

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

Application of SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC
COMPANY (U 902 E) For Authority To Update
Electric Rate Design Effective on January 1, 2020

Application 19-07-XXX

**PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
PRAEM KODIATH
ON BEHALF OF SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY**

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

JULY 3, 2019



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1 **PREPARED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF**
2 **PRAEM KODIATH**
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4 **I. OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE**

5 This prepared direct testimony estimates monthly electric bills for customers enrolled in
6 the Electric Vehicle High Power (“EV-HP”) rate proposed by San Diego Gas & Electric
7 Company (“SDG&E”). The EV-HP rate is proposed as an optional rate for separately-metered
8 electric vehicle (“EV”) direct current fast charging (“DCFC”) and on and off-road medium-duty
9 and heavy-duty (“MD/HD”) EV charging. As discussed in the prepared direct testimony of
10 Brittany Applestein Syz, the EV-HP rate is intended to accelerate transportation electrification
11 (“TE”) and is consistent with state policy. Specific details regarding the EV-HP rate design are
12 provided in the prepared direct testimony William Saxe.

13 SDG&E estimates that switching from their current general service rate to the EV-HP
14 rate will reduce the bills of some, but not all, DCFC and MD/HD EV customers. Some
15 customers with relatively high energy throughput and corresponding high load factors may be
16 better off remaining on existing demand-metered general service rates, as the low energy charges
17 in these rates benefit high load factor customers. Accordingly, SDG&E will provide the option
18 for customers to remain on their existing rate.

19 **II. CUSTOMER BILL COMPARISONS**

20 SDG&E estimated the customer bill impacts of switching to the EV-HP rate for large and
21 small medium-duty (“MD”) EV commercial fleets, a transit bus depot, a school bus depot, and a
22 DCFC station. These sample customers’ site characteristics and hourly load curves are
23 illustrative, with individual modeling inputs drawn from published research, industry sources,
24 and SDG&E estimates. These estimates compare the monthly bills of customers taking service

1 at the secondary voltage level on the EV-HP rate and Schedule AL-TOU, which is the default
2 general service rate for SDG&E medium and large commercial and industrial (“C&I”)
3 customers. For all illustrative customer examples, the commodity rate is the SDG&E Critical
4 Peak Pricing rate (Schedule EECC-CPP-D). The equivalent cost of the incumbent fuel is also
5 estimated for some customers at recent fossil fuel prices.

6 These estimates are rough approximations of actual customer bills, which are influenced
7 by a variety of factors, including their load profile and the number of EVs charged. Per-mile
8 costs are dependent on vehicle efficiency. Moreover, real-world conditions and driving behavior
9 can have a substantial effect on EV energy efficiency.

