 3, 2024, meeting agenda item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report. I request the opportunity to make public testimony, on this item, and that this letter be included in the report and Minutes of this meeting. Mayor Todd Gloria and Councilman Sean Elo-Rivera, through his leadership of the City Council, have imposed a monopoly for profit energy utility on the inhabitants and businesses of the City of San Diego that needs objective review as to whether it meets the best interests of people of San Diego or even delivers on the Franchise contract.

# I. GENERAL CONTENT, FORMAT, and CITATIONS:

## A. QUOTE SOURCE DOCUMENTS, RATHER THAN PARAPHRASING:

I request that the Franchise Compliance Review Committee, hereafter (FCRC) not paraphrase or use language other than quoting the source documents. For example, The FCRC's establishment membership charge and purpose is detailed as: '... under San Diego Charter section 43(b), the Franchise Compliance Review Committee is hereby created for the purpose of reviewing the independent auditor's report on SDGE's conformance and compliance with all conditions of the Franchise; and presenting the independent auditor's report and the Review Committee's written report and recommendations to Council, including a recommendation on the proposed renewal for the secondary term of the Franchise, based on compliance with the Franchise and the Energy Cooperation Agreement." (San Diego City Council R-2022-571, June 21, 2022, Page 2).

#### B. INCLUDE AND LINK TO SOURCE CONTROLLING DOCUMENTS:

I request that the final report contain the source referenced documents and active links to them. Most of these documents can be found at the City of San Diego web site:

"In June 2021, the San Diego City Council approved the electric and gas franchise agreements with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). The Franchise is a 10-year agreement with the option to extend for an additional 10 years and allows SDG&E to use the public right of way to install and maintain the infrastructure - such as pipes, poles and wires - necessary to provide energy to San Diego's residents and businesses.

The Franchise Agreements also include an Energy Cooperation Agreement (ECA). The ECA works to ensure alignment with the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) goals and advocates for equity programs for rooftop solar, affordable housing and energy efficiency. Additionally, the ECA ensures transparency by requiring regular meetings and presentations to City Council regarding energy rates, major projects, customer equity and climate equity.

SDG&E Electric Franchise Agreement

SDG&E Gas Franchise Agreement

Energy Cooperation Agreement - May 25, 2021

SDG&E Electric and Gas Franchise Administrative MOU - 2023

SDG&E Electric and Gas Franchise Administrative MOU - 2021

SDG&E Utility Undergrounding Program MOU"

At minimum, the report should also contain:

- 1. Franchise Compliance Audits and Management Letters;
- 2. Compliance Reports with Major City Policies;
- 3. Equal Opportunity Work Force Employee and Vendor Report,
- 4. Compliance Reports with City Hazardous and Solid Waste regulations,
- 5. Compliance Reports for City of San Diego Climate Action Plans,
- 6. Compliance reports with City Lobbyist registration and reporting,
- 7. Other reports and compliance documents required by city, county, and regional regulatory boards and commissions.
- 8. San Diego Charter Section 43(b) and Council Policy 000-13; and
- 9. Other documents and reports that are necessary to evaluate both SDG&E franchises.

The Franchise Compliance Review Committee, hereafter (FCRC) and City Auditor must make periodic recommendations and ultimately make a recommendation for the secondary term of the Franchise, so future Committees, the public, and the Council must be independently informed on compliance.

# C. CONFORMANCE WITH MAJOR CITY CHARTER REQUIREMENTS:

1. I realize that this is the first FCRC and Auditor report. This report and future reports must advance the real interests of the inhabitants of the City of San Diego. "The City of San Diego in fee simple or in trust for charitable or other purposes, and do all acts necessary to carry out the purposes of such gifts, bequests and donations; may own and operate public utility systems, including the joint or sole operation and ownership of utilities for the purchase, development, and supply of water and electrical power for the use of the City and its inhabitants and others;..." (San Diego City Charter, ARTICLE I

CORPORATE POWERS Section 1: Incorporation and Corporate Powers).

- 2. The SEMPRA connection requires that the FCRC must make affirmative findings under the Charter: "Neither the City Council nor any officer or employee of the City shall take any action, or permit any action to be taken, which directly or indirectly authorizes or permits the construction, operation or maintenance of any pipeline within the City for the transmission of any crude oil or natural gas taken or removed from any offshore crude oil or natural gas drilling or pumping operations within 100 nautical miles of the coastline of the County of San Diego; nor shall the City Council or any officer or employee of the City take any action, or permit any action to be taken, which directly or indirectly authorizes or permits the construction, operation or maintenance of any commercial or industrial facility within the City, including but not necessarily limited to crude oil or natural gas storage facilities, which operated directly or indirectly in support of any offshore crude oil or natural gas drilling or pumping operations within 100 nautical miles of the coastline of the County of San Diego." (San Diego City Charter, ARTICLE I CORPORATE POWERS, Section 2.1: Prohibition on Construction, Operation or Maintenance of Facilities Related to Offshore Drilling).
- 3. The FCRC and Auditor report must make findings concerning SDG&E, SEMPRA, and their funded lobbyists, agents, and funded profit and nonprofit organizations and individuals compliance with the spirit and intent of Council policies for transparency and avoidance of even the appearance of conflicts of interest. The FCRC and Auditor report must make recommendations on how to require disclosure of any other information from persons or entities contracting with the City. The Charter provides at: "Section 225: Mandatory Disclosure of Business Interests Every person or entity contracting with the City shall first disclose to the City the names and identities of all natural persons who will receive more than 10% of the contracted amount or who own more than 10% of the entity contracting with the City, where the City will be expending or receiving more than the amounts established by ordinance of the City Council or where the City Council approval is required by this Charter or by ordinance. Contracts subject to this Section include, but are not limited to, contracts awarded pursuant to Section 94 of this Charter, transfers of interests in the City's real or personal property, and grants or renewals of franchises pursuant to Sections 103 or 103.1 of this Charter. The same disclosure shall be made to the City by every person or entity later receiving or assuming any rights or obligations under such contracts where City approval is required to transfer such rights or obligations. The City may reject a proposed contract, terminate a current contract, or rescind a prior contract, if any person or entity submits false information or omits information required to be disclosed by this Section. The City shall provide the City Council with the disclosures received from every person or entity contracting with the City where City Council approval is required, prior to the City Council meeting where the contract will be considered. If the person or entity the City will be contracting with has not been determined by the date of the City Council meeting, the City shall provide the City Council with the disclosures at least fifteen days prior to awarding the contract. This Section does not apply to public agencies, or to entities that are publicly traded companies listed on a stock exchange in the United States. This Section shall not preclude the City from requiring disclosure of any other information from persons or entities contracting with the City. " (EMPHASIS ADDED). (San Diego City Charter, Section 225: Mandatory Disclosure of Business Interests).

## 4. OTHER CITY CODE OR REGULATIONS, REGIONAL, STATE LAWS & CONSTITUTION:

The FCRC and AUDITOR will discover or be informed of other **CHARTER**, **CITY CODE OR REGULATIONS**, **REGIONAL**, **STATE LAWS and CONSTITUTION** applicable to the SEMPRA SDG&E corporations or the San Diego Franchise. Compliance with the utility specific and California corporate laws must be a factor in reviewing the performance and suitability



of SEMPRA / SDG&E to continue to as the City's utility provider. For example, a corporation who has been adjudged of serious criminal and civil laws and paid would substantial penalties likely unsuitable for provision of reasonable, reliable, safe, and economical provider of energy. Future audits and reports should, at minimum, include a presentation of fines, judgements penalties, and against SEMPRA/SDG&E during the reporting period.

SEE: <u>SDG&E pays \$51.6 million for botched lightbulb program - The San Diego Union-Tribune (sandiegouniontribune.com)</u>. I suggest beginning with a simple name search on the California courts WEB site: <u>California Courts - Home</u>. The Auditor and FCRC should expand its research to other Courts of jurisdiction and major regulatory agencies, including the California Public Utility Commission, Air Pollution Board, and Fair Political Practices.

## D. FCRC AND/OR AUDITOR FINDING AND DISCLOSURE OF SDG&E REPORTING COMPLIANCE

If the FCRC, City Auditor, or City Attorney has made a finding that SDG&E has some special unique status that exempts it from all routine and regular regulations; then that finding and the basis for it must be reported to the public and the Council, in its reports.

## E. REPORTING TAILORED TO CITY OF SAN DIEGO FRANCHISE AREA:



In that these franchises only concern SDG&E's compliance performance within the boundaries of the City of San Diego, then to the extent reasonably possible, reports and information should be tailored, formatted, and presented which captures the City of San Diego. For SDGE is doing example, if undergrounding then the undergrounding reported should be within the City of San Diego. SDG&E's WORK FORCE reports should concern the actual City of San Diego residents employed. SDG&E's compliance with Waste Reduction and Reduction of Storm Water pollution should concern waste in

the City of San Diego or San Diego watersheds. SDGE's use of ratepayer monies to support Political Action and Civic Improvements should detail the amounts and benefits to the City of San Diego. Reporting concerning SDG&E's shareholder monies are regulated by other government bodies but can be referenced in future reports and links provided.

## F. REPORTING ON EXECUTIVE AND MANAGERIAL COMPENSATION PACKAGES:



An example of outside reporting that affects the cost to consumer rate payers is the compensation of SDGE executives and managers. This information should be cited in reports. A compensation comparison should be presented using the standard set of California major profit and no profit utilities. SEE CHART: <a href="How our rates compare">How our rates compare</a> (smud.org).

#### G. REPORTING ON DOUBLE BURDEN RELATIONSHIP SEMPRA & SDG&E:

Another area of concern and costs is the unique double burden of SEMPRA and its subsidiary SDG&E. San Diego has two corporate headquarters and cost centers that affect ratepayers and accomplishment of the City's Climate Action, solid Waste Reduction, Storm Water Pollution, Air Quality, and related City of San Diego plans and objectives. The International nature of SEMPRA Future reports must analyze and report on this SEMPRA / SDG&E double burden.

