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

Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U-902-E) for Adoption of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure Deployment Scenario and Associated Cost Recovery and Rate Design.

Application 05-03-015

# JOINT MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BY THE DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES, UTILITY CONSUMERS' ACTION NETWORK, AND SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

#### DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES UTILITY CONSUMERS' ACTION NETWORK SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

Attorney for: SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY On behalf of the above-listed parties 101 Ash Street San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 699-5130

Fax: (619) 699-5027

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

Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U-902-E) for Adoption of an Advanced Metering Infrastructure Deployment Scenario and Associated Cost Recovery and Rate Design.

Application 05-03-015

## JOINT MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BY THE DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES, UTILITY CONSUMERS' ACTION NETWORK, AND SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

#### I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Rule 12.1(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules), San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) files this Joint Motion for Adoption of Settlement on behalf of itself, the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), and the Utility Consumers' Action Network (UCAN) (the Settling Parties). As required by Rule 12.1(d) of the Rules, the following demonstrates that the Settlement Agreement (Attachment 1) is reasonable in light of the whole record, consistent with the law, and in the public interest.

In his January 26, 2007 ruling, Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Gamson stated his intention to issue a Proposed Decision by March 6, 2007. For this reason, and in the

interest of keeping SDG&E's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project moving forward without delay, the Settling Parties ask that the reply period for contesting the Settlement be shortened to 5 days from the 30 days permitted by the Rules. The shortened comment period should pose no hardship since the Settlement is being offered by all active parties to the proceeding.

#### II. <u>BACKGROUND</u>

SDG&E has before the Commission an application for approval of its AMI project business case-in-chief, Application (A.) 05-03-015, filed on March 15, 2005 (the Application). SDG&E provided updated testimony on March 28, 2006 and supplemental testimony on June 16, 2006 at the request of ALJ Gamson. SDG&E later updated its file showing submitted revisions to the Commission on July 14, 2006 and again on September 7, 2006. DRA and UCAN propounded numerous data requests and DRA conducted an on-site audit of SDG&E's cost and benefit analysis and supporting workpapers. Both DRA and UCAN filed direct and rebuttal testimony.

The Commission held eight days of evidentiary hearings, beginning September 25, 2006. Subsequently, parties filed opening briefs and reply briefs on October 27 and November 13, respectively. On December 15, 2006, ALJ Gamson issued a ruling to reopen the record to consider further information. SDG&E, DRA and UCAN filed additional comments pursuant to this ruling.

2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Rule 12.2 of the Rules.

The Settling Parties met in person and by telephone on several occasions to discuss the potential for Settlement. In recognition of substantial movement towards Settlement, on January 22, 2006, SDG&E filed a notice of Settlement Conference and a motion for leave to propose a Settlement outside the time limits provided under Rule 12.1(a) of the Rules. On January 27, 2006, SDG&E served an Amended Notice of Settlement informing parties that SDG&E had rescheduled the all-party Settlement Conference to February 1, 2007, and that all parties were invited to participate. On January 26, 2007, the ALJ granted SDG&E's request for leave to file a Settlement proposal "out of time." The ALJ also ruled that any Rule 12 Settlement shall be proposed no later than February 9, 2007 (Ruling at p. 3).

SDG&E convened a Settlement Conference on February 1, 2007 as noticed. Representatives from all parties sponsoring testimony attended, either in person or by telephone. Following that Settlement Conference, the parties reached an agreement in principle to settle all outstanding issues. This motion seeks Commission approval of the Settlement Agreement as presented (both a redacted and an unredacted version) and without revision.

The Settlement is an uncontested, or "all active party," settlement. All parties who sponsored prepared testimony are signatories to the Settlement.