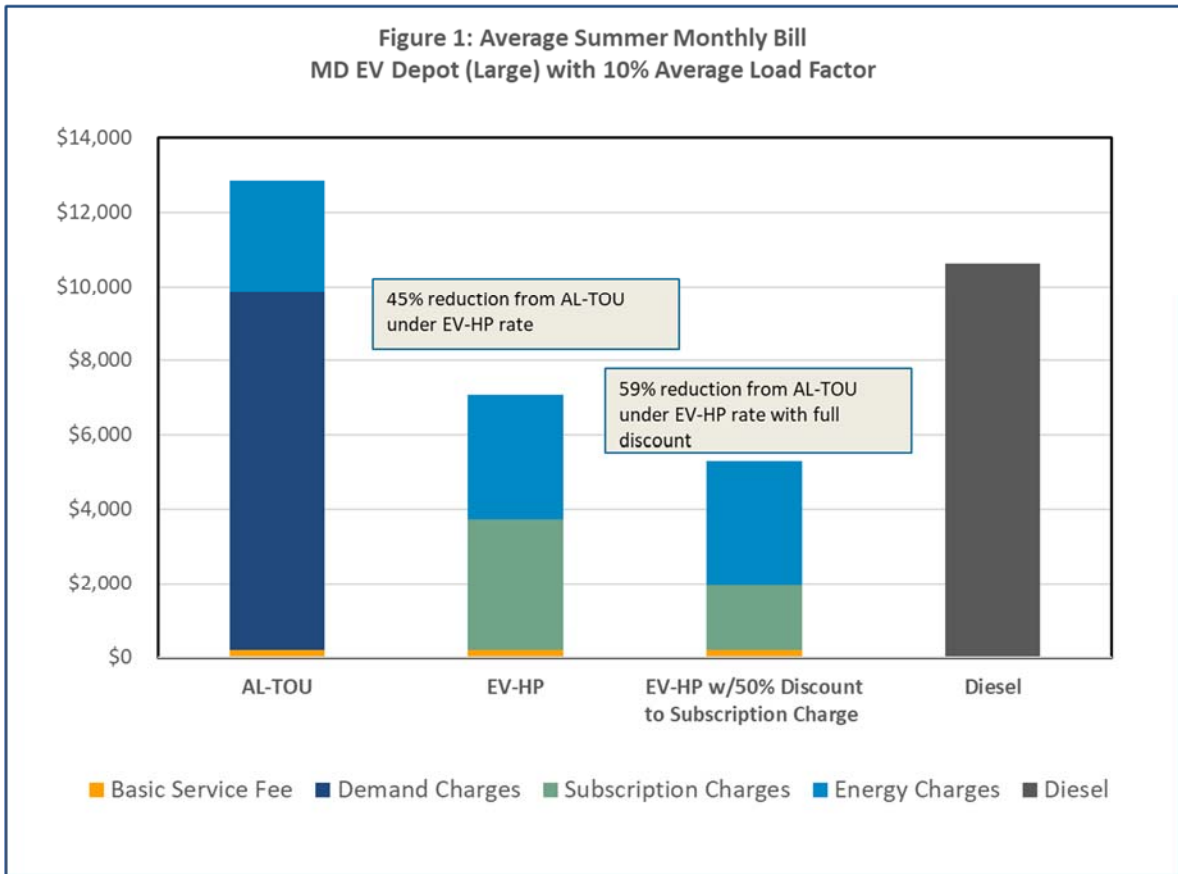
10 **A. Large Medium-Duty EV Fleets**

11 This analysis compares the cost of charging for a fleet of Class 6 electric delivery trucks
12 with equivalent diesel vehicles.

Table 1: Large MD EV site characteristics

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 MD electric trucks per site• Trucks drive 50 miles per weekday• One 20 kW charger per truck, charging concurrently (400 kilowatt [“kW”] maximum)• Trucks charge 12 – 4am |
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13 The characteristics of the illustrative large MD EV fleet site, including fleet size and
14 charging time, are shown in Table 1 above.



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2 Figure 1 above shows the average summer monthly electric bill for identical customers
 3 charging on the AL-TOU rate and the proposed EV-HP rate with no discount and the EV-HP rate
 4 with the full 50% subscription charge discount applied. It also shows the monthly fuel bill for
 5 comparable diesel trucks with an identical duty cycle.

6 The per-mile cost of electricity for this large MD EV fleet operator driving each truck 50
 7 miles per weekday on SDG&E's AL-TOU rate is higher than the monthly fuel cost of the same
 8 fleet using diesel fuel, even if the customer charges entirely during super off-peak hours. A large
 9 MD truck fleet with the characteristics given above has a monthly fuel cost on EV-HP rate of
 10 approximately \$5,300 (equivalent to 25¢ per mile) when avoiding on-peak charging and with the
 11 full discount applied, which is much lower than the estimated \$10,600 monthly fuel cost of

