

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	16-OIR-06
<b>Project Title:</b>	Senate Bill 350 Disadvantaged Community Advisory Group
<b>TN #:</b>	257778
<b>Document Title:</b>	Item 07 - Sempra Utilities' ESJ Pilot Study Plan 20240719
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	Dorothy Murimi
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	7/17/2024 12:29:03 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	7/17/2024



# **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE PILOT STUDY PLAN**



# Agenda

TOPIC	PRESENTER	TIME
Introduction	Jamie York	5 min
Procedural Background and Feedback Process	Scott Pearson	5 min
ESJ Pilot Study Plan Overview	Jill Tracy and Scott Pearson	20 min
Discussion and Feedback	All	20 min
Next Steps	Jamie York	1 min

## SoCalGas and SDG&E Seek Feedback

- » Providing background on the development of the Companies' Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) Pilot Study Plan that will partially inform the 2025 Risk Assessment Mitigation Phase (RAMP) filing, and
- » Receiving input from Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Communities' (DVC)\* representatives to further inform and improve the ESJ Pilot Study Plan
- » DVCs' needs will inform the Companies' ESJ Pilot Study Plan design and execution

### Goal for today's session:

SoCalGas and SDG&E will seek comments on the following

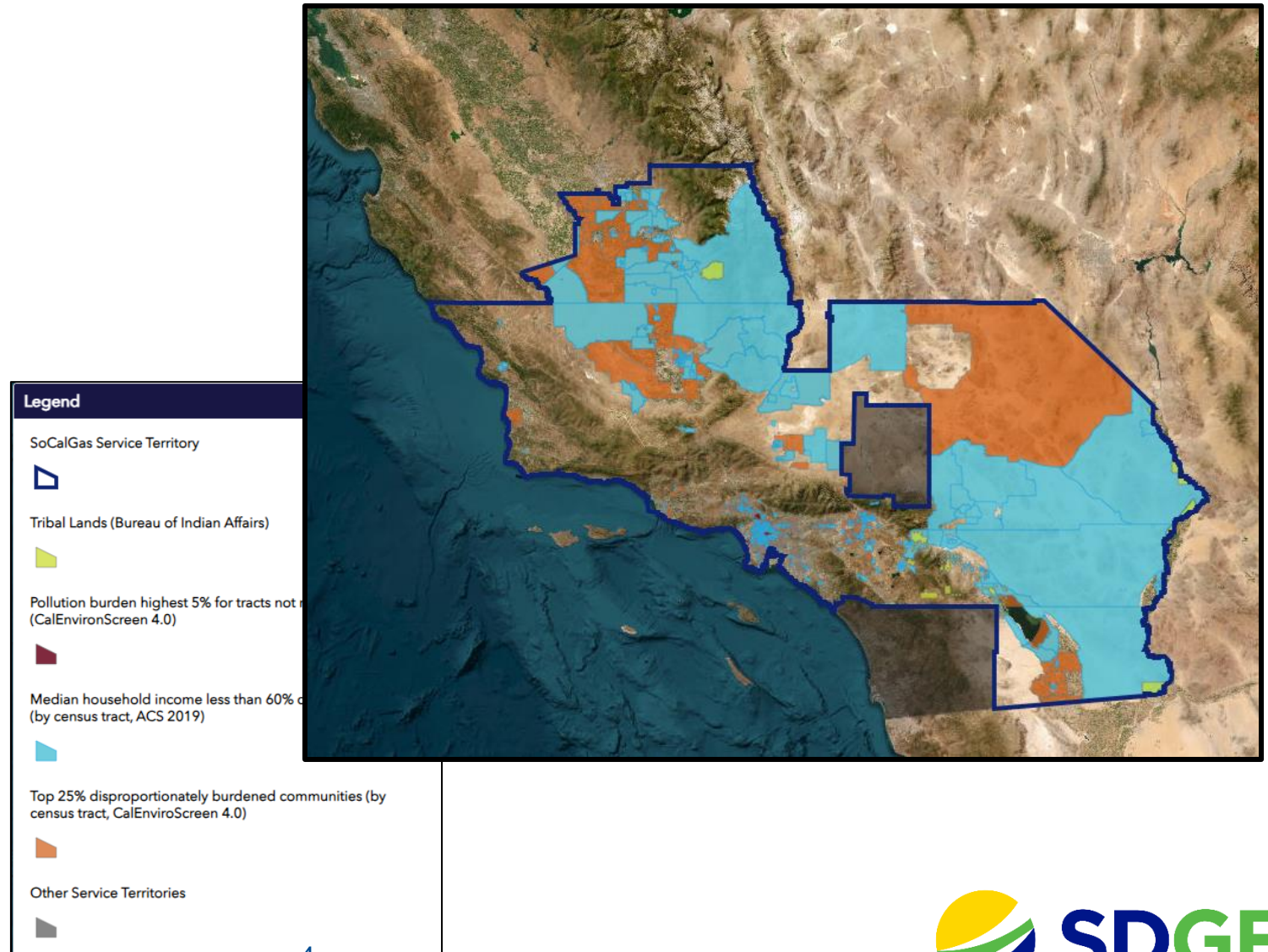
- Understand the key safety, reliability, and climate resiliency issues currently facing DVCs
- Identify areas of study to yield important benefits to DVCs
- Improve and maintain on-going two-way communication with DVCs regarding safety, reliability, and climate resiliency priorities

\* Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Communities (DVC) are defined by CalEnviroScreen 4.0



# About SoCalGas - a Sempra California Regulated Utility

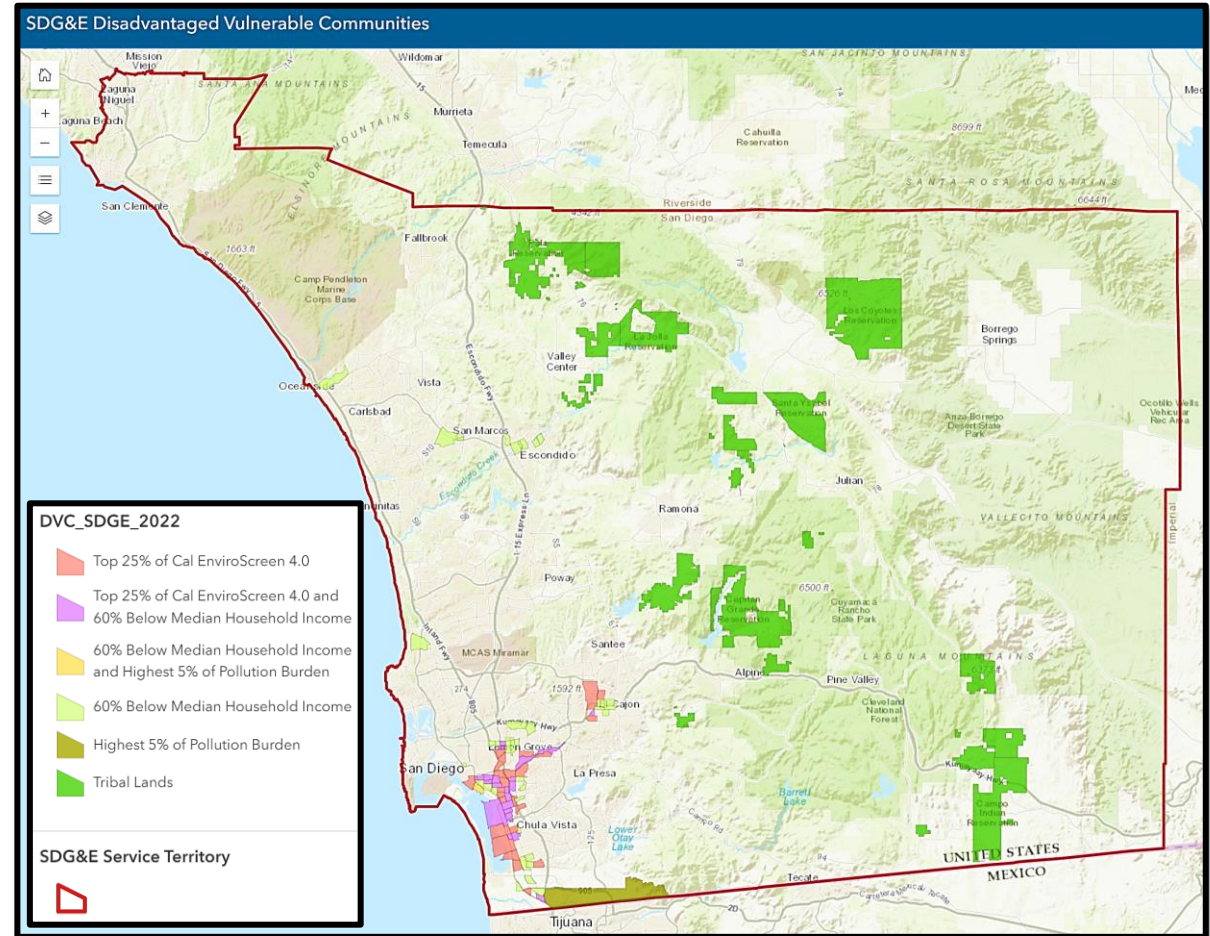
- » **SoCalGas is a California natural gas utility**
  - It is the nation's largest natural gas distribution utility delivering energy to 21.1 million consumers in more than 500 Southern California communities
  - SoCalGas is planning for a future based in equity and empowering our communities to meaningfully impact how we plan and adapt to the impacts of climate change



