

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Petition of the Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association to Adopt, Amend, or Repeal a Regulation Pursuant to Cal. Pub. Util. Code § 1708.5.

Petition 10-08-016
(Filed August 20, 2010)

Order Instituting Rulemaking into Transfer of Master-Meter/Submeter Systems at Mobilehome Parks and Manufactured Housing Communities to Electric and Gas Corporations.

Rulemaking _____

**REPLY COMMENTS OF THE UTILITY REFORM NETWORK
AND THE GOLDEN STATE MANUFACTURED-HOME OWNERS LEAGUE,
INC. ON THE PROPOSED DECISION OF COMMISSIONER RYAN**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION..... 1

II. REPLY COMMENTS 2

A. TURN/GSMOL Support the Joint Utilities’ Proposed Schedule Changes..... 2

B. TURN/GSMOL Support the Notice Requirements Proposed By the Joint Utilities’ to Inform All Affected Park Operators and Their Tenants About This Proceeding. 2

III. CONCLUSION 3

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I. INTRODUCTION

On August 20, 2010, the Western Manufactured Housing Community Association (WMA) filed the instant Petition to Adopt, Amend, or Repeal a Regulation Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code § 1708.5. On January 13, 2011, the Commission issued the Proposed Decision of Commissioner Ryan, entitled *Decision Granting Petition in Part and Instituting Rulemaking into Issues Concerning Transfer of Electric and Natural Gas Master-Metered Service at Mobilehome Parks and Manufactured Housing Communities to Direct Service by Electric or Natural Gas Corporations* (PD).¹ The PD would open a new rulemaking to examine what the Commission can and should do

to encourage, on a reasonable basis and in a manner both timely and fair to all concerned, the replacement by direct utility service of the submeter systems that supply electricity, natural gas, or both to mobilehome parks and manufactured housing communities located within the franchise areas of electric and natural gas corporations.²

On February 2, 2011, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Gas Company (collectively, Joint Utilities) jointly filed comments on the PD, and WMA also filed comments. Pursuant to Rule 14.3 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, The Utility Reform Network (TURN) and the Golden State Manufactured-Home Owners League, Inc. (GSMOL) respectfully submit this reply to the comments of the Joint Utilities.

¹ Since the issuance of this proposed decision, the Commission has reassigned this proceeding to Commissioner Florio. (*Notice of Reassignment*, issued by ALJ Karen V. Clopton on January 31, 2011.)

² PD, p. 24, Ordering Paragraph 1.

II. REPLY COMMENTS

A. TURN/GSMOL Support the Joint Utilities' Proposed Schedule Changes.

The Joint Utilities recommend that the schedule proposed in the PD be modified to provide “adequate up front time to allow fact-development and settlement discussions before parties must file their proposals and then their responses to proposals.”³ They explain that the schedule the PD would adopt would not “allow sufficient time for the parties to collaborate, and to maximize the chances that the parties might achieve what the PD says the CPUC looks forward to: ‘a collaborative approach that will fashion creative solutions.’”⁴ The Joint Utilities propose an alternate schedule on page 4 of their comments, which would still allow the Commission to complete this entire proceeding in about 14 months, well within the 18 month period allowed by statute.

TURN/GSMOL support the Joint Utilities' proposed alternate schedule. While we look very forward to the resolution of the new rulemaking proceeding, and the improvements in safety, reliability, and quality of life for mobilehome parks residents that we expect to result from the Commission's ultimate decision, we agree that more time will facilitate a better outcome. The issues presented here are extremely complex, and all parties will benefit from increased time to explore creative solutions and seek mutual agreement to the greatest extent possible.

B. TURN/GSMOL Support the Notice Requirements Proposed By the Joint Utilities to Inform All Affected Park Operators and Their Tenants About This Proceeding.

The Joint Utilities recommend that the PD be modified to place certain notice requirements on the utilities to ensure that all stakeholders in interest, including

³ Comments of Joint Utilities, p. 2.

⁴ Id, p. 2 (citing PD, p.1).

mobilehome park operators and submetered tenants residing in these parks, will receive notice of this proceeding. Particularly, the Joint Utilities propose that the final decision order the IOUs to do as follows:

(1) provide notice (such as by direct mail letters) to their master-metered gas and electric mobile home park customers within 30 days, informing park operators of the Commission's institution of this rulemaking proceeding and providing information about how to participate; and

(2) provide a form letter for each park operator which each park operator would be ordered to include in its submetered tenants' bills, as well as to post in conspicuous places in their MHP community, that will help serve to inform all mobile home park tenants about this proceeding.⁵

Joint Utilities explain that such broad notice requirements are necessary because the members of WMA and GSMOL, two parties to this proceeding, do not include all potentially affected mobilehome park owners and tenants.⁶

TURN/GSMOL agree with the Joint Utilities' recommendation. The Commission should take all possible steps to ensure that all stakeholders have notice of the Commission's proceeding and an opportunity to participate. To that end, we request that the Commission direct that the notice to be distributed to tenants include the same information about how to participate in this proceeding as will be provided to park operators under the Joint Utilities' proposal.

III. CONCLUSION

With the changes discussed above, TURN/GSMOL fully support the Commission's adoption of the Proposed Decision.

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⁵ Comments of Joint Utilities, p. 5.

⁶ Id.

Date: February 4, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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