## H. REPORTING COMPARISONS WITH BOTH LARGE PROFIT AN NO PROFIT UTILITIES:

Reporting of rates, consumer costs, compliance, and progress toward meeting City plans and regulations must compare SDG&E's performance against all major California electric and gas utilities. Comparisons must include both profits driven and no profit utilities. A comparison with only shareholder profits driven utilities, excluding public interest utilities, is somewhat like only comparing the health and fitness of a small sample rather than the truer sample of all California adults. At minimum, any comparisions should also include data from Los Angeles and Sacramento utilities. SEE CHART: How our rates compare (smud.org).

#### II. SPECIFIC AREAS OF COMMENT:

A. The Franchise Compliance Review Committee, hereafter (FCRC) needs to reappointed and fully functioning at the beginning of each two (2) year cycle. The current FCRC was not. The 2022-2024 FCRC consisted of five (5) appointees, but one member later resigned.

Member Name	Appointed By	Seat Name	Status	Start Date	Calculated Term
Marcela Escobar-Eck	Mayor	<u>Member</u>		4/26/2023	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024
Jim Tomasulo, tomasulo	City Council	<u>Member</u>		7/1/2022	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024
<u>Jared Quient</u>	City Council	<u>Member</u>		7/1/2022	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024
<u>Jeff Kawar</u>	Mayor	<u>Member</u>		7/1/2022	7/1/2022 - 6/30/2024
(Vacant) Bridgette Browning	Mayor	<u>Member</u>	resigned	7/1/2022	7/1/2022 – 2/272023
Source: City of San Diego	WEB PAGES				OnBoardGOV   City of San Diego

The Franchise Compliance Review Committee's report should contain recommendations on the subjects that follow:

1. Recommendations concerning membership appointments. Specifically, Council actions

- should either the Mayor or Council President fail to timely appoint members.
- 2. Recommendations concerning transparency and avoidance of even the appearance of conflicts of interest. Specifically, FCRC members should be required to disclose economic interests and file disclosure forms under City and State laws.
- 3. Recommendations concerning improving public participation with this committee. Specifically, the FCRC should consider a meeting location convenient to the public, Free parking and transit friendly, and purpose and objective complimentary. I suggest that future FCRC meetings be held at the City's Utility Department or at the Civic Center. Further, I suggest that a portion of the meetings be held after normal work hours.

## B. LOBBYIST AND SPECIAL INTEREST DISCLOSURES:

The Franchise Compliance Review Committee has not followed or established rules concerning the identification of LOBBYIST AND SPECIAL INTEREST DISCLOSURES. The FCRC members and staff have not followed the practices of California Public Utility Commission to disclose LOBBYIST AND SPECIAL INTEREST contacts or gifts. Any person or organization that receives SDG&E monies, earned off the backs of City of San Diego ratepayers, must be identified. These persons and organizations must register and file reports as lobbyists. There was an unfortunate public dialog at a FCRC meeting when a committee member embarrassingly grilled a community volunteer from a non-SDG&E association about his affiliations and motivations; but the SDG&E funded persons and organizations are not required to disclose their rate payer funding. Specifically, at minimum, it is recommended that:

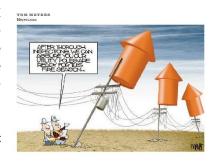
- 1. SDG&E employees, contractors, and funded organizations register as lobbyists.
- 2. That SDG&E employees under any labor agreement that requires support of the SDG&E franchise disclose this contracted for loyalty and register as lobbyists.

## C. SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS VERSUS PUBLIC RELATIONS LOBBYISTS:

Presentations before the FCRC have primarily been through unregistered and undeclared public relations lobbyist, rather than SDGE subject matter experts or responsible managers. This public relations approach adds extra costs to the City of San Diego rate payers, delays the receipt of information requested by the FCRC, and simply games the public process. Whenever a presentation is scheduled, by the FCRC for a Franchise performance subject; then that SDG&E subject matter expert manager should present.

## D. UNDERGROUNDING PROGRAM:

The AUDITOR has recently released the AUDIT of the SDGE Undergrounding program. There has been significant coverage of this AUDIT and the ratepayer costs resulting from the conduct of this health, safety, and modernization program. The media and Audit report groups into a single report the undergrounding of the SDG&E High Voltage transmission lines, the Intermediate high voltage transmission lines, the Industrial, Military, and Port Service high voltage lines, and the electric lines serving regular residential and businesses. The City of San



Diego ratepayers should not be paying for the undergrounding of solely SDG&E assets or undergrounding outside of the City of San Diego ratepayer area. SDG&E risk management

undergrounding outside of the City of San Diego should be charged to the shareholders not the ratepayers.

Specifically, the FCRC should request a report on:

- The specific classes of undergrounding being performed by SDG&E in the City of San Diego and being charged to residential and business customers. Such report should differentiate between undergrounding efforts to risk management protect SDG&E assets versus undergrounding fixtures being placed for the benefit of the landlord, the City of San Diego – See discussion of Fixtures in next section.
- 2. The FCRC should receive a report concerning the judgements fines and loss attributed to SDG&E because of this area of Franchise performance.
- 3. The media articles raise serious equity issues concerning decisions made by SDG&E, with the likely concurrence of internal City employees. It appears that interests other than strictly those of resident public may have influenced the decisions of where undergrounding should occur. Lobbyists from particular industrial groups and others may have influenced undergrounding for their properties benefit over the interests of families.

The media coverage is presented below:

**Auditors Flag SDG&E's Soaring Costs to Bury Power Lines**A draft report of the city of San Diego's first audit of its contract with SDG&E highlights known thorns. **by MacKenzie Elmer** 



Illustration by Adriana Heldiz for Voice of San Diego

<u>Sign up for The Morning Report</u> with all your must-read news for the day.

An audit of San Diego's contract with its monopoly power company shows longstanding problems over burying power lines continue to bog down the relationship.

As part of SDG&E's new 20-year contract with the city, in which San Diego placed new demands on their energy grid builder, the company agreed to be audited every two years. Crowe LLP Risk Consulting's <u>draft investigative report</u> says that while SDG&E is mostly in compliance, the company and the city need to work on their communication skills as costs for burying powerlines are getting out of hand.

Crowe found that SDG&E's final bill to the city for at least one project was 81 percent higher than the company's initial estimate to do the work. The initial estimate for the project, named Navajo Block 7T, was supposed to cost about \$24.5 million. But months later the company came back and said it'd cost \$44.3 million. That's because the company didn't include its "overhead costs" in the initial estimate, the consultants wrote.

What are these overhead costs? That's unclear and not explained in the report. Crowe's consultants did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Why are we talking about this? Communities want to bury power lines underground for a multitude of reasons. If powerlines are underground, they won't be damaged by storms, fall on trees and potentially spark fires and power outages. Some residents just don't like the look of cables hanging high in the air over sidewalks. In any event, anyone who pays a power bill in the city of San Diego also pays to bury existing power lines underground. The city charges SDG&E the fee, and the utility company charges its customers.

But the process is <u>taking a lot longer than the city would like</u>. Since 1970, 400 miles of overhead lines have been placed underground. But there's still 1,000 miles left to do if the city is to reach the goal of undergrounding every residential wire. The rising costs of the projects are partly to blame for the slow pace, the consultants wrote.

"SDG&E's failure to provide comprehensive and accurate initial undergrounding project costs estimates and delays ... created challenges for the city to forecast its future undergrounding cash flow," consultants Bert Nuehring, Erik Nylund and Aaron Coen wrote.

What the consultants found isn't new. City Attorney Mara Elliott blasted SDG&E back in the spring of 2020 for <u>overcharging the city to underground power lines</u>. At the time, Elliott said that the utility refused to provide enough documentation to justify the soaring costs. So, the city stopped paying the company – in the middle of their contract negotiations for a new franchise agreement.

San Diego is also still fighting SDG&E in court after the company <u>refused to pay for the cost of moving some</u> <u>equipment</u> so San Diego could build Pure Water, its billion-dollar wastewater recycling system. San Diego Superior Court Judge Eddie Sturgeon recently ruled in SDG&E's favor. The city appealed the decision and it's scheduled to be heard by the Fourth District Court of Appeal on June 11.

Despite the undergrounding issues, the consultants ruled that SDG&E had met all their "significant" contract objectives.

Anthony Wagner, an SDG&E spokesperson, said the company is "pleased the draft report ratified our strong franchise partnership with the city of San Diego."

"The audit results, which included 387 separate commitments or obligations made by SDG&E to the City, shows that

we have met our audit objectives in all significant respects. We take pride in our work and will continue to improve internal processes as suggested by the auditor," Wagner wrote.

The city of San Diego signed a new 20-year contract with SDG&E back in 2021. The company, owned by Sempra, has been the city's power provider for the past 100 years. The contract, called the franchise agreement, gives the company monopoly rights to build and maintain the power grid on public land. Franchise agreements were fairly cut and dry contracts in decades past. But as the city set new goals for combating climate change, and as energy costs have been steadily rising, the city used it to ask for more things from SDG&E.

## **SCIENCE/ENVIRONMENT**

San Diego Buried Power Lines in Richer Parts of Town First by MacKenzie Elmer



Construction crews working on utility undergrounding repave a street in South Park. / Photo by Dustin Michelson

<u>Sign up for The Morning Report</u> with all your must-read news for the day.

It's <u>become really expensive to bury power lines</u> underground in San Diego. But, until recently, it wasn't clear where that work was actually being done.

Now, the city has a map for that. Though San Diego's been slowly burying power lines since 1970, it only started distributing the work equally among city council districts in 2002. Then, in 2021 under a new deal cut with the city's monopoly power grid builder, San Diego Gas & Electric, the city said power line burial should be prioritized in communities of concern (older and poorer communities) and areas with a higher risk of wildfire.

It's clear by looking at the new undergrounding map that areas of town which don't match this criterion got their power lines buried first. That includes the plush, coastal community of La Jolla, the University of California-San Diego, Shelter Island at the Point Loma waterfront and half of downtown.



This map created by the city of San Diego shows where the SDG&E has buried power lines underground in the city of San Diego — and where it has yet to do so. / City of San Diego

San Diego's goal is to bury every residential line in the city. They've done 400 miles so far. There's another 1,000 to go. Costs for these projects have been soaring, with at least one example exceeding its price estimate by 80 percent, according to a new audit.