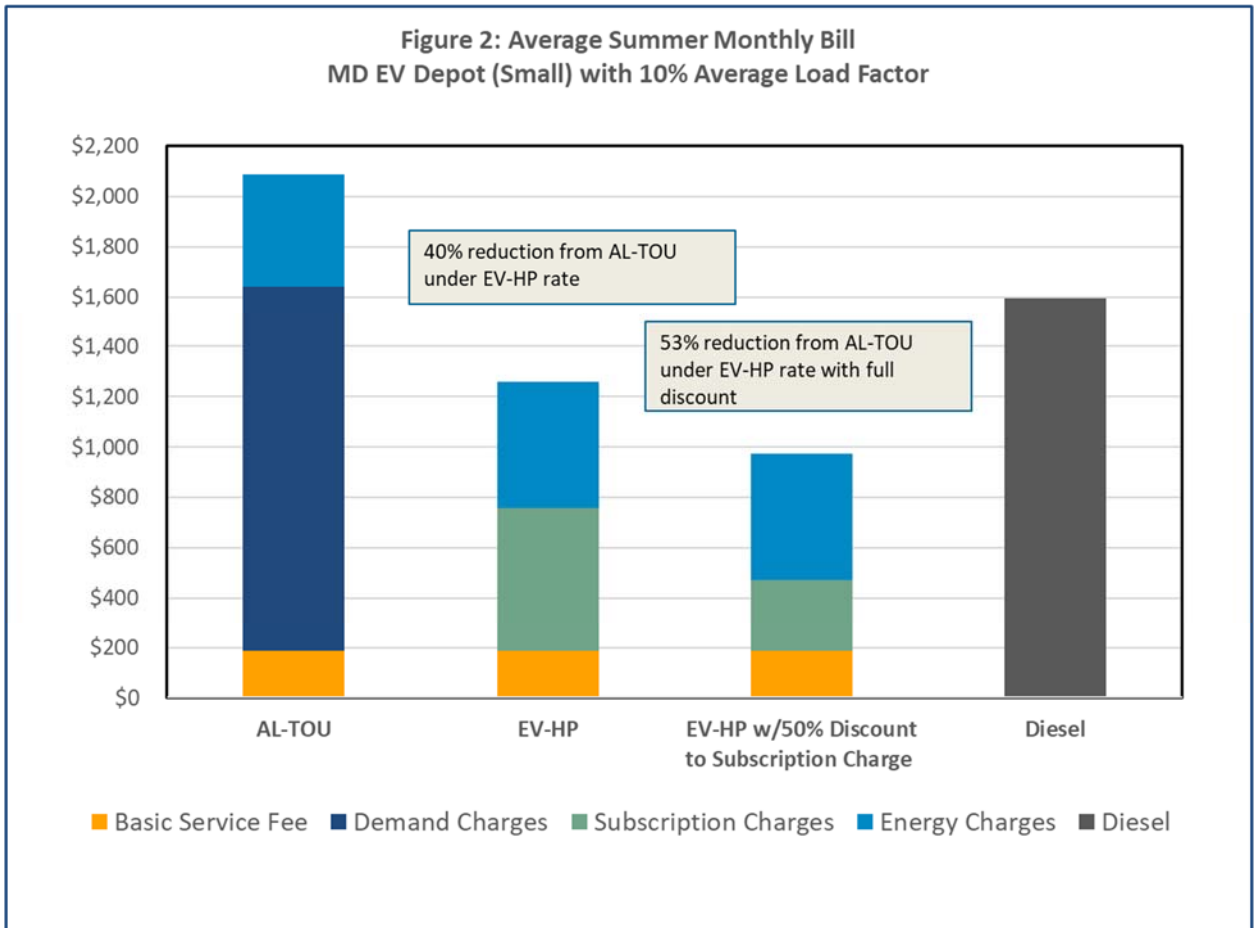
1 diesel (equivalent to 49¢ per mile). This analysis does not include the impact of the customer
2 charging on-peak, which results in higher per-mile costs on both the AL-TOU and EV-HP rates.

3 **B. Small Medium-Duty EV Fleets**

4 SDG&E also estimated the cost of charging for a small business that operates a smaller
5 number of Class 6 MD EVs and drives them fewer miles per day than the large fleet operator but
6 for all days of the week.

