

# Q3 2024 Electric Rates Report

The Public Advocates Office at the California Public Utilities Commission December 5, 2024



### About

- The Public Advocates Office represents utility customers' interests primarily by participating in proceedings before the California Public Utilities Commission and engaging in other policymaking forums.
- The California electric utilities recover their operational and investment costs through the rates they charge their customers. These rates regularly change due to many factors. We track the rates and develop recommendations to minimize costs to ratepayers.
- This report summarizes residential electric rate changes across Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), and Southern California Edison (SCE) service territories through <u>October 1, 2024</u>.

## Bills compound affordability challenges across the state

\$200 Average Monthly Bill (\$) \$150 \$100 \$50 \$-Greater San Diego San Jose L.A. Area\* SDGE" **EDISON** 

Average October 1, 2024, Electric Bill by City

- Over the last few years electric bills are generally rising due to **higher electricity use** (e.g., air conditioning) and **higher overall electricity prices** ("rates").
- Low-income households are most disproportionately impacted from higher rates and bills.



Source: Public Advocates Office analysis of utility data and household consumption for unsubsidized (Non-CARE) customers \*Los Angeles Department of Water and Power services the City of Los Angeles.

## Nearly 1 in 5 households are behind on their energy bills

	# of Customers in Arrears	% of Customers in Arrears	Average Amount Owed
PG <mark>&amp;</mark> E	1,018,371	18%	\$675
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON®	883,195	19%	\$1,052
SDGE <sup>®</sup>	312,665	23%	\$642
Combined	2,214,231	19.1%	\$821
			The Public

Source: October 2024 utility compliance filings in the CPUC's disconnection proceeding (R.18-07-005) Note: SDG&E and PG&E data includes both electric and natural gas customers DVOCATES

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# Residential average rates have significantly increased



Utility rates represent residential average rates excluding the California Climate Credit. Source: Investor-Owned Utility Advice Letters

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# Main electricity rate drivers

**10-Year Change** Jan 2014 to October 2024 **Primary Statewide Drivers** 





#### Average Residential Electricity Rates (RAR)



CA rates represent residential average rates excluding California Climate Credit. Forecasted rates only include known revenue change requests and will likely increase as future revenue change requests are filed. Source: Investor-Owned Utility Advice Letters (California Rates)



#### Rates have increased substantially since 2014, surpassing inflation





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### EV Fuel Price Parity w/ Bundled Residential Average Rate



Assumptions for this slide found in Appendix on Slide 17.

Avg residential rates represent average residential rate customers excluding California Climate Credit. Future estimates may be conservative as they only include pending applications. Source: Investor-Owned Utility Advice Letters (California Residential Average Rates)



#### Wildfire-Related Revenue Requirement (RRQ) by Utility

	Jan 2023	Percentage of Total RRQ 2023	June 2024	Percentage of Total RRQ 2024
PG&E	\$2,398,830,000	15%	\$5,213,266,000	24%
SCE	\$1,447,261,000	9%	\$2,026,051,000	11%
SDG&E	\$249,636,000	6%	\$483,870,000	12%

\*Based on latest figures as of June 2024, includes wildfire-related insurance and the Wildfire Fund Charge. For more context, please visit our website and related memo: https://www.publicadvocates.cpuc.ca.gov/press-room/reports-and-analyses/wildfire-cost-increases-of-california-electric-ious



# Historic Trend of Average Electricity Bills

Using a Sample of Hot & Cool Climate Zones from each IOU's Service Territory



# PG&E's Average Monthly Electricity Bills for CARE & Non-CARE Customers in Hot and Cool Climate Zones





# SCE's Average Monthly Electricity Bills for CARE & Non-CARE Customers in Hot and Cool Climate Zones





# SDG&E's Average Monthly Electricity Bills for CARE & Non-CARE Customers in Hot and Cool Climate Zones



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#### More information

We develop recommendations to ensure that energy, water, and communications services provided by investor-owned utilities are affordable, safe, and reliable.