#### III. SUMMARY OF THE SETTLEMENT

All of the provisions of the Settlement are intended to be strictly non-precedential and not binding on the Commission in future proceedings. The Settlement Agreement is summarized below, however, the attached Settlement Agreement is controlling over this

summary in case of any unintended inconsistency. The Settling Parties recommend the following:

- **A. Project Costs:** The total project costs are \$572 million. This amount covers the additional functionality and extended warranty provisions as described in the attached Settlement.
- **B.** Warranty of AMI Equipment: The Settling Parties agree that it is prudent for SDG&E to obtain pricing for an extended warranty for the AMI equipment.
- C. Addendum to Request for Proposal (RFP): SDG&E will issue an addendum to its RFP in order to:
  - Ascertain the current status and viability of advancements in AMI technology and may, at its discretion, accept bids from technologies excluded from the original RFP;
  - 2. Determine whether project costs are significantly increased by certain functional requirements;
  - 3. Seek proposals to install additional functionality; and.
  - 4. Seek proposals for an extended warranty of the AMI equipment.
- D. Risk Contingency and Risk Sharing: Settling Parties agree to the risk contingency and symmetrical risk and reward-sharing proposal as described in the Settlement.
- E. Cost Allocation: The Settling Parties agree that 100% of the AMI revenue requirement will be allocated among customers utilizing the SDG&E distribution allocation in place when AMI costs are recovered in rates.

- F. Rate Design: The Settling Parties agree that the Peak Time Rebate (PTR), Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) and AMI related dynamic rates should be determined in SDG&E's January 31, 2007, General Rate Case Phase 2 proceeding.
- G. Stakeholder Input: SDG&E will establish an AMI Technology Advisory Panel (TAP) and will invite staff from the California Energy Commission, the CPUC Energy Division, UCAN, DRA, and other technical experts to serve on this panel. The TAP is more fully described in Attachment A to the Settlement Agreement.
- H. Force Majeure: The Settling Parties agree that SDG&E may recover in rates costs that exceed the \$572 million due to events beyond SDG&E's control (uncontrollable events).

The Settlement provides that its provisions are to be effective on the date the Commission issues its final decision, or as soon after approval as is reasonably feasible. The Settlement Agreement provides a resolution of all issues raised in conjunction with the Application.

#### IV. REASONABLENESS OF THE SETTLEMENT

As required by Rule 12.1(d), the Settlement Agreement, for the reasons set forth below, is reasonable in light of the whole record, consistent with the law, and in the public interest.

In addition, as an all active-party settlement, the instant Settlement is entitled to a greater level of deference by the Commission in considering whether to approve it, as set forth in D.92-12-019 (46 CPUC2d 538).

Here, the Settlement Agreement commands unanimous sponsorship of all active parties.

The sponsoring parties are fairly reflective of the affected interests: DRA represents ratepayer interests, especially residential and small commercial/industrial customers; UCAN also represents residential and small commercial ratepayer interests, and since 1984 has been the most active non-governmental ratepayer advocate in SDG&E matters before the Commission. Thus, the parties to this settlement represent the full panoply of ratepayer interest affected by this application.

These are "parties ideally positioned to comment on the operation of the utility and ratepayer perception" as required by D.92-12-019, p. 16.

Finally, the Settlement conveys, taken in the context of a fully developed record, more than sufficient information to permit the Commission to discharge its regulatory obligations. Accordingly, the Joint Parties request that the Commission adopt the Settlement Agreement without modification.

#### A. The Settlement is Reasonable in Light of the Whole Record

The Settlement Agreement is reasonable in light of the whole record. The Commission should note that all Settling Parties fully developed their positions before Settlement and submitted prepared testimony and additional information requested by the ALJ. The Commission held eight days of evidentiary hearings, which assessed the strengths and weaknesses of parties' positions. Furthermore, the record shows that the resolutions of particular issues adopted in the Settlement are within the range of positions taken by parties on such issues.

Moreover, on discrete issues, the Settlement generally adopts some result that was

specifically recommended by one party or another in their testimony. The Settlement generally does not introduce new concepts or mechanisms outside the litigated record. It is also apparent that the Settlement reflects give-and-take; it is clear that the Settlement adopts several SDG&E-proposed changes but also rejects several other SDG&E-proposed changes opposed by various parties.

As an example, a central issue in this application, the allocation of revenue responsibility between customer classes, is resolved in the Settlement by adoption of a compromise between DRA and SDG&E's initial recommended allocation proposals.