During a recent presentation by city staff on the undergrounding program at a City Council Environment Committee meeting, San Diego Council President Sean Elo-Rivera – who represents part of southeastern San Diego and some of the city's poorer areas – questioned the growing costs.

"I'm curious to what extent we're stopping to pause and wonder is this really what the community would choose to have their money go toward if given the choice?" Elo-Rivera said.

"We get calls on a daily basis, asking, begging for us to underground communities," said Jennifer Reynolds, the city's undergrounding program coordinator.

Mayor Todd Gloria's policy advisor, Randy Wilde, added that undergrounding allows the city to make other improvements to roads at the same time – but that also adds to the costs.

Reynolds said San Diego is doing more power line undergrounding than any other municipality in California. That's a bit of a shocker since other utilities like Pacific Gas & Electric in northern California recently announced plans to bury 10,000 miles of power lines over the next decade.

Communities want to bury power lines underground for a multitude of reasons. If power lines are underground, they won't be damaged by storms, fall on trees and potentially spark fires and power outages. It's

also an aesthetics thing — some residents just don't like the look of cables hanging high in the air over sidewalks.

In any event, anyone who pays a power bill in the city of San Diego also pays to bury existing power lines underground. The city charges SDG&E the fee, and the utility company passes that fee on to its customers.

Clarification: This story has been updated to reflect that undergrounding occurred at the Shelter Island portion of the Point Loma waterfront. The City of San Diego also later clarified that their district-based distribution of projects began in 2002, not in 2018.

That includes an \$80 million fee just to win the contract, which is supposed to come from the pockets of shareholders and shouldn't be charged to customers. The new contract also set up this citizen-led Franchise Review Compliance Committee and SDG&E agreed to be audited every two years. Another new piece of the city's franchise contract: The City Council has the option to cancel the contract after 10 years if it's unsatisfied with SDG&E's service.

The committee's <u>own draft report of its work</u>, set for discussion at its June 3 meeting, says that it's too early to decide whether to recommend San Diego sever its ties with the company.

"(The committee) recommends the City Council continue to closely monitor SDG&E's compliance with the numerous provisions of the franchise agreement," the committee wrote.

The committee also recommended the City Council and mayor <u>actually fill all the seats on the committee</u> in the future. The committee should have five members, three selected by City Council and two by the mayor. One of the City Council's appointees is currently vacant.

SDG&E isn't the only one with homework following the audit. The auditors knocked the city for failing to get its new Energy Cooperation Agreement with SDG&E signed under its own 90-day deadline. Instead, it took an extra six months to do. That agreement is where SDG&E agreed to a laundry list of commitments like planting thousands of additional trees in the city, building out infrastructure to support electric vehicles and committing up to \$1 million in shareholder funds for 10 years toward a nonprofit that puts solar panels on low-income households. (To pay for all the other stuff, the agreement says SDG&E may raise rates.)

The reason why it took so long? The city was busy negotiating with SDG&E on another agreement – <u>called the administrative memorandum of understanding</u> – that dictates how the company is allowed to function on city-owned rights of way where it builds the power grid.

SDG&E was supposed to create a "work portal" to share information about all its projects with the city, but that didn't happen, or when it did, it didn't always have accurate information. That's something the two parties appear to be working out, however, according to the consultants.

The city declined to comment on these reports because they're still in draft form, wrote Leslie Wolf Branscomb, a spokesperson for the city.

I recommend that the FCRC web site and reports include and APPENDIX of media articles and coverage of the City of San Diego Franchise, Undergrounding, and SDG&E.

#### E. LAW OF FIXTURES versus CORPORATE ASSETS OF SDG&E



SDG&E was once a focused company serving only the City of San Diego. Please review the SAN DIEGO CITY GAS & **ELECTRIC** substation, pictured to the right. Since then, it has expanded its service area to several counties and become, through SEMRA, an international corporation. I recommend that the FCRC include a history of the growth and transition of SDG&E from a City corporation to its current form. Wikipedia has a good article on SDG&E San Diego Gas & Electric - Wikipedia. It is important to understand the transition from a simple City serving utility to a multinational corporation, because by simple accretion over the past 100

years the City has lost control of the landlord tenant relationship between the City and this profit motivated shareholder owned corporation. It is important that they own those assets, paid for by its resident ratepayers, which have been permanently placed in the land of the city.

The valuation of SDG&E assets that belong to the landlord versus SDG&E will determine the transition costs from a profit motivate monopoly utility to a no profit public benefit utility. This discussion and its ultimate resolution will need to be started during the term of the next 2024-2026 FCRC and require the committed advocacy of the City Attorney, Mayor, Council, and likely the State Legislature and Governor.

SDG&E is not likely to accept the proposition that assets that ratepayers paid for, under a time limited franchise, become the property of the City landlord at the natural conclusion of the tenancy. I would expect SDG&E to have lobbied the legislature and the California Public Utility Commission to carve out some special exemptions; but in equity the public interests in property paid for by the public must not be converted to a private asset.

I present, as a discussion jumping off place, an un sherardized article:

Ownership of Fixtures <u>Schorr Law: Real Estate Attorneys in Los Angeles, CA - Call Now (schorr-law.com)</u>

#### **OWNERSHIP OF FIXTURES**

Updated on July 11, 2017

Fixtures are items of personal property that are so attached to the land that they are considered a part of it. (See Civ. Code § 660; People v. Church (1943) 136 P.2d 139, 144.) Specifically, "whether an article is a fixture is ordinarily a question of fact to be determined upon the evidence in the particular case, and the question is determined not only by the manner in which the article is annexed to the realty but also by the relationship between the parties." (Clifford v. Epsten (1951) 106 CalApp.2d 221, 225 citing Taylor v. Heydenreich (1949) 92 Cal.App.2d 684, 688.)

Typically, unless a lease provides otherwise, the fixtures on the rental property belong to the landlord, even if they are installed by the tenant. (Peiser v. Mettler (1958) 50 Cal.2d.594, 606; Civ. Code § 1013; County of Ventura v. Channel Islands Marina, Inc. (2008) 159 Cal.4th 615,

625.) However, "trade fixtures," items attached to the property "for purposes of trade, manufacture, ornament, or domestic use" are treated differently. (Civ. Code § 1019). Specifically, absent an agreement between the landlord and tenant a tenant may remove "trade fixtures" unless the item has "become an integral part of the premises." (Ibid.) However, the tenant must exercise his right to remove the trade fixtures before the end of the term of the lease, regardless of how the tenancy is terminated. (Civ. Code § 1019; see also Rinaldi v. Goller (1957) 48 Cal.2d 276, 280-281 (holding that a tenant lost his right to remove the trade fixtures when the lease was terminated due to the tenants nonpayment of rent and landlord reentered the property)".

## F. PAST EFFORTS TO ADVANCE THE PUBLIC INTERESTS AND REDUCE RATEPAYER COSTS

Over the past several years myself and several others have submitted proposals to Council to advance the public interests and reduce ratepayer costs. The public has asked Mayor Todd Gloria and Council President Sean Elo Rivera not to enter into a long-term franchise with then the highest cost utility in the nation. These elected representatives chose to extend the existing SDG&E franchise, with better SDG&E terms, but did commission studies and the FCRC.

Below are selected efforts to advance the interests of ratepayers.

"JOHN STUMP		
, CITY HEIGHTS, CA 92105-4515	TELEPHONE:	E-MAIL:

Environment Committee of the City of San Diego <u>CouncilCommittee@sandiego.gov</u> <u>JoeLaCava@sandiego.gov</u>; <u>jennifercampbell@sandiego.gov</u>; <u>MarnivonWilpert@sandiego.gov</u> RaulCampillo@sandiego.gov;

RE:: Formation of a Nonprofit Electric Utility.

Dear Honorable Committee members Joe La Cava, Marni Von Wilpert, Jennifer Campbell, and Raul Campillo

I support the efficient and economical delivery of energy to San Diego families and businesses. The monopoly profit based private utility vendor, selected by City Council by the grant of a franchise, gouges San Diego families by charging the highest utility rates in the Nation!. It is exclusively Council's right and responsibility to govern the provision of utilities in the City. The past decision to grant an exclusive profit motivated franchise has failed Council in its public interest object; so alternatives must be considered. There is no mitigating argument that can continue to support an energy utility that is the most expensive to families, seniors, and households, not only in California but the nation!

Energy is a consumer product, like gasoline.; there is little meaningful difference between one brand of gasoline or electricity electrons. San Diego residents are depending on the Council to deliver electric utility services in the most cost efficient manner. The Council determined how electricity is delivered to families and by what vendor. City Council determines whether its electric utility vendor is performing in the best interests of San Diego families.

Charter Section 103.1 provides: **Regulation of Public Utilities** "No person, firm or corporation shall establish and operate works for supplying the inhabitants of The City of San Diego with light, water, power, heat, transportation, telephone service, or other means of communication, or establish and carry on any business within said City which is designed to or does furnish services of a public utility nature to the inhabitants of said City, without the consent of said City manifested by ordinance of the Council. The Council shall have power to provide reasonable terms and conditions under which such businesses may be carried on and conducted within The City of

San Diego."

Not only has the current energy franchise failed to meet reasonable cost standards, it has not demonstrated meaningful progress and commitment to meet the Council's Climate Change environmental standards or those set for the nation. "We agree with scientists and public health experts that the United States—and the world—must achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, and no later than 2050. To reach net-zero emissions as rapidly as possible, Democrats commit to eliminating carbon pollution from power plants by 2035 through technology-neutral standards for clean energy and energy efficiency. We will dramatically expand solar and wind energy deployment through community-based and utility-scale systems, including in rural areas. Within five years, we will install 500 million solar panels, including eight million solar roofs and community solar energy systems, and 60,000 wind turbines, and turn American ingenuity into American jobs by leveraging federal policy to manufacture renewable energy solutions in America. Recognizing the urgent need to decarbonize the power sector, our technology-neutral approach is inclusive of all zero-carbon technologies, including hydroelectric power, geothermal, existing and advanced nuclear, and carbon capture and storage. Democrats believe that any clean energy infrastructure project financed with federal support, including through the tax code, should come with robust wage and labor requirements." DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

I request that the Environment Committee refer the proposal to consider transition to a nonprofit public interest energy utility to the Council's existing **Franchise Compliance Review Committee:** as the current Franchisee's performance for City consumers and the Climate Change environment is part of its charge. [Alternately, the Environment committee could refer this regulation to staff or other bodies for recommendations.]