Table 2: Small MD EV site characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 MD electric trucks per site• Trucks drive 36 miles per day, weekdays and weekends• One 20 kW charger per truck, charging concurrently (60 kW maximum)• Trucks charge 12am – 3 am

7 The fleet size and charging characteristics for the small MD EV site is shown in Table 2
8 above. The trucks in this example drive 36 miles per day.



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Figure 2 above shows that this illustrative customer’s monthly fuel cost is approximately \$2,100 (equivalent to 64¢ per mile) on the existing AL-TOU rate, significantly higher than the monthly diesel cost of approximately \$1,600 (equivalent to 49¢ per mile). Switching to the EV-HP rate with the full incentive brings this customer’s monthly electricity costs to approximately \$975 (equivalent to 30¢ per mile), below the per mile cost of diesel.

1 **C. Transit Bus Depot**

2 Transit agencies are expected to be major adopters of MD/HD electric vehicles, including
3 heavy-duty (“HD”) electric transit buses.¹ Nearly all the transit agency buses in SDG&E’s
4 service territory are fueled by compressed natural gas (“CNG”).² The Innovative Clean Transit
5 (“ICT”) regulation adopted by the California Air Resources Board (“CARB”) is intended to
6 transition these fleets to zero-emission vehicles by 2040.³

7 As shown below, a transit bus depot with the usage profile given in Table 3 is expected to
8 reduce their bill to approximately the cost of CNG by switching from the AL-TOU to EV-HP
9 rate.

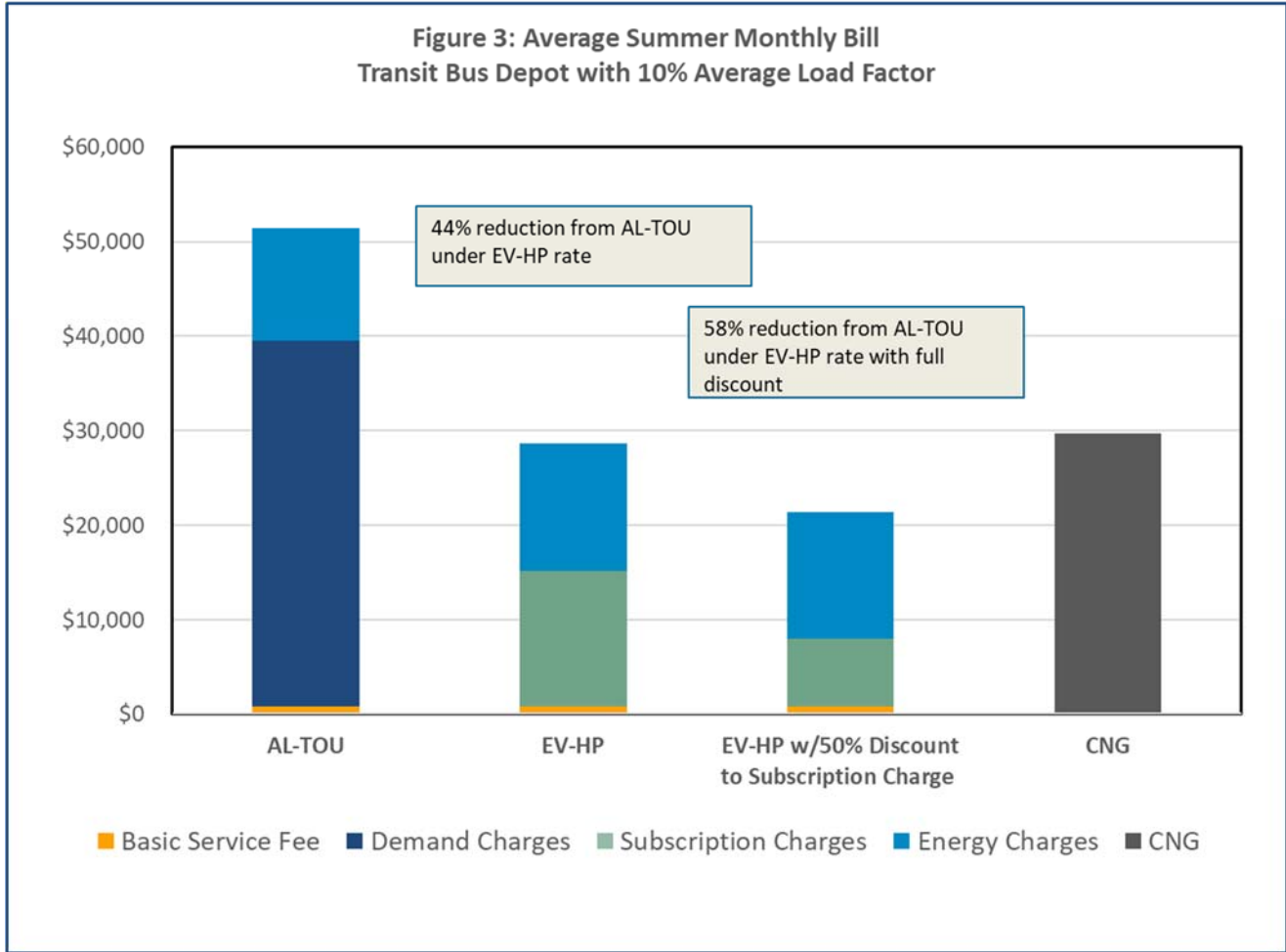
Table 3: Transit depot site characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 buses per site• Buses drive 129 miles per weekday• One 80 kW charger per bus, charging concurrently (1,600 kW maximum)• Buses charge 12 – 4 am