#### B. The Settlement is Consistent with the Law

The Settling Parties believe, and herein represent, that no term of the Settlement contravenes statutory provisions or prior Commission decisions.<sup>2</sup> The Settling Parties are not aware of any basis on which it could even be alleged that the Settlement is not consistent with the law. The Settling Parties reached Settlement in accordance with Rule 12.1 of the Rules.

#### C. The Settlement Benefits Ratepayers and Serves the Public Interest

The Settlement Agreement benefits ratepayers and serves the public interest by resolving issues in a collaborative fashion. The public interest will be further served by the establishment of the TAP. The TAP will serve to advise SDG&E in the implementation of the AMI project and consider emerging AMI technologies such as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In D.00-09-037, the Commission based its finding that the third criteria had been met on representation by the settling parties that they expended considerable effort ensuring that the Settlement Agreement comports with statute and precedents and did not believe that any of its terms or provisions contravenes statute or prior Commission decisions.

those identified in the EPIC study, referenced in the UCAN and SDG&E testimony and briefs. Further, the Settling Parties - - all experienced practitioners before the Commission - - have a long history of taking opposing positions. The Settling Parties used their collective experience to produce a sound outcome without the need for further commitments of scarce time and resources.

As discussed above, the Settlement Agreement presents resolutions that are acceptable to a diverse group of interests. All Settling Parties were actively involved in the extensive negotiations leading to the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement reflects the Settling Parties' diverse views and interests as well as the various compromises made by all.

#### V. TIMING OF APPROVAL

The Settling Parties propose that the provisions of the Settlement become effective upon adoption of a final decision. In order to give SDG&E approval to begin its system integration work at the earliest possible time, the Settling Parties request that the Commission act to approve the Settlement no later than its meeting scheduled on April 5, 2007. Approval at an earlier meeting would be even more desirable.

#### VI. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Commission, at or before its meeting on April 5, 2007, grant this motion and:

- Adopt the attached Settlement Agreement in its entirety and without change, finding that the Settlement Agreement is consistent with the law, reasonable, and in the public interest;
- 2. Shorten the time to contest the Settlement to 5 days (from 30 days) from the date this Motion is filed; and,
- 3. Grant such other relief as the Commission finds just and reasonable.

Undersigned counsel for SDG&E has been authorized by all of the parties to this motion to sign and file it on their behalf.

Respectfully submitted,

DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES UTILITY CONSUMERS' ACTION NETWORK SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

Vicki I. Thompson

Attorney for:

SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

On behalf of the above-listed parties

101 Ash Street

San Diego, CA 92101

Tel: (619) 699-5130 Fax: (619) 699-5027

February 9, 2007

### **ATTACHMENT 1**

# JOINT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING SDG&E's ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY'S ADVANCED METEREING INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION, A.05-03-015

Pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, Article 12, Rule 12.1, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E), the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), and Utility Consumers' Action Network (UCAN) (the Settling Parties) enter into this Settlement Agreement regarding SDG&E's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) proposal, submitted for Commission consideration in Application A. 05-03-015 (the Settlement). The Settling Parties, who were the only active parties to the proceeding, believe that the Settlement is reasonable in light of the whole record, consistent with law, and in the public interest.

#### I. Introduction and Background

The Settling Parties believe that the record is sufficient to meet the burden of proof and to allow the Commission to make a reasoned decision. SDG&E filed its revised business case-in-chief on March 28, 2006, provided supplemental testimony upon the request of presiding Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Gamson on June 16, 2006, and later updated and revised its showing on July 14, 2006 and again on September 7, 2006. DRA and UCAN propounded numerous data requests and DRA conducted an on-site audit of SDG&E's cost and benefit analysis and supporting workpapers. Both DRA and UCAN filed direct and rebuttal testimony.

The Commission held eight days of evidentiary hearings, beginning September 25, 2006. Subsequently, parties filed opening briefs and reply briefs on October 27 and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On January 26, 2007, the ALJ issued a ruling granting SDG&E motion to propose a settlement agreement beyond the Rule 12.1 time limit.