Please look out for family budgets and our San Diego climate change environment. Please refer this proposal for further regulatory study and implementation. Please request that the analysis include a timeline that will facilitate the transition to a no profit public interest utility by the time of consideration of the first 10 years performance review of the current profit based monopoly franchise. Starting the new no profit public interest utility at the time of routine and natural conclusion set for the current highest priced utilities franchise; should avoid some of the transitional price gouging arguments and sword rattling by the monopoly trying to scare the Council into continuing its grasping hand into our family pocketbooks. It is Council's responsibility to look out for the interests of families; not corporate greed..

All the very best, /s/ John Stump

Copy: Public Power San Diego <a href="mailto:ppsd-steering@googlegroups.com">ppsd-steering@googlegroups.com</a> Meeting at: 1 PM Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting: <a href="https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1611639403">https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1611639403</a> by telephone: Dial 1-669-254 5252 input Webinar ID: 161 163 9403#"



The Rules Committee of the City of San Diego

July 16, 2023

c/o: SD City Clerk <a href="mailto:cityclerk@sandiego.gov">cityclerk@sandiego.gov</a>; <a href="mailto:SeanEloRivera@sandiego.gov">SeanEloRivera@sandiego.gov</a>; <a href="mailto:seanEloRivera@sandiego.gov">SeanEloRivera@s

202 C Street, Second Floor, San Diego, California 92101

# RE: Council Actions to transition to NonProfit Utilities; so as to reduce costs to families and prevent double payments

Dear Honorable Sean Elo Rivera, Rules Committee Members, City Attorney, Auditor, Budget Analyst and Mayor,

The proposal, in summary, establishes a municipal policy and initiative to fully implement public utility systems for the public benefit; so as to provide energy and internet access to San Diegans in a more economical, sustainable, competitive, and local manner. The proposal is to gradually develop complimentary alternatives to sole source monopolies for the internet and energy. Adoption of the proposal would establish competitive and

sustainable standards after the current studies. The proposal would use studies, under way, for phased component separation from SDGE; including but not limited to Billing, Distribution, and undergrounding. Generation and transmission may not necessarily be included.

Past Mayor and Council actions caused San Diego families to pay the highest energy costs in the USA. The current 10/20 year deal with the for profit monopoly mega regions utility is so one sided that the City is engaging in two (2) major studies to get out of this bad deal. Families must receive better reasonably priced internet and energy, as do other areas. Families must not be forced to buy out

SDGE for assets attached to City land.

The proposal is: That City shall establish a complimentary public utility that provides for alternative renewable energy and/or open access to communications within the world wide web internet. Such public utility shall collectively manage city's own utility demands; development of City renewable energy systems and resources; and the conversion of City facilities and lands to open source and sustainable sources, including but not limited to community choice aggregation, local photo voltaic, wind, and use of local resource recovery. The Council, Mayor, and its officers shall take all reasonable and necessary actions to promote a public benefit utility through legislation, including but not limited to, changes to ordinances, the municipal code, permitting and franchising processes, and related; so as to promote and extend a public benefit utility for the use of the City and its inhabitants and others, within the extent of the municipal jurisdiction, City government shall hereafter be focused on the provision of utilities for the public benefit rather than the receipt of franchise fees or benefits to any private corporation or its shareholders. The Council shall direct its lobbyists to foster these goals at the state and federal levels. Particularly, the Council shall insure that the ratepayers do not pay twice for distribution assets on City land. The San Diego City Charter currently provides that "... may own and operate public utility systems, including the joint or sole operation and ownership of utilities for the purchase, development, and supply of water and electrical power for the use of the City and its inhabitants and others; and generally shall have all municipal powers, functions, rights, privileges and immunities of every name and nature whatsoever now or hereafter authorized to be granted to municipal corporations by the Constitution and laws of the State of California." [ARTICLE I **CORPORATE POWERS Section 1: Incorporation and Corporate Powers**].

The City Council has recently adopted a specific, measurable and enforceable Climate Action Plan. The Climate Action Plan requires changes to the way the City does business, issues permits, and provides utilities. The City has begun conversion of public buildings and facilities to sustainable and renewable sources. This proposal extends these initiatives to include its inhabitants and others. Past citizen's ballot initiatives have amended the Charter to include a "Prohibition on Construction, Operation or Maintenance of Facilities Related to Offshore Drilling" [ARTICLE I CORPORATE POWERS , Section 2.1]. This proposal directs the Mayor and Council to take affirmative actions to implement public benefit utility(s) for economic, competitive, and sustainable renewable energy and internet access through municipal code changes and Charter amendments, if necessary. Actions could include housing project based micro grids, generation at City landfills, pump storage facilities, and phase out of natural gas permitting. Requests for Council Action shall include analysis of these goals.

I request the opportunity to be noticed and heard concerning this ballot proposal. Thank you for providing the public with this opportunity to participate in formation of its government.

Respectfully, John Stump

Attachment: Excerpts of San Diego City Charter regarding Utilities and Franchises

# EXCERPTS from City of San Diego City Charter Concerning FRANCHISES ARTICLE I CORPORATE POWERS

Section 1: Incorporation and Corporate Powers The municipal corporation now existing and known as "The City of San Diego" shall continue to be a municipal corporation under the same name, with the boundaries as now established or as may hereafter be legally established. Such municipal corporation shall have perpetual succession, may use a corporate seal; may sue and defend in all courts and places, and in all matters and proceedings whatever; may own and acquire property within or without its boundaries for either governmental or proprietary, or any municipal purpose, either by succession, annexation, purchase, devise, lease, gift or condemnation, and may sell, lease, convey, exchange, manage and dispose of the same as the interests of said City may require; receive bequests, donations and gifts of all kinds of property within and without The City of San Diego in fee simple or in trust for charitable or other purposes, and do all acts necessary to carry out the purposes of such gifts, bequests and donations; may own and operate public utility systems, including the joint or sole operation and ownership of utilities for the purchase, development, and supply of water and electrical power for the use of the City and its inhabitants and others; and generally shall have all municipal powers, functions, rights, privileges and immunities of every name and nature whatsoever now or hereafter authorized to be granted to municipal corporations by the Constitution and laws of the State of California.

#### Section 2: Powers under Constitution and General Laws

The City of San Diego, in addition to any of the powers now held by or that may hereafter be granted to it under the Constitution or Laws of this State, shall have the right and power to make and enforce all laws and regulations in respect to municipal affairs, subject only to the restrictions and limitations provided in this Charter; provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent or restrict the City from exercising, or consenting to, and the City is hereby authorized to exercise any and all rights, powers and privileges heretofore or hereafter granted or prescribed by General Laws of the State.

Section 2.1: Prohibition on Construction, Operation or Maintenance of Facilities Related to Offshore Drilling Neither the City Council nor any officer or employee of the City shall take any action, or permit any action to be taken, which directly or indirectly authorizes or permits the construction, operation or maintenance of any pipeline within the City for the transmission of any crude oil or natural gas taken or removed from any offshore crude oil or natural gas drilling or pumping operations within 100 nautical miles of the coastline of the County of San Diego; nor shall the City Council or any officer or employee of the City take any action, or permit any action to be taken, which directly or indirectly authorizes or permits the construction, operation or maintenance of any commercial or industrial facility within the City, including but not necessarily limited to crude oil or natural gas storage facilities, which operated directly or indirectly in support of any offshore crude oil or natural gas drilling or pumping operations within 100 nautical miles of the coastline of the County of San Diego. (Addition voted 11-4-1986; effective 12-8-1986.)

# Section 3: Extent of Municipal Jurisdiction

The municipal jurisdiction of The City of San Diego shall extend to the limits and boundaries of said City and over the tidelands and waters of the Bay of San Diego, and into the Pacific Ocean to the extent of one Marine League. In addition thereto The City of San Diego shall have the right and power to prepare and adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary for the regulation, use, and government of the water system of The City of San Diego, both within and without the territorial limits of said City, and such rules and regulations having been adopted by Ordinance, shall have the force and effect of law.

**Article XV:** Strong Mayor Form of Governance (Added by vote on 11-02-2004; effective 01-01-2006.) (Amendment voted 06-08-2010; effective 07-30-2010.)

## Section 270: The Council

- (a) The Council shall be composed of nine councilmembers elected by district. The Council shall be the legislative body of the City.
- (b) Each councilmember shall have the right to vote upon all questions before the Council.
- (c) No resolution, ordinance, or other action of the Council shall be passed or become effective without receiving the affirmative vote of five members of the Council, unless a greater number is otherwise required by the Charter or other superseding law. All substantive actions of the Council shall be passed by adoption of an ordinance or resolution. (d) The Council shall have the right to determine its own rules and order of business as provided for in Charter section 14, including a process for the selection of a presiding officer who shall have responsibility for chairing meetings of the Council and managing the docket process. Any such rules shall provide a process for the Mayor and independent department heads to propose matters for consideration by the Council in open session and a process for the City Attorney, Mayor, and Presiding Officer to coordinate the docketing of matters for consideration by the Council in any closed session of the Council. (e) The Council shall have the right to establish committees of the Council and to establish advisory boards and citizen committees as provided for in Charter section 43. (f) No member of the Council shall directly or indirectly by suggestion or otherwise attempt to influence or coerce the City Manager or other officer appointed or confirmed by the Council in the making of any appointment to, or removal from, any City office or employment, or the purchase of any supplies, or discuss directly or indirectly with any candidate for City Manager the matter of appointments to City Offices or employment, or attempt to exact any promises from such candidate relative to any such appointments. (g) Except for the purpose of inquiry or communications in furtherance of implementing

policies and decisions approved by resolution or ordinance of the Council, individual members of Council shall deal with the administrative service for which the Mayor is responsible only through the Mayor, the City Manager, or the Mayor's designees. (h) Any City official or department head in the administrative service may be summoned to appear before the Council or any committee of the Council to provide information or answer any question. (Added by vote on 11-02-2004; effective 01-01-2006.) (Amendment voted 06-03-2008; effective 07-08-2008.) (Amendment voted 06-08-2010; effective 07-30-2010.) (Amendment voted 06-07-2016; effective 07-18-2016.) Prior Language

## City of San Diego City Charter Article XIV:

## Section 225: Mandatory Disclosure of Business Interests

Every person or entity contracting with the City shall first disclose to the City the names and identities of all natural persons who will receive more than 10% of the contracted amount or who own more than 10% of the entity contracting with the City, where the City will be expending or receiving more than the amounts established by ordinance of the City Council or where the City Council approval is required by this Charter or by ordinance. Contracts subject to this Section include, but are not limited to, contracts awarded pursuant to Section 94 of this Charter, transfers of interests in the City's real or personal property, and grants or renewals of franchises pursuant to Sections 103 or 103.1 of this Charter. The same disclosure shall be made to the City by every person or entity later receiving or assuming any rights or obligations under such contracts where City approval is required to transfer such rights or obligations.