# About SDG&E - a Sempra California Regulated Utility

## » SDG&E is a California electric and natural gas utility

- Delivers energy to 3.7 million consumers in San Diego and Southern Orange Counties.
- The DVC Communities generally include Tribal communities to the east, pollution burden population along the Interstate-8 transportation corridor, and lower-income communities in the southwest coast



# ESJ Pilot Study

## Background

- » The ESJ Pilot Study, as ordered in Decision 22-12-027/Ordering Paragraph 5, specifies 7 action items that integrate the use of the CalEnviroScreen to consider the impacts of safety mitigation activities on Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Communities (DVC) in consultation with community groups (CBOWG and DACAG) and feedback from a public workshop.
  - The [CalEnviroScreen tool](#) is a mapping tool which helps identify California communities that are most affected by many sources of pollution

## Objectives

- » The ESJ Pilot Study seeks to incorporate social justice into the risk assessment and mitigation process by exploring equity issues and the needs of the most vulnerable, including actions targeting improved air quality and climate resilience

## Potential Community Benefits

- Increased transparency regarding risk mitigation activities
- Emphasis on investments in clean energy resources that improve safety and reliability
- Awareness of mitigations that improve local air quality and climate resilience
- Targeted and comprehensive communications on climate adaptation activities from the utility

# The ESJ Pilot Study's Seven Action Items

SoCalGas and SDG&E will each tailor their approaches and assessments of select risks and mitigations to best represent each required Action Item

Action Items 1, 4 and 6 all pertain to risk events and mitigations, and their potential impact on DVCs

**1.** Identify impacts to DVCs from risk event consequences and mitigations

**4.** Evaluate how the selection of proposed mitigations may impact climate resilience in DVCs

**6.** Estimate the extent to which risk mitigation investments impact and benefit DVCs in relation to non-DVCs

**2.** Consider investments in clean energy resources

**3.** Consider mitigations that improve local air quality and public health

**5.** Evaluate if estimated impacts of wildfire smoke disproportionately impacts DVCs

**7.** Enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for DVCs



# Examples of Risks and Mitigations

## SDG&E

- » Example 1: Wildfires Involving SDG&E Equipment
  - Risk definition: Wildfire initiated by SDG&E equipment or third-party pole attachments
  - Mitigation: Strategic undergrounding of power lines
  - Mitigation: Harden overhead power lines to withstand wind and other threats
- » Example 2: Electric System Integrity
  - Risk definition: Electric system asset failure caused by degradation, age, operational limits, etc
  - Mitigation: Wireless fault indicator for sensing capabilities
  - Mitigation: Underground fault detection to identify damage in conduits, manholes, etc

## SoCalGas

- » Example 1: Excavation Damage
  - Risk definition: Digging into underground gas lines
  - Mitigation: Locate and Mark to identify and display underground pipes at street level
  - Mitigation: Public awareness campaigns such as media advertising of 811 DigAlert announcements
- » Example 2: Medium-Pressure Gas System
  - Risk definition: Pipeline or other equipment failure resulting in a gas leak
  - Mitigation: Pipeline replacement to remove older pipes
  - Mitigation: Residential Meter Protection Program to install meter guards

# Your Opinion Matters



Next, we will review proposals to address the Seven Action Items that relate to mitigations to enhance safety, reliability, and climate resiliency. We would like your feedback on each element of the Plan so that this Plan measures the priorities in the DVCs. Please consider the following:

- » *What actions stand out as being noteworthy?*
- » *Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?*
- » *What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?*
- » *Other observations or thoughts?*

Please send your feedback to  
[ESJPilotStudy@semprautilities.com](mailto:ESJPilotStudy@semprautilities.com)

# Action Item #1: Risk Impacts to DVCs

*Identify impacts to DVCs from risk event consequences and mitigations*

## Risk Consequences and Mitigations

### SoCalGas

- Excavation Damage
- Medium-Pressure Gas System

### SDG&E

- Wildfires Involving SDG&E Equipment
- Electric Infrastructure Integrity

## Approach

- Identify risk drivers
- Review consequences & mitigations
- Overlay with DVC as compared to non-DVCs

## Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?

# Action Item #2: Clean Energy

*Consider investments in clean energy resources*

## Clean Energy Investments

### SoCalGas

- Hydrogen Microgrids
- Hydrogen Refueling Stations

### SDG&E

- Microgrid projects
- Energy storage projects

## Approaches

- Identify clean energy resource investments
- Review impact on safety and reliability risk
- Overlay with DVC communities

## Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?