November 13, respectively. On December 15, 2006, ALJ Gamson issued a ruling to reopen the record to consider further information regarding alternative deployment options. SDG&E responded to ALJ Gamson's ruling on January 4, 2007 and January 11, 2007. SDG&E, DRA and UCAN submitted comments on SDG&E's response. In light of the entire record pre-dating the ALJ's December 15, 2006 ruling and the additional information submitted by all parties in response to that ruling, the record is amply developed to consider this Settlement.

Based on the foregoing, the Settling Parties submit for Commission adoption this comprehensive Settlement, which constitutes a settlement of all issues between the Settling Parties.

In summary, the Settling Parties agree that SDG&E's AMI deployment and cost recovery proposal as set forth in SDG&E's Application 05-03-015, including the supporting testimony, 2 is reasonable and should be adopted by the Commission with the following modifications: (1) the total AMI project costs will be increased to \$572 million to include additional AMI functionalities and extended meter warranty provisions, as described below; (2) SDG&E will purchase an extended warranty for the AMI equipment, so long as the terms described below are met; (3) SDG&E is required to issue an addendum to its Request for Proposal (RFP) as described below; (4) SDG&E will modify its AMI technology selection, as described below; (5) the risk contingencies will be shared between ratepayers and shareholders in the manner described below; (6) the AMI revenue requirement will be allocated among customer classes, as described below; (7) Critical Peak Pricing (CPP), Peak Time Rebate (PTR) and other AMI related

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SDG&E's case-in-chief is comprised of SDG&E's March 28, 2006 submission as revised and superseded by the July 14, 2006, and September 7, 2006 updates.

dynamic rates will be determined in SDG&E's January 31, 2007, General Rate Case (GRC) Phase 2 proceeding,<sup>3</sup> (8) SDG&E will establish an AMI "Technology Advisory Panel" (TAP) as described below and in Attachment A; (9) SDG&E will report quarterly on AMI implementation progress to the CPUC Energy Division, as described below; and (10) SDG&E may recover increased costs that are the result of uncontrollable/force majeure events, as described below.

Each of these modifications is set forth below.

#### II. Settlement Agreement Provisions

The Settling Parties find reasonable SDG&E's proposal for full AMI deployment and cost recovery, as described in SDG&E's application and supporting testimony, with the following modifications:

- The total project cost is increased to \$572 million to include the additional cost of adding Home Area Network (HAN) and Remote Connect/Disconnect functionalities and to include the cost of the extended warranty provisions, as more fully described below;
- 2. The Settling Parties agree that it is prudent for SDG&E to obtain bids from meter vendors for an extended warranty for the AMI meters for up to

  The installment of the extended warranty is not to exceed ...

  Costs for the additional installments for the extended warranty beyond the period, if any, will be reviewed and if found reasonable will be recoverable in SDG&E's next (post Test Year 2008) and subsequent General Rate Cases or other appropriate Commission proceedings. SDG&E will attempt to

3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A. 07-01-047.

obtain as part of the warranty an option and pricing for subsequent extensions.

- 3. SDG&E will issue an addendum to its Request for Proposal (RFP) in order to:
  - a. Ascertain the current status and viability of advancements in AMI
    technology and may, at its discretion, and with input from the Technical
    Advisory Panel described in Attachment A, accept bids from technologies
    excluded from the original RFP;
  - Determine whether project costs are significantly increased by the functional requirements of two-channel metering and 99.5% next day data availability;
  - Seek proposals to install the HAN and remote connect/disconnect capabilities;
  - d. Seek proposals for an extended warranty of the AMI equipment; and,
  - e. SDG&E's RFP addendum will require that all vendor bids include the following in addition to their base bid proposal:
    - i. A Home Area Network (HAN) communications system, based on an open standard capability for residential and C&I customers, which should be compatible with the HAN choice of other major California utilities;
    - ii. Separate pricing for the cost of providing a single channel of hourly meter data <u>and</u> the incremental cost of providing two independent channels of hourly meter data for residential customers;