The City may reject a proposed contract, terminate a current contract, or rescind a prior contract, if any person or entity submits false information or omits information required to be disclosed by this Section.

The City shall provide the City Council with the disclosures received from every person or entity contracting with the City where City Council approval is required, prior to the City Council meeting where the contract will be considered. If the person or entity the City will be contracting with has not been determined by the date of the City Council meeting, the City shall provide the City Council with the disclosures at least fifteen days prior to awarding the contract. City of San Diego City Charter Article XIV Page 6 of 6 This Section does not apply to public agencies, or to entities that are publicly traded companies listed on a stock exchange in the United States.

This Section shall not preclude the City from requiring disclosure of any other information from persons or entities contracting with the City.

(Addition voted 06-02-1992; effective 07-13-1992.) (Amendment voted 11-06-20

## Section 226: Super Majority Vote Requirements

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Charter, any amendment to this Charter, ballot proposal, initiative, statute, law or regulation of any type, whether proposed to be adopted by the electorate, the City Council, or any other body acting pursuant to this Charter or the Municipal Code, that requires a vote of the electorate in excess of a simple majority for any matter, must itself be approved by a vote of the electorate in the same proportion as proposed, in order to be adopted, valid or otherwise effective.
- (b) This section may be adopted by a simple majority vote, and shall be applicable to any amendment of this Charter, ballot proposal, initiative, statute, law or regulation of any type, as set forth in Subsection (a), proposed to be adopted at the municipal election by which this Charter Section 226 is approved by the electorate, or otherwise adopted on or after the date of that municipal election, and shall not be applicable to any matter adopted or approved prior to the date of such municipal election. (Addition voted 03-05-2002; effective 04-24-2002.)

(Section 226 was ordered reformed by the court November 2004, to read as follows:

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, any ballot proposal, initiative, statute, law or regulation of any type, except amendments of this Charter whether proposed to be adopted by the electorate, the City Council, or any other body acting pursuant to this Charter or the Municipal Code, that requires a vote of the electorate in excess of a simple majority for any matter, must itself be approved by a vote of the electorate in the same proportion as proposed, in order to be adopted, valid or otherwise effective.
- (b) This section may be adopted by a simple majority vote. See, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. v. City of San Diego, 120 Cal. App. 4th 374 (2004).)

## Section 221: Sale of Real Property

Real property owned by The City of San Diego consisting of eighty (80) contiguous acres or more, whether or not in separate parcels, shall not be sold or exchanged unless such sale or exchange shall have first been authorized by ordinance of the Council and thereafter ratified by the electors of The City of San Diego. The foregoing shall not apply to the sale or exchange of real property to a governmental agency for bona fide governmental purposes which sale or exchange was duly authorized by ordinance of the Council, nor shall it apply to properties previously authorized for disposition by the electors of The City of San Diego.

Formerly Section 221. CITY OFFICES TO BE KEPT OPEN. (Repeal voted 09-17-1963; effective 02-11-1964.) New Section 221. SALE OF REAL PROPERTY. (Addition voted 11-06-1990; effective 02-19-1991.) Prior Language City of San Diego City Charter Article VII

## Section 90.3: Voter Approval for Major Public Projects Conferring Significant Private Benefit

(a) The City may not enter into the agreements necessary for financing, development, and construction of a major public project that confers a significant private benefit, unless that project is submitted to a vote at a municipal

election and a majority of those voting in that election approve the project. (b) For purposes of this section 90.3: (1) the term "major public project" means any capital improvement for which the expenditure of City funds is proposed, other than capital improvements for water, sewer or other public infrastructure, and for which the City's total cost is in excess of an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the City's General Fund budget for the fiscal year in which the project is proposed to be approved by the electorate;

- (2) the term "cost" means the amount paid to directly develop or construct the project, and does not include costs related to financing or interest;
- (3) the term "significant private benefit" means that one or more identifiable private individuals or entities will have the exclusive use of any portion of the proposed capital improvement, pursuant to any type of agreement, for more than ten percent (10%) of the days during any calendar year that the proposed capital improvement is available for use, for the purpose of generating federal or state taxable income for such private individual or entity;
- (4) the term "City funds" means funds authorized to be spent pursuant to an appropriation in the City's annual budget and derived through any type of financing mechanism, including cash, loans, revenue bonds, lease revenue bonds or certificates of participation, but not including funds generated by a financing mechanism in which the City acts solely as a conduit, and where all costs and financial risks associated with the financing, development and construction are the responsibility of individuals or entities other than the City; and
- (5) the term "identifiable private individuals or entities" means those individuals or entities which can be clearly identified, prior to the development of a project, as the party or parties who will ultimately use, rent, lease, or operate the facility for their own benefit. Not included within this definition are private individuals, business interests, groups, trades, associations or any other private entity that may derive private benefit indirectly as a result of the major public project. (c) Nothing in this section supersedes or nullifies the application of the voter approval requirements of section 90 of this Charter, governing any major public project financed by the City's issuance of general obligation bonds. (d) Any major public project that has been submitted to a vote at a municipal election and has been approved by a majority of those voting in that election on or before the effective date of this section shall be deemed to have complied with and fulfilled the requirements of this section. City of San Diego City Charter Article VII Page 19 of 29 (Addition voted 11-03-1998; effective 12-04-1998.)

#### Section 94: Contracts

Contracts for the construction, reconstruction or repair of public buildings, streets, utilities and other public works, for the provision of goods or services, and the hiring of architects, engineers, and other consultants, shall be competitively bid pursuant to rules established by ordinance of the City Council. The City Council may establish by ordinance contract amounts below which competitive bidding is not required. Unless otherwise required by ordinance, competitive bidding is not required for work done by City forces, services provided by non-profit organizations, in an emergency, or where competitive bidding is not required by state law. Pursuant to state law, no officers of the City, whether elected or appointed, financially interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity. Any officer who willfully violates this paragraph shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall immediately forfeit his or her office and be thereafter forever barred and disqualified from holding any elective or appointive office in the service of the City. All contracts entered into in violation of this Section shall be void and shall not be enforceable against said City; provided, however, that officers of this municipality may own stock in public utility service corporations and the City permitted to contract for public utility service when the rates for such service are fixed by law or by virtue of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California; and provided further, that no officer shall be prohibited from purchasing the services of any utility whether publicly or privately owned, whether or not the rates are fixed by law or by the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California; and provided further, that in designating any bank as a depository for the funds of said City, any officer interested as a stockholder or otherwise in such bank shall not be deemed to have an interest in such City contract within the meaning of this section, and in each of the cases enumerated herein such contracts shall be valid and enforceable obligations against the municipality. (Amendment voted 03-13-1945; effective 04-09-1945.) (Amendment voted 03-11-1947; effective 03-24-1947.) (Amendment voted 03-10-1953; effective 04-20-1953.) (Amendment voted 09-17-1963; effective 02-11-1964.) (Amendment voted 11-04-1975; effective 12-01-1975.) (Amendment voted 11-02-1976; effective 01-12-1977.) (Amendment voted 09-20-1977; effective 11-18-1977.) (Amendment voted 11-03-1998; effective 12-04-1998.) (Amendment voted 11-08-2016; effective 12-19-2016.) Prior Language

# Section 97: No Collusion in Bidding

If at any time it shall be found that any party or parties to whom a contract has been awarded has, in presenting any bid or bids, been guilty of collusion with any party or parties in the submission of any bid or for the purpose of preventing any other bid being made, then the contracts so awarded may be declared null and void by the Council and the Council shall thereupon re-advertise for new bids for said work or the incomplete portion thereof. The Council shall debar from future bidding all persons or firms found to be in violation of this Section, or any future firm in which such person is financially interested. (Amendment voted 11-08-2016; effective 12-19-2016.) Prior Language

#### Section 99: Continuing Contracts

The City shall not incur any indebtedness or liability in any manner or for any purpose exceeding in any year the income and revenue provided for such year unless the qualified electors of the City, voting at an election to be held for that purpose, have indicated their assent as then required by the Constitution of the State of California, nor unless before or at the time of incurring such indebtedness provision shall be made for the collection of an annual tax

sufficient to pay the interest on such indebtedness as it falls due, and also provision to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof, on or before maturity, which shall not exceed forty years from the time of contracting the same; provided, however, anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, when two or more propositions for incurring any indebtedness or liability are submitted at the same election, the votes cast for and against each proposition shall be counted separately, and when the qualified electors of the City, voting at an election for that purpose have indicated their assent as then required by the Constitution of the State of California, such proposition shall be deemed adopted. No contract, agreement or obligation extending for a period of more than five years may be authorized except by ordinance adopted by a two-thirds' majority vote of the members elected to the Council. (Amendment voted 04-22-1941; effective 05-08-1941.) (Amendment voted 06-04-1968; effective 07-22-1968.) (Amendment voted 11-08-2016; effective 12-19-2016.) Prior Language

## Section 99.1: Sports Stadium

For the purpose of acquiring, constructing and completing on a site in Mission Valley not to exceed 200 acres and lying westerly of Murphy Canyon Road, northerly of Highway 80 and southerly of Friars Road, and maintaining and operating thereon a coliseum, stadium, sports arena, sports pavilion or other building, or combination thereof, and facilities and appurtenances necessary or convenient therefor, for holding sports events, athletic contests, contests of skill, exhibitions and spectacles and other public meetings, the City may, in addition to other legal methods, enter into contracts, leases or other agreements not to exceed fifty years with any other public agency or agencies, and the provisions of Sections 80 and 99 of this Charter shall not be applicable thereto. (Addition voted 11-02-1965; effective 02-10-1966.)