# Action Item #3: Air Quality & Public Health

*Consider mitigations that improve local air quality and public health*

## Mitigations

### SoCalGas

- Fleet Alternative Fuels Conversion
- Efficient Driving Practices Analysis

### SDG&E

- Right Tree, Right Place
- Fleet / Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV)

## Approaches

- Identify risk mitigation activities
- Analyze measurable impact on air quality
- Overlay with DVC and non-DVC

## Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?

# Action Item #4: Climate Resilience

*Evaluate how the selection of proposed mitigations may impact climate resilience in DVCs*

## Risk Mitigations for:

### SoCalGas

- Excavation Damage
- Medium-Pressure Gas System

### SDG&E

- Wildfires Involving SDG&E Equipment
- Electric Infrastructure Integrity

## Approaches

- Identify risk mitigation activities
- Analyze climate resiliency impact
- Overlay with DVC as compared to non-DVC

## Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?

# Action Item #5: Wildfire Smoke

*Evaluate if estimated impacts of wildfire smoke disproportionately impacts DVCs*

## Scope SDG&E

Perform a search of current and reliable wildfire smoke studies, reports, and other related information, specifically as it relates to any impacts between DVCs and non-DVC communities in SDG&E service territory

## Approach

Search for and report on secondary source data with respect to any estimated impact of wildfire smoke on non-DVCs compared to DVCs from utility-caused wildfires

### Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?

# Action Item #6: Risk Mitigations DVCs and Non-DVCs

*Estimate the extent to which risk mitigation investments impact and benefit DVCs in relation to non-DVCs*

## Risk Mitigation Investments for:

### SoCalGas

- Excavation Damage
- Medium-Pressure Gas System

### SDG&E

- Wildfires Involving SDG&E Equipment
- Electric Infrastructure Integrity

## Approaches

- Identify risk mitigation activities
- Analyze risk benefits and impacts
- Overlay with DVC as compared to non-DVC

## Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?



# Action Item #7: Outreach & Public Participation

*Enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for DVCs*

## Scope

### SoCalGas and SDG&E

Explore the potential to utilize the CEP to enhance outreach, include safety, reliability and climate adaptation in ongoing conversations, and to better understand and address the needs of the DVCs

## Approach

- Review existing outreach activities
- Utilize Community Engagement Plans (CEP)
- Partner with community leaders and DVCs

## Discussion:

- What actions stand out as being noteworthy?
- Are there higher priority safety, reliability, or climate resiliency issues that we should consider?
- What risk mitigations or activities do you feel will be particularly valuable?
- Other observations or thoughts?

# Next Steps

- Public Webinar to solicit ESJ Pilot Study Plan feedback: August 12, 2024
- ESJ Pilot Study Planning and Execution: April 2024 – April 2025
- Submit ESJ Pilot Study Report - May 15, 2025
  - Includes summary of how feedback was incorporated from the DACAG
- Climate Adaptation Vulnerability Assessment (CAVA) Report filed – May 15, 2025
- ESJ Whitepaper – July 15, 2025
  - Identifies areas for further exploration and challenges incorporating ESJ into the RDF
  - Discusses how to better target Mitigations that improve local air quality
  - Explores how to better target Mitigations that improve climate resilience in DVCs

Feel free to contact us with more feedback at  
[ESJPilotStudy@semprautilities.com](mailto:ESJPilotStudy@semprautilities.com)

# FEEDBACK



# APPENDIX



# CPUC Decision Ordered ESJ Pilot Study

*In December 2022, the CPUC adopted Decision 22-12-027 ordering, among other things, that the utilities plan and execute an Environmental and Social Justice (ESJ) Pilot Study to consider impacts on ESJ communities and begin the process of ensuring the utilities' risk assessments and risk mitigations address issues of equity and the needs of the most vulnerable*

- » SoCalGas and SDG&E shall each conduct an ESJ Pilot Study that includes consideration of DVCs and shall file the results of their Pilot studies as described with their next Risk Assessment and Mitigation Phase (RAMP) filing addressing seven Action Items
- » SoCalGas and SDG&E shall provide timely information to Commission Energy Division Staff, who will consult with the DACAG, prior to finalizing their ESJ Pilot Study plans
- » SoCalGas and SDG&E shall each file a White Paper summarizing their ESJ Pilot Study by no later than two months after the next RAMP filing deadline

## 7 Action Items

1. Identify impacts to DVCs from risk event consequences and mitigations
2. Consider investments in clean energy resources
3. Consider mitigations that improve local air quality and public health
4. Evaluate how the selection of proposed mitigations may impact climate resilience in DVCs
5. Evaluate if estimated impacts of wildfire smoke disproportionately impacts DVCs
6. Estimate the extent to which risk mitigation investments impact and benefit DVCs in relation to non-DVCs
7. Enhance outreach and public participation opportunities for DVCs