- iii. Separate pricing for the cost differential of providing a minimum of 99.5% throughput of the meter data from 99.5% of AMI-enabled customers daily, versus providing a minimum of 98.5% throughput of the meter data for 98.5% of such customers daily (with a cumulative minimum of 99.5% throughput of meter data over a three day period);
- iv. Separate pricing for the cost of providing electric remote disconnect/connect technology to all of SDG&E's residential customers; and,
- v. Separate pricing, terms and conditions with meter vendors for extended AMI meter warranty provisions, with pricing for at least the of the extended warranty and with a schedule for additional extensions at the option of SDG&E beyond
- 4. SDG&E will evaluate the results of the revised RFPs and will modify its selections based on the following conditions:
  - a. Savings to the total meter cost can be lowered by reducing the two-channel capability and the minimum daily data availability requirement;
  - b. The incremental cost of remote connect/disconnect technology costs does not exceed

    SDG&E will not include the remote disconnect functionality

in the AMI meter technology and will reduce the total costs of \$572 million by

- c. The HAN field tests can demonstrate that the vendor's HAN technology can meet
- d. The cost of the extended warranty for the installment does not exceed . If the extended warranty costs exceed . SDG&E is not required to purchase the extended warranty and the total cost of \$572 million will be reduced by
- Settling Parties agree to the risk contingency and sharing proposal described below:
  - a. Expenditures up to the total project cost of \$572 million are deemed reasonable (inclusive of the costs of HAN, remote disconnect capabilities and extended warranty as described above) and will be recovered in rates without any after-the-fact reasonableness review.
  - b. To the extent actual project costs exceed the total cost of \$572 million by up to \$50 million, then 90% of the costs that exceed \$572 million will be recovered in rates without any after-the fact reasonableness review.
  - c. To the extent actual project costs exceed the total costs of \$572 million by up to \$50 million, then 10% of the costs that exceed \$572 million will be borne by SDG&E shareholders and will not be recovered in rates.
  - d. To the extent actual project costs are below the total costs of \$572 million, then 10% of the difference between the \$572 million and the actual project costs will be awarded to SDG&E shareholders. This sharing mechanism

- will be applied to no more than the first \$50 million of expenditures that fall below the total costs of \$572 million.
- e. Any ratepayer portion of costs that exceed \$572 million will be recorded in and recovered through the through the Advanced Metering
   Infrastructure Balancing Account (AMIBA).<sup>4</sup>
- f. Any shareholder rewards or costs will be recorded and recovered through SDG&E's Reward and Penalties Balancing Account (RPBA).
- g. Actual project costs that exceed \$622 million may be recoverable in rates to the extent approved by the Commission following a reasonableness review of the additional amounts.
- h. Total project costs of \$572 million may be adjusted downward as a result of the provisions described in Section 4. If total project costs were reduced, then the risk sharing mechanism would apply to the revised total project cost.
- 6. The Settling Parties agree that 100% of AMI revenue requirement will be allocated among customer classes utilizing the SDG&E distribution allocation in place when AMI costs are recovered in rates.
- 7. The Settling Parties agree that the PTR, CPP and other AMI related dynamic rates should be determined in the proceeding addressing SDG&E's GRC Phase 2 Rate Design application submitted on January 31, 2007.
- 8. SDG&E agrees to establish an AMI "Technology Advisory Panel" (TAP) as more fully described in Attachment A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> SDG&E's balancing account treatment of AMI project cost and benefits are described in Exhibit 34, Chapter 14 Prepared Direct Testimony of Robert Hansen.

- SDG&E agrees to provide quarterly reports to the Energy Division on AMI implementation progress.
- 10. The Settling Parties agree to the following *force majeure* provisions that provide for SDG&E to recover in rates costs that exceed \$572 million without shareholder penalty due to events beyond SDG&E's control (uncontrollable events), including without limitation:
  - a. Force majeure events that materially affect SDG&E's ability to implement the project as planned such as: (i) landslide, lightning, earthquake, storm, hurricane, flood or other acts of nature; (ii) transportation accidents in which SDG&E is neither intentionally nor negligently responsible; (iii) riots, terrorism, war, civil disturbances, or sabotage; or (iv) changes in law;
  - b. Material changes in the scope or functionality of the AMI Project (as that scope is defined in SDG&E's application) due to governmental or regulatory actions, or due to issuance of any order, judgment, award, or decree which affects the AMI project;
  - Material changes in the costs of the AMI project caused by a delay in Commission approval of the project beyond April 5, 2007; and,
  - d. Significant delays before or during project deployment caused by regulatory or governmental action or inaction, including delays caused by cities and local governments or permit delays.