#### Section 100: No Favoritism in Public Contracts

No officer or employee of the City shall favor one bidder over another, by giving or withholding information, or shall willfully mislead any bidder in regard to the character of the material or supplies called for, or shall knowingly accept materials or supplies of a quality inferior to that called for by the contract, or shall knowingly certify to a greater amount of labor performed than has actually been performed, or to the receipt of a greater amount of material or supplies than has actually been received. Any officer or employee found guilty of violation of this Section shall forfeit his position immediately. (Amendment voted 11-08-2016; effective 12-19-2016.) Prior Language

## Section 101: When Contracts and Agreements Are Invalid

All contracts, agreements or other obligations entered into, all ordinances and resolutions passed, and orders adopted, contrary to the provisions of Sections 97 and 100 of this Article may be declared null and void by the Council and thereupon no contractor whatever shall have any claim or demand against the City thereunder, nor shall the Council or any officer of the City waive or qualify the limitations fixed by such section or fasten upon the municipality any liability whatever; provided that all persons who have heretofore furnished material for and/or performed labor on the job shall be protected by City of San Diego City Charter Article VII Page 24 of 29 the contractor's surety bonds. Any willful violation of these Sections on contracts shall constitute malfeasance in office, and any officer or employee of the City found guilty thereof shall thereby forfeit his office or position. Any violation of these Sections, with the knowledge, expressed or implied of the person or corporation contracting with the City shall render the contract voidable by the Council.

## Section 102: Continuance of Contracts

All contracts entered into by the City, or for its benefit, prior to the taking effect of the Charter, shall continue in full force and effect. (Amendment voted 11-08-2016; effective 12-19-2016.) Prior Language

## Section 103: Franchises

The Council shall have power to grant to any person, firm or corporation, franchises, and all renewals, extensions and amendments thereof, for the use of any public property under the jurisdiction of the City. Such grants shall be made by ordinance adopted by vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council and only after recommendations thereon have been made by the Manager and an opportunity for free and open competition and for public hearings have been given. No ordinance granting a franchise or a renewal, extension or amendment of an existing franchise shall be effective until thirty days after its passage, during which time it shall be subject to the referendum provisions of this Charter. No franchises shall be transferable except with the approval of the Council expressed by ordinance. For purposes of this section, a Council approved transfer shall be required when there is any change in the legal structure of the entity which holds the franchise, which change alters the ownership or control of the entity. Such changes include, but are not necessarily limited to, sale, lease, assignment, corporate merger, stock swap, leveraged buy-out reorganization, or any other method heretofore or hereafter devised which results in a change of ownership or control of the entity. Absent Council approval, the franchise shall not be deemed to have been transferred to the new entity. This amendment is intended to be declaratory in nature as an explanation of the existing transfer of franchise provisions as set forth above and in the various City franchises presently in existence. (Amendment voted 04-22-1941; effective 05-08-1941.) (Amendment voted 11-04-1969; effective 01-29-1970.) (Amendment voted 11-03-1992; effective 12-18-1992.) Prior Language

## Section 103.1:Regulation of Public Utilities

No person, firm or corporation shall establish and operate works for supplying the inhabitants of The City of San Diego with light, water, power, heat, transportation, telephone service, or other means of communication, or establish and carry on any business within said City which is designed to or does furnish services of a public utility nature to the inhabitants of said City, without the consent of said City manifested by ordinance of the Council. The Council shall

have power to provide reasonable terms and conditions under which such businesses may be carried on and conducted within The City of San Diego. (Addition voted 03-10-1953; effective 04-20-1953.)

#### Section 104: Term and Plan of Purchase

Within six months after this Charter takes effect, copies of all franchises existing at the time shall be deposited with the Manager. The Council shall certify to the existence of such franchises and shall recognize them for periods not longer than the date of expiration on each. The Manager shall keep a public record of all franchises, leases or permits granted for the use of the public property of the City. The Council may fix the City of San Diego City Charter Article VII Page 26 of 29 term of each new franchise in accordance with the laws of the State of California, provided that any franchise may be terminated by ordinance whenever the City shall determine to acquire by condemnation or otherwise the property of any utility necessary for the welfare of the City, such termination to be effective upon and not before payment of the purchase price for the property to be acquired. The method of determining the price to be paid for the property so acquired shall be that provided by law affecting the purchase of public utility properties in effect at the time of the purchase or condemnation of such public utility property. (Amendment voted 04-22-1941; effective 05-08-1941.) (Amendment voted 09-17-1963; effective 02-11-1964.) Prior Language

## Section 105: Right of Regulation

Plenary control over all primary and secondary uses of its streets and other public places is vested in the City. Franchises may be granted upon such terms, conditions, restrictions or limitations as may be prescribed by ordinance. Every ordinance granting a franchise shall provide that the grantee therein named, as consideration for such grant, shall pay compensation to the City in an amount and in the manner set forth in said ordinance. (Amendment voted 04-22-1941; effective 05-08-1941.) (Amendment voted 11-07-1950; effective 01-13-1951.) Prior Language

#### Section 106: Revocable Permits

Permits revocable at will of the Council for such minor or temporary utility purposes and privileges as may be specified by general ordinance may be granted or revoked by the Council from time to time in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed thereby and such permits shall not be deemed to be franchises as the term is used in this Charter. Such general ordinance, however, shall be subject to the same procedure as an ordinance granting a franchise and shall not be passed as an emergency measure.

#### Section 107: Official Bonds

The Council shall determine which officers of the City shall give bonds for the faithful performance of their official duties, and fix the amount of such bonds. Each officer upon entering upon his duties shall deliver to the City a surety bond executed by a reliable surety company authorized to do business in the State of California in the penal sum required, which surety bond shall include other offices of which he may be an ex-officio incumbent, and shall also cover the services of any and all assistants and deputies of said officer. The Council may, however, if it so desires, purchase from a reliable surety company authorized to do business in the State of California a blanket surety bond, which shall insure the faithful performance of the official duties of each officer named therein and fix the amount of each bond for each officer named therein. Each bond or the blanket bond if so purchased shall be approved by the Council and filed with the City Clerk. The premium of all such bonds shall be paid by the City. (Amendment voted 04-21-1953; effective 05-29-1953.) Prior Language Section

#### 108: Forfeiture of Office for Fraud

Every officer who shall willfully approve, allow, or pay any demand on the treasury not authorized by law, and found civilly liable by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall be liable to the City individually and on his or her official bond, for the amount of the demand so approved, allowed or paid, and shall forfeit such office and be forever debarred and disqualified from holding any position in the service of the City. Violation of this section may also be prosecuted as a misdemeanor. (Amendment voted 11-08-2016; effective 12-19-2016.) Prior Language"

#### G. SDG&E EXPENSES LIKELY TO EXCEED FRANCHISE REVENUE BEFORE 2029

I am presenting for the Auditor's, Independent Budget Analyst's and FCRC's review and revision a chart of current REVENUES versus EXPENSES. I believe, given the SDG&E history of rate increases, that the EXPENSES paid SDG&E will exceed franchise REVENUES. In essence, the City Budget will be challenged by SDG&E's rates just like San Diego families' budgets.

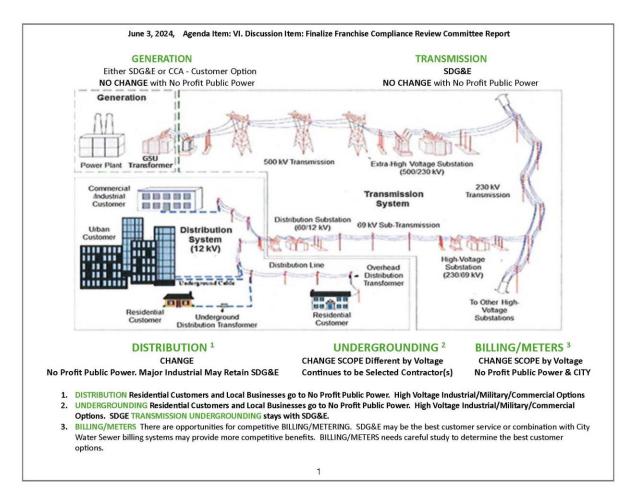
1	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	General Fund	Non-General Fund	Row Totals
2	SDG&E FRANCHISE FEES	\$109,000,000		\$109,000,000
3	Other Energy Franchise Fees	1,300,000		1,300,000
4	Special District Lighting Fees			15
5	Rented Buildings Revenues			-
6	City Corporations Revenues	31 (4		-
7	Special Energy Grants			-
8	Other Energy Revenues			
9				
10	GRAND TOTAL:	\$110,300,000	\$0	\$110,300,000
11	MID YEAR ADJUSTMENT			

1	FY 2024 Adopted Budget	General Fund	Non-General Fund	Row Totals
2	Electric Utility Services	\$17,075,260	\$48,402,333	\$65,477,593
3	Street Lighting/Traffic Signals	2,090,215		2,090,215
4	Traffic Signals	7,169,298		7,169,298
5	Special District Lighting		820,078	820,078
6	Rented Buildings Electric Charges			-
7	City Corporations Electric Utilities			-
8	Gas Utility Services	4,756,979	9,500,999	14,257,978
9	City Corporations Gas Utilities			1=
10				-
11	GRAND TOTAL:	\$31,091,752	\$58,723,410	\$89,815,162
12	MID YEAR ADJUSTMENT			

1		DIFFERENCE		
2		REVENUES	\$110,300,000	
3		EXPENSES	\$89,815,162	
4		DIFFERENCE	\$20,484,838	
5	MID YEAR ADJUSTMENT			

## H. DEFINITION OF NO PROFIT POWER'S SCOPE v. SDG&E CONTINUING OPERATIONS

I believe a more careful consideration of what utility services would be transferred to the no profit utility, what services would remain with SDG&E, San Diego's Community Power, private contractors, and the private International Brother Hood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) suggests that the change to no profit power is neither so costly, such a great leap, or threatening to SDG&E or its dependent labor unions, or recipients of its donations, The table below presents, graphically, the phased transition to no profit power. In the illustrated case most IBEW and City of San Diego jobs remain unchanged.