Visit our website at <u>www.publicadvocates.cpuc.ca.gov</u>

#### Contact us

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# Appendix

# Assumptions & Additional Utility Data



### Electric Vehicle (EV) Fuel Price Parity Assumptions (Slide 9)

- Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) MPG: 28
- EV MPGe: 100
- \$/Gallon Range: 4.60 6.00
- kWh/Gallon (EPA est.): 33.7

((EV MPGe / ICE MPG) \* \$/Gallon) ÷ kWh/Gallon = \$0.487 to \$0.635 \$/ kWh equivalent



#### PG&E Rate Change | Residential Average Rate



PG&E is implementing their latest sales forecast for 2025 - a decrease from previous sales totals leading to increasing rates. Interim rate relief for PG&E's pending 2023 WMCE (Wildfire-related Distribution) revenue requirement of \$1.6 billion, from A.23-12-001, reduces PG&E's previous forecasted rate for 1/1/2025 as cost recovery is spread across 2025 and 2026 as well. We may see a decrease from 1/1/2025 to 1/1/2026 primarily due to fluctuations in wildfire-related distribution revenue requirements mostly from PG&E's pending application to issue recovery bonds, known as wildfire rate relief bonds (A.24-06-013), which will provide credit to customers of approximately \$2.4 billion, starting in April 2025 and coming off rates in March 2026.



### PG&E Q3 2024 Changes to Revenue Requirement

On September 1, 2024, PG&E submitted Advice Letter 7366-E, to update electric rates effective September 1, 2024. The largest revenue changes include:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 1054 Finance Order #3 Finalizing charges for issuance of the third series of Wildfire Hardening Recovery Bonds
- As a result of the changes submitted in this AL, PG&E's total authorized revenue requirement in rates will increase by approximately \$175 million, or by 1%.

On September 30, 2024, PG&E submitted Advice Letter 7382-E, to update electric rates effective October 1, 2024. The largest revenue changes include:

 2023 Wildfire Mitigation and Catastrophic Events (WMCE) Interim Rate Relief -PG&E is implementing the authorized revenue requirement of \$943.9 million from D.24-09-003, plus interest, in electric distribution rates to be recovered over a 17month period from October 1, 2024, through February 28, 2026.

October 1, 2024 Rate Change: The authorized revenue requirement changes resulted in a residential average rate (RAR) increase of approximately **3%** for bundled service customers relative to rates in effect on September 1, 2024.



Expected rate increase from 1/1/2025 to 1/1/2026 is due primarily to implementing SCE's 2025 GRC, from A.23-05-010.

### SCE Q3 2024 Changes to Revenue Requirement



From Advice Letter 5379-E, effective October 1, 2024:

SCE's authorized revenue requirements is decreasing from Q2 levels by \$248.010 million effective October 1, 2024. Primary changes to the revenue requirement include:

- 1. Generation Overcollection, Refund to Ratepayers Overcollection in SCE's ERRA Trigger leading to an authorized refund of \$742 million to bundled service customers from Decision 24-08-015.
- 2. Implements 55% of SCE's Wildfire Cost Request The CPUC is granting SCE interim rate relief of \$210 million 55% of the requested \$383.5 million for 2022 Wildfire Mitigation and Vegetation Management costs. This is consistent with the cited decision (D.24-07-012).
- Quarterly Rate Change: The authorized revenue requirement changes will result in an overall residential average rate (RAR) decrease from Q2 to October 1 of approximately 2.2% for bundled service customers relative to rates in effect on June 1, 2024.



Expected rate increase from 10/1/2024 to 1/1/2025 is due primarily to implementing SDG&E's 2024 GRC, from A.22-05-016.



### SDG&E Q3 2024 Changes to Revenue Requirement

From Advice Letter 4507-E, rates effective October 1, 2024:

This AL will increase revenue requirements due to 2014 to 2022 costs recorded for Catastrophic Emergency Memorandum Account (CEMA) events, including the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the costs collected on behalf of San Diego Regional Energy Network (SDREN), who will provide energy efficiency programs to customers. The changes include:

- Updates to electric distribution rates to recover \$29.3 million over a one-year period beginning October 1, 2024.
- Updates to the PPP electric rate, specifically the Energy Efficiency (EE) subcomponent, to collect the authorized budget for SDREN for program year 2024, in the amount of \$9.5 million over 12 months in electric revenue requirement beginning October 1, 2024. The total SDREN budget of nearly \$120 million is expected to come into rates in the next 3 years.

Quarterly Rate Change: The authorized revenue requirement changes result in a residential average rate (RAR) increase of approximately **0.66%** for bundled service customers relative to rates in effect on March 1, 2024.