#### III. Additional Terms and Conditions

#### A. Performance

The Settling Parties agree to perform diligently, and in good faith, all actions required or implied hereunder, including, but not necessarily limited to, the execution of any other documents required to effectuate the terms of this Settlement Agreement, and the preparation of exhibits for, and presentation of witnesses at, any required hearings to obtain the approval and adoption of this Settlement Agreement by the Commission. No Settling Party will contest in this proceeding, or in any other forum, or in any manner before this Commission, the recommendations contained in this Settlement Agreement. It is understood by the Settling Parties that time is of the essence in obtaining the Commission's approval of this Settlement Agreement and that all will extend their best efforts to ensure its adoption.

 $/\!/$ 

H

11

#### B. Non-Precedential Effect

This Settlement Agreement is not intended by the Settling Parties to be precedent for any other proceeding, whether pending or instituted in the future. The Settling Parties have assented to the terms of this Settlement Agreement only for the purpose of arriving at the Settlement embodied in this Settlement Agreement. Each Settling Party expressly reserves its right to advocate, in current and future proceedings, positions, principles, assumptions, arguments and methodologies which may be different than those underlying this Settlement Agreement, and the Settling Parties expressly declare that, as provided in Rule 12.5 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, this Settlement Agreement should not be considered as a precedent for or against them.

The Settlement explicitly does <u>not</u> establish any precedent on the issue of the form or existence of any mechanism for adjusting authorized revenues for years after a test year, sharing of earnings, or cost-of-capital mechanisms.

#### C. Indivisibility

This Settlement Agreement embodies compromises of the Settling Parties' positions in this proceeding. No individual term of this Settlement Agreement is assented to by any Settling Party, except in consideration of the other Settling Parties' assents to all other terms. Thus, the Settlement Agreement is indivisible and each part is interdependent on each and all other parts. Any party may withdraw from this Settlement Agreement if the Commission modifies, deletes from, or adds to the disposition of the matters settled herein. The Settling Parties agree, however, to negotiate in good faith with regard to any Commission-ordered changes in order to restore the balance of

benefits and burdens, and to exercise the right to withdraw only if such negotiations are unsuccessful.

The Settling Parties acknowledge that the positions expressed in the Settlement Agreement were reached after consideration of all positions advanced in all the testimony sponsored in the proceeding by all parties. This document sets forth the entire agreement of Settling Parties on all of those issues, except as specifically described within the Settlement Agreement. The terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement may only

be modified in writing subscribed by all Settling Parties.

Dated this 9 day of February, 2007.

Vicki L. Thompson for:

San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Michael Shames for:

**Utility Consumers Action Network** 

Dana S. Appling for:

Division of the Ratepayer Advocates

### ATTACHMENT A

AMI TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY PANEL

#### PUBLIC – REDACTED VERSION Attachment A

#### **AMI TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY PANEL**

SDG&E agrees to establish an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) "Technology Advisory Panel", or TAP, drawing from the expertise of regulatory agencies, industry technology experts, other business partners and customer representatives across the spectrum of AMI and AMI-related technologies. The purpose of the TAP is to provide advice and input to SDG&E regarding AMI customer and program needs in a cooperative and collaborative fashion for the professional exchange of ideas, advice and feedback. The TAP also provides a forum for input and collaboration with the stakeholders served by the AMI project and its related deployment. The TAP will work with SDG&E so that SDG&E's AMI design and deployment considers the "best available practices" and "best available technologies" and encourages customer acceptance of the new services enabled by the AMI deployment. Topics of discussion should include AMI synergies and opportunities to provide impetus for other programs and technologies, which may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Distribution (Feeder) Automation
- Advanced Visualization Methods (POM, ROSE, FFS, OPM, etc.)
- I-Grid Monitoring System
- Advanced Grid Control Devices
- Consumer Portal
- Remote Disconnect Wattage Control

Staff from the California Energy Commission, the CPUC Energy Division, UCAN, and DRA will be invited to be members of the TAP, but are not required to serve. SDG&E may select additional TAP members, but participation will be voluntary and there will be no formal voting rules or designation of voting and non-voting members. Each TAP member will need to devote the time necessary to meet and confer with SDG&E during bidding design and program implementation and when appropriate, TAP members may provide written comments to SDG&E.