10

¹ The New York Times, *California Requires New City Buses to Be Electric by 2029* (December 14, 2018), available at <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/14/climate/california-electric-buses.html>.

² See San Diego Metropolitan Transit System, *Zero Emission Bus Pilot Programs*, available at <https://www.sdmts.com/inside-mts-current-projects/zero-emissions-bus-pilot-program>; North County Transit District, *NCTD Completes Successful Pass Program, Gears Up for Electric Buses* (June 22, 2018), available at <https://www.gonctd.com/nctd-completes-successful-pass-program-gears-up-for-electric-buses/>.

³ California Air Resources Board, *California transitioning to all-electric public bus fleet by 2040* (December 14, 2018), available at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/news/california-transitioning-all-electric-public-bus-fleet-2040>.



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2 Figure 3 above shows that with the full discount applied to the subscription charge, the
3 transit bus in this illustrative example has a monthly fuel cost of approximately \$21,400
4 (equivalent to 38¢ per mile), lower than the estimated monthly cost of CNG of \$29,700
5 (equivalent to 53¢ per mile).

6 **D. School Buses**

7 Electric school bus charging is also an important customer segment for the EV-HP rate.
8 The number of electric school buses are expected to increase in California due to new electric

1 bus models from several manufacturers and a recent California Energy Commission funding
2 round that will help provide electric buses to school districts.⁴