## III. CONCLUSION

I want to thank the FCRC members and staff, the City Auditor and staff, City Attorney and staff for their kind assistance and their review of my comments. I request that my comments be published as submitted, in the report and record as presented. My submittal shall not be edited or reduced in size to diminish readability.

All the very best,

John Stump, taxpayer, ratepayer, elector, and property taxpayer.

COPY: San Diego City Auditor, San Diego Independent Budget Analyst, San Diego Ethics Commission, San Diego City Clerk

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 4:17:54 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 16:17

NAME:

Tara Grennan

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Encinitas, California 920707

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item 6

## COMMENTS:

I am not in support of the actions of SDG&E. I fully support firing SDG&E and allowing electricity in San Diego to be run by a publicly owned, state owned, or cooperative enterprises. They play a huge factor in San Diego being the most expensive place to live, as we also have the most expensive electricity rates in the country. Gas and electricity are an essential commodity for human survival, there is no reason why it should be in the hands of a private company that operates for profit. They will do their best to stifle efforts of people so they can continue to gauge us with uncontrolled rates and their rising profits. The city needs to explore ways to reduce electricity costs of the people, and SDG&E will only support outcomes that support their pocket books. The executive team at Sempra, including Caroline Winn, the current CEO of SDG&E, made an annual bonus of \$5 million in 2023 (according to information in their 2024 Proxy Statement). That figure is their bonus and even excludes their base salary. \$5 million. I have one question. ARE YOU KIDDING ME? I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that: "The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization." This is absolutely unacceptable the way SDG&E is conducting their business and absolutely unacceptable that the city of San Diego has allowed it to happen.

# ATTACHMENTS:

 $[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]$ 

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 5:52:09 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 17:52

NAME:

Dr. Joshua J Leiter

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92120

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

#### COMMENTS:

I am unhappy with San Diego gas and electric having a monopoly on providing power to San Diego. The rates are high compared to many places around us and continue to increase. SDGE continues to design a system to maximize their profit and not build a system to keep rates lower.

I ask that you please report in detail on SDGE efforts against local rooftop solar power. Private households in the community are penalized for having solar power under the current SDGE system. I also ask that you compare what rates would be by emphasizing local solar instead of building expensive and risky transmission.

The city of San Diego should be able to produce its own power without getting it from outside the city. This ensures our ability to self-govern and not be at the hands of another community and their power.

To my knowledge currently much of the power is brought in from Arizona as opposed to being made in California. There are multiple remedies, and personally I'm a big fan of nuclear power as a physicist. This would solve all of the cities needs and then some and reduce rates if it were being utilized properly.

Thank you for your time, and I hope for your consideration on these comments and questions.

# ATTACHMENTS:

 $[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]$ 

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 7:07:36 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 19:07

NAME: Austin

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92117

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

## COMMENTS:

I am tired of the exorbitant project cost over runs tacked on to SDGE projects at the expense of the tax payer. This audit demonstrated that SDGE can't be trusted to complete projects in a timely and cost efficient manner. How on earth is it allowable for a company that's a supposed partner to the City of San Diego miscalculate project costs by over 80%? This committee needs to investigate whether these supposed over head costs even existed and how they weren't factored in to begin with on behalf of the citizens of San Diego. SDGE saw a \$936 million profit last year and is continuing to raise rates on us the consumer. Their supposed "miscalculations" should come out of their profit margins for various projects. It shouldn't fall on our shoulders to pay for their blatant theft. They obviously have plenty of money to spare.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

[webform submission:values:attachments multiple file]

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Friday, May 31, 2024 7:40:37 PM

Submitted on Fri, 05/31/2024 - 19:40

NAME:

Ellen

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92109

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

V.

## COMMENTS:

The results of this audit clearly demonstrate SDG&E's primary goal is maximizing profits at the expense of San Diego residents. I urge this committee to thoroughly investigate SDG&E for falsifying project cost overruns and inflating totals to provide investors with staggering returns. This committee must investigate SDG&E for their municipalization manipulation Since the rest of city council in the mayor or so squarely in the pocket of SDG&E and Sempra lobbyists. City Council won't even consider putting the proposition on the ballot even though it's been proven through their multiple studies to be the most financial and climate beneficial decision for both the city and its residence in the long run. City Council and the mayor want their anger their campaign donors for fear of retaliation and losing their seat and power. The checks and balances of this committee are put in place to ensure the most beneficial services for the residents of San Diego and they must be utilized in this situation.

### ATTACHMENTS:

[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]

From: Mary Fifield
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Meeting June 3 2024, Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review

Committee Report

**Date:** Saturday, June 1, 2024 10:22:00 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

## Members of the committee,

As a resident of San Diego, I support your recommendation that "The city investigate whether SDG&E has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization by the city and incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDG&E from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and that undermine the city's efforts to explore municipalization." In your investigation, I urge you to report in detail on SDGE's efforts against local rooftop solar and compare the potential rates for locally generated solar to those from centralized transmission.

Many factors justify your investigation. For one, SDG&E, as an investor-owned utility, is first and foremost beholden to its shareholders and earned an eye-popping \$936 million in 2023, in part through expensive infrastructure projects (such as the long-delayed power line undergrounding). These costs are passed on to us rate payers, who have some of the highest utility bills in the country, exacerbating the region's high cost of living. A municipal public utility would deliver lower rates by eliminating the profit mandate for shareholders. Another justification is that SDG&E's business model is inherently incompatible with build out of sustainable renewable energy infrastructure dictated by the City of San Diego's climate action plan, toward which we must make more progress. SDG&E is owned by the natural gas company Sempra, so further investment in renewable energy is an existential threat its long-term growth, and IOUs are incentivized to build outmoded, centralized infrastructure for outmoded forms of energy.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this important pocketbook and environmental issue, which affects everyone in San Diego.

Mary Fifield

San Diego, CA 92107

Fire & Water: Stories from the Anthropocene

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https://www.fireandwaterstories.com/

From: <u>SDGov Webmaster</u>

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment</u>; <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 2:59:18 PM

Submitted on Sun, 06/02/2024 - 14:59

NAME:

Steve Sedio

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

Valley Center, California 92082

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Non-Agenda Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

## COMMENTS:

SDG&E is one of the more expensive electricity providers, often beating Hawaii, which has to ship fuel in. What justifies their high prices?

They obviously don't spend enough money maintaining their equipment, as they turn power off whenever their is any risk of fire. That leaves a lot of people electronically blind when a fire does occur.

They don't play nice with competition. They joined the other utilities getting NEM 3 passed, reducing solar installations. They also requested, and got approved a fee added to community power so they didn't have to lower rates to be competitive. I smell regulatory capture.

I support the recommendation that:

- 1. The city investigate whether SDGE has taken actions to undermine the exploration of municipalization by the city.
- 2. Incorporate provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDGE from taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals, as they have with NEM 3.

ATTACHMENTS:

[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]

From: Harry Powell

To: Ong, Megan; Werner, Heather
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Additional Information
Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024 4:26:05 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Megan Ong, Sustainability and Mobility Department, City of San Diego

# Megan:

Please find pasted here communication addressed to Chairman Kawar and Members of the Franchise Compliance Review Committee (FCRC).

Please forward this email to them and provide to the public record for the FCRC June 3, 2024 meeting.

https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/6.3.2024-meeting-agenda.p

Thank you for your assistance on this matter.

Jay Powell

June 1, 2024

Chairman Jeff Kawar and Members of the Franchise Compliance Review Committee

RE: Additional information regarding Community Energy Action Network

Dear Chairman Kawar and Members of the Franchise Compliance Review Committee (FCRC)

In a May 8 letter to you I submitted background on the Community Energy Action Network (CEAN) which is a San Diego-based cooperation promoting local clean renewable energy solutions, policies, programs and projects. Since I will not be able to attend your June 3 meeting, I am writing to follow up on your request for additional information regarding CEAN for which I have submitted written comments for Committee meetings conducted over the course of the last year and one-half.

Thank you for providing links to those written comments in an appendix to your Draft Report to the City Council and on the website provided for the Committee by the Sustainability and Mobility Department.

I am a member and/or serve on the boards of the following organizations: Power San Diego Campaign Steering Committee, Public Power San Diego Steering Committee, California Alliance for Community Energy. I do not represent those organizations,

unless I have been expressly authorized to do so.

I provide information and notices of meetings and testimony and written comments representing the common interests of members of those organizations and other organizations and individuals that support the promotion of local community renewable energy policies, programs, projects and solutions.

I am copying this communication to individuals affiliated with those organizations and others that constitute a network of knowledge, advocacy and action for achieving community-owned and operated energy utilities, since they may wish to provide additional comments for your June 3 meeting to finalize your report on SDGE compliance with franchise agreements to the City Council.

A separate letter from me and Bill Powers, Chairman of the Power San Diego campaign to replace SDGE with a not-for-profit electric distribution utility was submitted with additional information and recommendations regarding deficiencies in the 2023 Public Power Feasibility Study, "Phase I Report" findings that were included in Section (6) of your DRAFT Report.

That letter referenced a recommendation from consultants evaluating options for franchises in a 2020 report that the City pursue "community-owned" utilities if it did not receive responsive bids for gas and electric franchises in 2020. The City did not receive responsive bids, but instead went forward with the current franchises and associated agreements with SDGE for which you are evaluating compliance.

An alternative to the SDGE franchise based on the 2020 recommendation for a community-owned electric distribution utility has been advanced as an initiative by the Power San Diego campaign. The initiative was endorsed and supported by many of the organizations and individuals that I have consulted and included in the noticing network for community energy action.

