

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING IN THE DISCOVERY DISPUTE  
BETWEEN PUBLIC ADVOCATES OFFICE AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
GAS COMPANY, OCTOBER 7, 2019 (NOT IN A PROCEEDING)**

This ruling resolves the discovery dispute between Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) and Public Advocates Office of the California Public Utilities Commission (Cal Advocates) by granting Cal Advocates' October 7, 2019 *Motion to Compel Responses from Southern California Gas Company to Question 8 of Data Request- CalAdvocates-SC-SCG-2019-05*. SoCalGas shall, within two business days, provide the information sought in response to Data Request - CalAdvocates-SC-SCG-2019-05 (DR SC-SCG-2019-05) - Question 8.

**1. Background**

SoCalGas is regulated by the Commission. On October 7, 2019, Cal Advocates sent to the Commission's President a *Motion to Compel Responses from Southern California Gas Company to Question 8 of Data Request - CalAdvocates-SC-SCG-2019-05 (Not in a Proceeding)*. The data requests referred to in this Motion to Compel were not issued pursuant to any open Commission proceeding. Therefore, no assigned Commissioner exists for this discovery dispute. In this situation, Pub. Util. Code § 309.5(e) provides that the President of the Commission must decide any discovery objections. On October 25, 2019, the President of the Commission referred this dispute to the Chief Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for resolution. On October 29, 2019, the Chief ALJ designated an ALJ to review and dispose of the dispute.

## 2. Discussion

The October 7, 2019 Motion to Compel states that SoCalGas responded to Data Request - CalAdvocates-SC-SCG-2019-05 but, regarding Question 8, refused to provide responsive documents in response to Question 8.<sup>1</sup>

On October 17, 2019, SoCalGas sent to the President of the Commission the *Response of SoCalGas to the October 7, 2019 Motion to Compel Further Responses from Southern California Gas Company to Data Request (Not in a Proceeding)*. In this Response, SoCalGas objects to the Motion to Compel.

On October 30, 2019, the Administrative Law Judge granted Cal Advocates request to file a Reply. On October 31, 2019, Cal Advocates submitted a Reply to SoCalGas' Responses, *Reply of the Public Advocates Office to Response of SoCalGas to October 7, 2019 Motion to Compel Further Responses From Southern California Gas Company to Data Request-CalAdvocates-SC-SCG-2019-05 (Not in a Proceeding)*.

After reviewing the Cal Advocates' Motion, SoCalGas' Response, and Cal Advocates' Reply, Cal Advocates' Motion to Compel submitted pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 309.5(e), § 314, and Rule 11.3 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure is granted.

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<sup>1</sup> Prior to filing the Motion to Compel, Cal Advocates and SoCalGas held a meet-and-confer.

**IT IS SO RULED** that the October 7, 2019 Motion to Compel submitted by Cal Advocates pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 309.5(e), § 314, and Rule 11.3 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure is granted. SoCalGas shall, within two businesses days, provide the information sought in response to Question 8 of Data Request - CalAdvocates-SC-SCG-2019-05.

Dated November 1, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ REGINA M. DEANGELIS

Regina M. DeAngelis  
Administrative Law Judge

## INFORMATION REGARDING SERVICE

I have electronically served all persons on the attached.

Administrative Law Judge's Ruling in the Discovery Dispute between  
Public Advocates Office and Southern California Gas Company, August 2019  
(Not in a Proceeding).

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The list I use is current as of today's date.

Dated November 1, 2019, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ REGINA M. DEANGELIS

Regina DeAngelis