

DOCKETED

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California Public
Utilities Commission

Q3 2026 Status Update: *Energy Disconnections and Reconnections Rulemaking (R.18-07-005)*

Electric Rates Section, Energy Division



Current Disconnection Rate Caps and Residential Uncollectibles

Large IOUs Disconnection Rate Caps:*

- PG&E: 3.5% (5.4%)
- SCE: 4.0% (9.8%)
- SDG&E: 3.0% (3.3%)
- SoCalGas 2.0% (2.1%)

SMJUs Disconnection Rate Caps:**

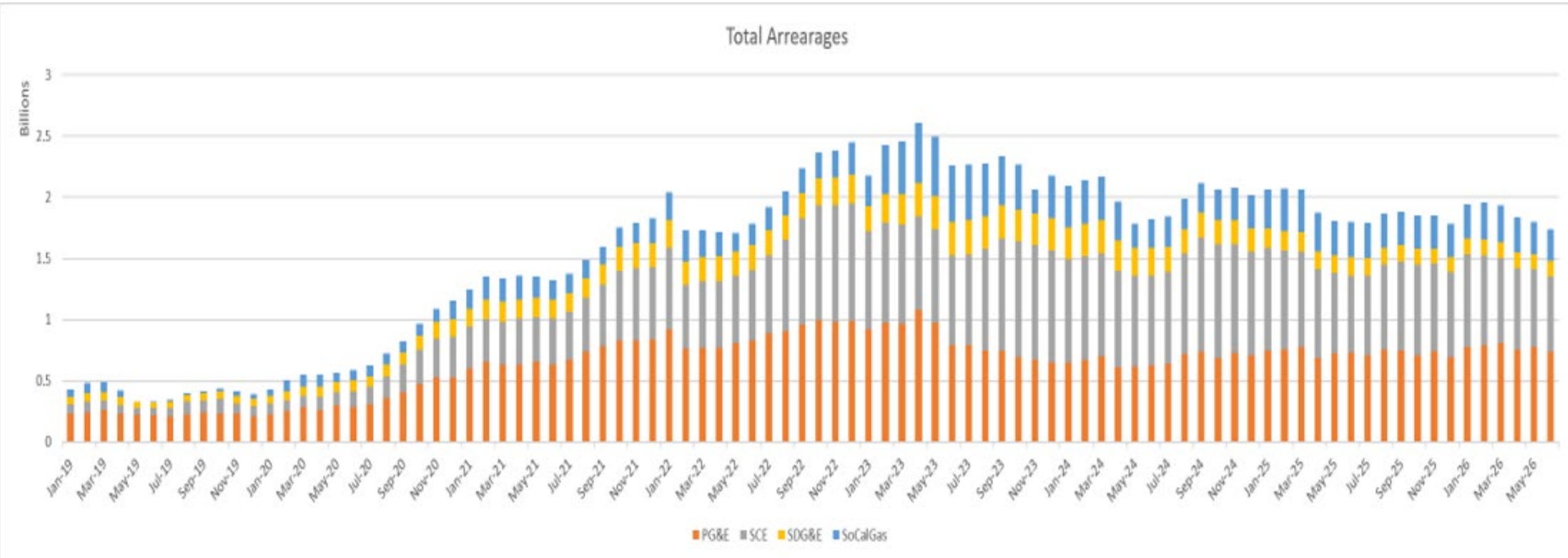
- Southwest Gas: 3.5% (4.3%– 3.2%)
- PacifiCorp: 2.5% (3.6% - 1.7%)
- Bear Valley: 2.5% (1.7% - 3.6%)
- Liberty: 2.0% (1.9% - 2.1%)
- West Coast Gas: 3.0% (2.6% - 3.5%)
- Alpine Gas: 0.5% (0.0% - 0.2%)

* Numbers in parentheses are 2017 annual disconnection rates established as baselines for each large IOU in D.18-12-013.

** Numbers in parentheses are the 3-year average rates of annual disconnections from 2017-2019 used to establish caps for each SMJU per D.22-08-037.

- These caps were established to limit the population of customer disconnections annually.
- The IOUs report that even if the caps were lifted, they would be constrained by operational capabilities in the number of disconnections they can conduct.
- Arrearages have contributed to larger uncollectibles in recent years. However, the four major IOUs posted somewhat variable 2025 impacts to their Residential Uncollectible Balancing Accounts.
- Implementation of the base service charges will help distribute RUBA balance recovery more equitably.

January 2019-June 2026: Total Residential Arrearages Statewide



Draft Final PD of Disconnections Proceeding (R.18-07-005)

Summary:

- Workshop was held on March 11 and 2 PPHs were held on August 6
- A draft final Proposed Decision will be issued in the near future resolving the following issues and closing the proceeding:
 1. Whether and to what extent to lift disconnections rate caps.
 2. Whether to allow existing pilot programs to sunset over the next year and/or whether to leave one or more open for further evaluation of data.
 3. Remaining issues that could be explored in a new procedural home, such as a potential successor proceeding – e.g. ongoing evaluation of arrearages and impacts of gradually lifting caps, carrying forward modified AMP program, integrating learnings from PIPP and CBO pilots.

Disconnections Rate Cap

- **In comments, the joint IOUs oppose the disconnection rate caps:**
 - PG&E, SDG&E, and SoCalGas support lifting the disconnection caps for non-CARE/FERA customers
 - PG&E and SDG&E propose to gradually increase the disconnections cap for CARE/FERA customers over time
- **Cal Advocates, Greenlining, TURN, CforAT, NCLC, and the Utility Consumers' Action Network (UCAN):** The Commission should maintain or lower the caps.
 - Advocates for disconnections rate caps argue that protections are necessary to address an acute and growing affordability crisis that will likely drive an increase in the number of customers in arrears and at risk of losing access to utility service.
 - Cal Advocates and Greenlining request that the Commission evaluate caps' impacts on low-income and minority communities
 - Cal Advocates, the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), the Joint Consumers, and UCAN oppose any changes to disconnection caps in low-population zip codes.

Whether the Pilot Programs Should Continue Beyond their Planned Sunset Dates

AMP Sunset Date

- Cal Advocates, PG&E, SCE, the Sempra Utilities, and UCAN support extending AMP contingent on certain modifications
- CBD and the Joint Consumers recommend making AMP permanent and counsel against adopting the suggestions from parties and the evaluation report that would impose additional requirements on participants or set restrictions on eligibility

Post Enrollment Verification

- Cal Advocates, PG&E, SCE, SoCalGas, and UCAN support a requirement for AMP applicants to complete a post-enrollment verification demonstrating they are eligible for the program, and to remove customers that are ineligible or do not demonstrate eligibility.

Automatic Disconnection of Removed Customers

- Cal Advocates, CalCCA, the Joint Consumers, PG&E, SCE, SDG&E and SoCalGas all oppose the AMP Evaluation's recommendation to automatically disconnect customers that are removed from AMP or to set partial payment requirements.

Upcoming Developments

- The sunset date for AMP was modified to February 1, 2027 to align with PIPP's current sunset date
- The CBO Pilot evaluator held a webinar on August 19 to present draft evaluation findings.
 - Recording anticipated to be shared with attendees and the service list for R.18-07-005
- The findings are available for review at: <https://pda.energydataweb.com/#!/documents/5369/view>.
- Comments will be accepted through August 26 at either the CPUC PDA site or emailed to Iris.Cheung@pge.com