The Power San Diego initiative petitions submitted to the City Clerk have been certified to contain the signatures of over 24,006 registered voters in the City of San Diego. That certification will require a noticed public hearing by the City Council later this month.

Please include this additional information in the public record and in the appropriate sections of your report.

I note that considerable public comment on the draft report has been posted on the Committee website and I hope that you will take additional time if you need to evaluate those comments for your report.

Thank you again for your service on the first FCRC for this considerable task and for your recommendations for the proper and timely constitution and operations of the next Franchise Compliance Review Committee.

Sincerely,

Jay Powell, Principal Cooperations - In the Public Interest, for the Common Good Community Energy Action Network

t cell direct From: <u>Gail Nagle</u>
To: <u>Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Finalizing the Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report and attachments

Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024 8:12:31 PM
Attachments: A Short Term Franchise for SDG&E.pdf

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

To: "Franchise Compliance Review Committee" care of Megan Ong

Re: Finalizing the Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

Meeting Date: June 3, 2024

Agenda Item: VI.

Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report.

I am submitting these comments and the attached Power Point presentation to the Franchise Compliance Review Committee. Please them in the San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee report.

The people of San Diego have continued to suffer the negative effects of the ill advised City Council decision to award SDG&E a 20 year franchise renewal. In fact they are even worse than what skeptics and critics predicted. Despite SDG&E's record profits, electric rates continue to sky rocket. The cost per KWH in San Diego are now 36.3% higher than they were in 2021. Meanwhile, according to data from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, over the same time period, the Average Weekly Earnings in San Diego-Carlsbad have only increased by 2%. According to KPBS, despite record profits of \$936 Million in 2023, San Diegans now must pay an increase of 8.7% for delivery charges which took effect in March 2024. And the company is seeking permission from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to charge customers another \$3.6 billion over current revenues. According to 2024 filings with the California Public Utilities Commission, SDG&E had more than 361,000 customers who are more than 30 days past due on their bills; that is an incredible 26.7% of SDG&E customers. San Diegans pay the highest electric rates in the US. According to a report in the Uniion Tribune in Dec 2023, reports compiled by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics consistently show the average electricity price per kilowatthour in the greater San Diego region is the highest in the country. In October, it came to 47.5 cents, with Urban Hawaii in second place at 43 cents.

In addition to gouging its San Diego customers, the company is actively opposing infrastructure investments to support the green energy transition called for in the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP). They are trying to divide middle class people who have invested in rooftop solar from lower income people who cannot afford to make the investment. **SDG&E isactively opposing the expansion of rooftop solar.** SDG&E demands a generous return on their investments (10%) but try to deny the same benefit to those who invest in rooftop solar. Everyone benefits from rooftop solar expansion and green energy investment. Also, since **SDG&E is a subsidiary of a gas fracking company, it has no interest in increasing battery storage or green energy generation.** They long ago divested themselves of all their former green energy subsidiaries.

The people of San Diego are not being well served by SDG&E because of its usurious rates and because it opposes a speedy transition to renewable energy. The people of Los Angeles and the people of Sacramento benefit from a municipal electric power system. They pay respectively one half and one third as much as San Diegans do.

It is time to have much stricter oversight of SDG&Es operations in the City of San Diego. The City Council must not only consider the current burden this company places on our current residents and their health and safety, it must consider future generations of San Diegans. Given the above data, all San Diegans are justified in wondering why the members of the City Council are not more proactive on their behalf and more vocal in calling out abuses by SDG&E.

Sincerely,
Gail Nagle

From: Mary Petrowski
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] CORRECTED Comments for The San Diego Franchise Compliance Review Committee Meeting -

Monday June 3

Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024 9:35:00 PM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

#### Hello

Below are my corrected comments for:

Meeting date: June 3rd

Agenda Item: VI. Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

Thank you, Mary Petrowski

San Diego, CA 92128

San Diego Gas & Electric has a Franchise Agreement with the city of San Diego, granting it monopoly energy service to the citizens of San Diego. With that privilege comes responsibilities. I do not feel that SDG&E is being a good faith partner with the city.

San Diegans pay among the highest electric rates in the country, and these high rates are projected to continue to rise.

According to the San Diego Union-Tribune, last year was SDG&E's most profitable year, ever, making almost a BILLION dollars.

A primary driving force behind these high and rising rates is SDGE's focus on building new, high-cost, and high-profit transmission lines as the primary solution to expanding renewable energy and addressing fire risk. The cost of transmission to San Diego customers is now greater than the cost of simply putting solar on rooftops and parking lots in San Diego.

SDG&E has shown that it is focused on making profits, not serving its customers, the citizens of San Diego.

SDG&E is not acting as a partner to the city as it pursues its Climate Action goals.

SDG&E has betrayed the trust of the city of San Diego.

I SUPPORT the committee's recommendation that:

The city investigate whether SDG&E has taken actions to undermine ... the exploration of municipalization.

I SUPPORT the incorporation of provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDG&E from:

- 1) taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and
- 2) undermining the city's efforts to explore municipalization

From: SDGov Webmaster

To: <u>Commissions Public Comment; Ong, Megan</u>

**Subject:** Webform submission from: Meeting Agenda Public Comment

**Date:** Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:33:20 PM

Submitted on Sun, 06/02/2024 - 23:33

NAME:

Marsha Linehan

EMAIL:

ADDRESS:

San Diego, California 92131

PHONE NUMBER:

**BOARD OR COMMISSION:** 

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

MEETING DATE:

2024-06-03

COMMENT TYPE:

Agenda Comment / Closed Session Comment

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

VI

## COMMENTS:

San Diego Gas & Electric has a Franchise Agreement with the city of San Diego, granting it monopoly energy service to the citizens of San Diego. With that privilege comes responsibilities. I do not feel that SDG&E is being a good faith partner with the city.

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SDG&E has shown that it is focused on making profits, not serving its customers, the citizens of San Diego.

SDG&E is not acting as a partner to the city as it pursues its Climate Action goals. SDG&E has betrayed the trust of the city of San Diego.

I SUPPORT the incorporation of provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDG&E from:

- 1) taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and
- 2) undermining the city's efforts to explore municipalization

Thank you.

## ATTACHMENTS:

[webform\_submission:values:attachments\_multiple\_file]

From: Janel Jacob
To: Ong, Megan

Subject: [EXTERNAL] June 3 meeting agenda item

Date: Monday, June 3, 2024 7:56:52 AM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

My name is Janel Jacob I am a citizen of San Diego, CA Zip code:92131

June, 3, 2024 Agenda item:VI Finalize Compliance Franchise Review Committee Report

I am against any actions by SDGandE to hinder San Diego's goals for obtaining clean energy and am against SDGandE's efforts to hinder the city of San Diego's citizens to effect stewardship of cleaner energy production in our city. Our energy costs are the highest in the country and alternative ownership with cleaner options should be actively pursued. SDGandE has amply shown over the years that their main concerns are corporate profits, not sustainable and affordable energy for our citizens.

Sincerely, Janel Jacob From: phillip rogul
To: Ong, Megan

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Todays Franchise Agreement Review

**Date:** Monday, June 3, 2024 9:12:26 AM

\*\*This email came from an external source. Be cautious about clicking on any links in this email or opening attachments.\*\*

Good morning Megan,

Thank you in advance for allowing me to submit my humble comments on this critical agenda item.

Every objective and professional level engineering, economic, financial, and consumer-oriented analysis has concluded that the existing SDGE Franchise agreement does not function for the benefit of SD City ratepayers or business owners. Instead this monopoly energy utility SDGE has successfully gamed the system to their overwhelming advantage. I respectfully request our SD City Council members end the current franchise agreement - and move forward with our carefully considered and proposed 2024 Proposition to create a Municipal Utility. A utility working for the Public Good, rather than for the benefit of their shareholders - similar to what currently and successfully operates in both Sacramento and Los Angeles.

In addition, I'd like to please point out the reality that many of our concerned, engaged, and well-informed SD City citizens recognize and are indeed alarmed that SDGE and their parent company Sempra Energy exert tremendous and undue influence on our local council members. This influence flows from continuous and generous campaign contributions, along with both the implied and overt intimidation which continues to be aggressively delivered by their IBEW union members who have sworn an oath of allegiance and loyalty to SDGE in return for their employment.

This undue and corrupting influence is inconsistent with our fundamental values and highest principles associated with a properly functioning democratic local government. which requires the primary mission of our City Council to be their focused and dedicated representation of the interests of their constituents who they swore an oath to represent, the People of SD City. We the People - not they the special interests.

Thank you very much,

Respectfully,

Phil Rogul Carlsbad Sustainability Coalition Chair - since 2008 From: <u>Terri Olson</u>
To: <u>Ong, Megan</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] SDGE Franchise compliance review meeting June 3, 2024, Agenda Item VI

**Date:** Monday, June 3, 2024 9:19:22 AM

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### **Board or Commission:**

Franchise Compliance Review Committee

Meeting Date: 6/3/2024 Agenda Item Number VI.

Discussion Item: Finalize Franchise Compliance Review Committee Report

San Diego Gas and Electric is NOT being a good faith partner with the city and its rate payers. San Diegans pay among the highest electric rates in the country, and these high rates are projected to continue to rise. Last year was SDG&E's most profitable year, ever, making almost a BILLION dollars.

A primary driving force behind these high and rising rates is SDGE's focus on building new, high-cost, and high-profit transmission lines as the primary solution to expanding renewable energy and addressing fire risk. This is a failed objective that will never get San Diego to its renewable climate goals. The cost of transmission to San Diego customers is now greater than the cost of simply putting solar on rooftops and parking lots in San Diego.

With more than 25% of customers behind on payments and SDGE's insistence on continuing to raise rates, the City Council must not only consider the current burden this company places on our current residents and their health and safety, but it must also consider future generations of San Diegans. The City Council represents the citizens and should not be giving a pass to this for-profit entity who is holding all San Diegan hostage.

I SUPPORT the incorporation of provisions in the next Energy Cooperation Agreement that prevent SDG&E from:

- 1) taking actions opposite to the city's stated clean energy goals and
- 2) undermining the city's efforts to explore municipalization

Thank you,

Terri Olson

San Diego, CA, 92131.