On an annual basis, the TAP will provide written feedback and recommendations in the form of an annual report to SDG&E on SDG&E's progress in deploying AMI and the industry status of AMI-related technologies. SDG&E agrees that the TAP's annual report will be included with SDG&E's annual progress report that will be submitted to the CPUC Energy Division.

TAP members will provide advice and feedback to SDG&E, but will not have any independent decision-making or contracting authority. SDG&E is expected to work with the TAP throughout the AMI process and to meet with the TAP at least bi-annually. While input from the TAP will not necessarily be agreed to by SDG&E (or even among TAP members), the goal of this advisory panel is that it will serve as a forum for introducing new ideas and identifying problems specific to SDG&E's development and deployment of AMI and AMI-related services and, thus, narrow the scope of differences considerably. Also, TAP members will not, in any way, relinquish their rights to participate in other proceedings or comment on SDG&E filings in any CPUC proceeding.

#### PUBLIC – REDACTED VERSION Attachment A

TAP meetings will be open to the public<sup>5</sup> and SDG&E will establish a process for noticing these meetings and posting documents to be discussed at the meetings. TAP meetings are intended to facilitate discussion and exchange between TAP members and SDG&E, and accordingly, SDG&E should establish appropriate protocols for obtaining comments from public participants during those meetings, including taking comments or questions from the "floor." The TAP will be in place at least through full deployment of the AMI project (expected to be the end of 2011) and will meet no less than twice per year. The TAP may be extended by mutual consent of the members.

SDG&E will provide TAP members with information on program implementation activities and proposed material program changes, and take other steps to ensure that TAP members have an opportunity to review the information and work with them to improve program implementation. It is SDG&E's responsibility to arrange for meeting space and conference call dial-in numbers, reproduce and distribute meeting materials and provide other administrative support for these meetings to the TAP (and subgroups described below). For those TAP members who are eligible for intervenor compensation, SDG&E and DRA will not oppose any reasonable intervenor compensation requests for their participation in the AMI TAP.

In addition to the TAP process, SDG&E agrees to establish a TAP sub-group of members with non-financial interests to advise SDG&E on bid design, evaluation and administration. TAP sub-group members will have access to confidential vendor bid and pricing information and are required to commit to a non-disclosure agreement as a condition of serving on the TAP sub-group. The TAP sub-group will consist of representatives from DRA staff, the CPUC Energy Division staff, UCAN, and two other members selected by SDG&E. The TAP sub-group will meet on an as-needed basis. The TAP sub-group will advise SDG&E on bid design, evaluation and implementation for those portions of the Settlement that include, but are not limited to;

- HAN communications to be incorporated in AMI electric meters;
- Remote disconnect/connect capabilities integrated within the AMI electric meters;
   and,
- Extended warranty provisions.

The formation of this TAP is not precedent setting nor does it imply that this advisory structure applies to any other SDG&E initiative beyond AMI.

DRA and UCAN agree to support expedited review and approval by the Commission of SDG&E's AMI Contract Advice Letter filings consistent with the provisions of the Settlement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This requirement will not apply to the TAP sub-group meetings relating to the RFP development and bid review process. These TAP sub-group meetings are purposefully intended to exclude participation by individuals or organizations with financial interests involved in the AMI RFP addendum bid or bid selection process.

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing JOINT MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BY THE DIVISION OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES, UTILITY CONSUMERS' ACTION NETWORK, AND SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY to each party of record on the service list in A.05-03-015 via electronic mail. Those parties without an email address were served by placing copies in properly addressed and sealed envelopes and depositing such envelopes in the United States Mail with first-class postage prepaid.

Dated at San Diego, California, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2007.

Lisa Fucci-Ortiz