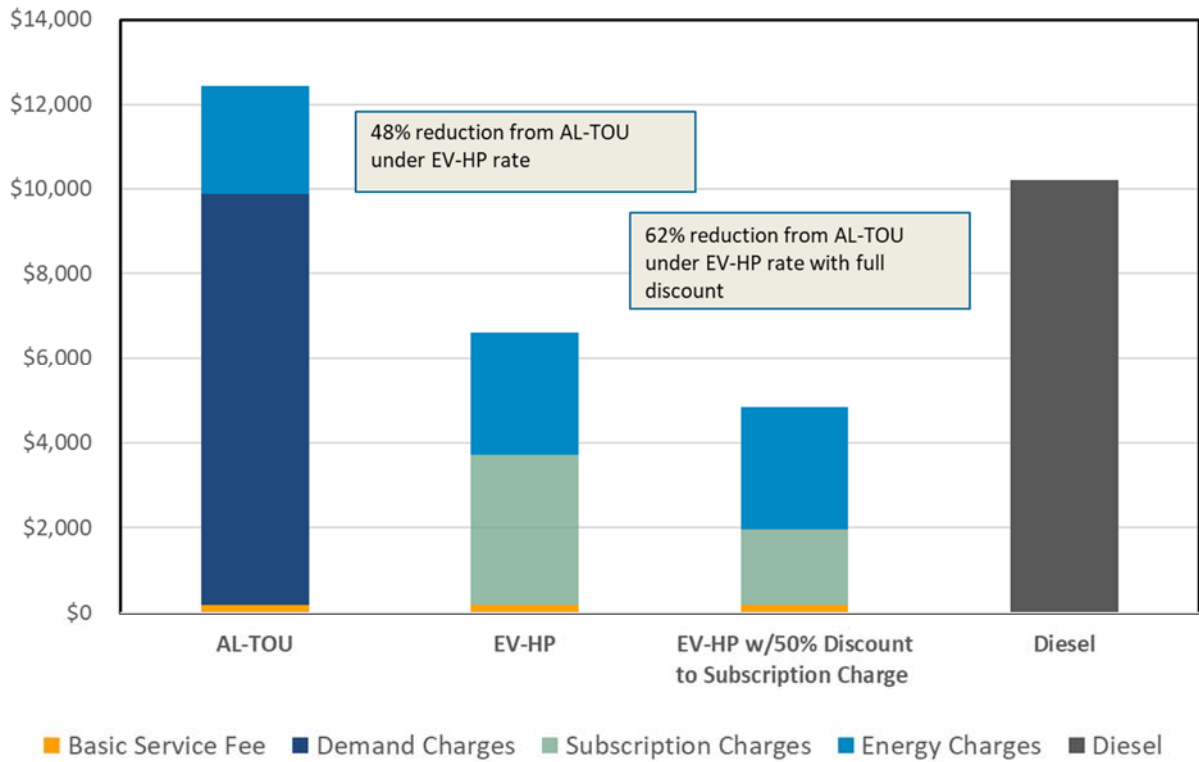
Table 4: School bus depot site characteristics

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 buses per site• Buses drive 48 miles per weekday• One 20 kW charger per bus, charging concurrently (400 kW maximum)• Buses charge 12 – 3 am weekdays |
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3 SDG&E estimates that the EV-HP rate is expected to offer savings over general service
4 rates for battery electric school bus operators with the operating characteristics shown in Table 4
5 above.

⁴ San Francisco Chronicle, *Goodbye, diesel: California school buses drive toward electric age* (January 16, 2018), available at <https://www.sfgate.com/business/article/Goodbye-diesel-California-school-buses-drive-12499859.php>; see California Energy Commission, *The School Bus Replacement Program*, available at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/transportation/schoolbus/>.

Figure 4: Average Summer Monthly Bill
School Bus Depot with 9% Average Load Factor



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As shown above in Figure 4, the diesel school bus has a monthly cost of approximately \$10,200 per month (equivalent to 49¢ per mile). With the EV-HP rate with the full incentive the monthly cost of fuel is approximately \$4,800 (equivalent to 23¢ per mile), which is lower than diesel fuel.

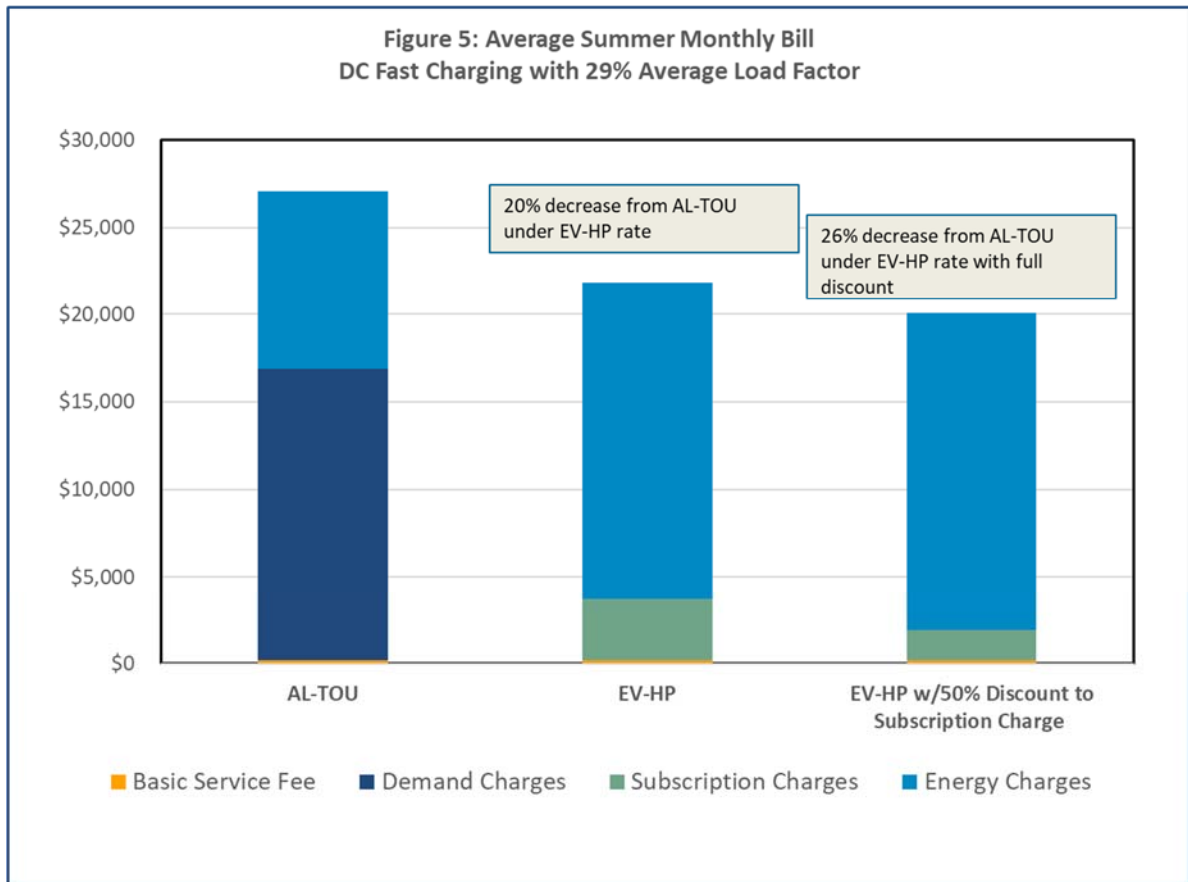
E. DCFC

DCFC sites with relatively low usage are intended to benefit from the EV-HP rate, while those with high energy throughput and high load factors will typically be better off on existing demand-metered general service rates.

Table 5: DCFC site characteristics

- Four 100 kW ports per site (400 kW maximum)
- Average of 7 hours of use per port per day

1 The average summer monthly bill for a DCFC with the usage characteristics given in
2 Table 5 above is expected to fall by 26% on the EV-HP rate with the full incentive compared to
3 AL-TOU, as shown in Figure 5 below.



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5 We do not present the cost of gasoline for this DCFC example because the price charged
6 to drivers by DCFC charging networks includes other costs in addition to the utility electric bill,
7 making a per-mile comparison of DCFC electricity costs to the cost of gasoline difficult.

8 This concludes my prepared direct testimony.

1 **III. STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

2 My name is Praem Kodiath. My business address is 8306 Century Park Court, San
3 Diego, 92123. I am employed by SDG&E as the EV Customer Analytics Manager in Clean
4 Transportation. I have 10 years of energy industry experience. My current duties involve
5 project and team management of customer analytics, market forecasts, and greenhouse gas
6 emissions methodologies.

7 I graduated from Marquette University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Business
8 Administration. I received a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of
9 California, San Diego.

10 I have not previously testified before the California Public Utilities Commission.