

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	21-IEPR-04
Project Title:	Energy Reliability
TN #:	240856
Document Title:	Transcript of 7-9-21 for Joint Agency Workshop on Summer 2021 Electric and Natural Gas Reliability - Session 3
Description:	JOINT AGENCY WORKSHOP ON SUMMER 2021 ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS RELIABILITY, Session 3 - Gas Reliability and Polar Vortex Impacts & Implications
Filer:	Raquel Kravitz
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	12/6/2021 6:56:33 PM
Docketed Date:	12/7/2021

JOINT AGENCY WORKSHOP
BEFORE THE
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of:)
)
2021 INTEGRATED ENERGY POLICY) Docket No. 21-IEPR-04
REPORT (2021 IEPR))
_____) RE: Reliability

JOINT AGENCY WORKSHOP ON
SUMMER 2021 ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS RELIABILITY

REMOTE ACCESS WITH ZOOM

FRIDAY, JULY 09, 2021

10: 00 A. M.

Session 3: Gas Reliability and Polar Vortex Impacts &
Implications

Reported by:
Marlee Nelson

APPEARANCES

Workshop Leadership

Andrew McAllister, CEC Commissioner
Siva Gunda, CEC Commissioner
Karen Douglas, CEC Commissioner
Patty Monahan, CEC Commissioner
Martha Guzman Aceves, CPUC Commissioner
Clifford Rechtschaffen, CPUC Commissioner
Elliot Mainzer, California ISO, President and CEO
Darcie Houck, CPUC Commissioner

Staff Present:

Heather Raitt, Program Manager
RoseMary Avalos, Public Advisor
Jennifer Campagna

Presenters:

Melissa Jones, CEC
Brian Walker, SoCalGas
Kristina Abadjian, CPUC
Joseph Long, Aspen
Anthony Dixon, CEC
Jean Spencer, CPUC

Public Comment

Norman Peterson, Southern California Generation Coalition
Todd Peterson, Pacific Gas and Electric

I N D E X

	Page
Items	
1. Introduction: Heather Raitt, CEC Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found.	Error! 5
2. Opening Comments:	
a. Commissioner McAllister	6
b. Commissioner Gunda	8
c. Commissioner Guzman Aceves	9
3. Presentations: Gas System Reliability and Its Relationship to Electric System Reliability	13
a. Melissa Jones, CEC, Overview on Gas Reliability and Interdependencies Between Gas and Electricity Systems	13
b. Brian Walker, SoCalGas, Summer Reliability	26
c. Kristina Abadjian, CPUC Summer Assessment	34
d. Joseph Long, Aspen, SoCalGas Hot Summer Demand	40
4. Discussion	49
5. Zoom Q&A, moderated by Jennifer Campagna, CEC	61
6. Public Comment	62
7. Presentations: February 2021 Polar Vortex Event: Impacts and Implications for California.	65
a. Anthony Dixon, CEC, Winter Storm Uri-Impacts.	65
b. Jean Spencer, CPUC, Impact of the Polar Vortex on California.	73
8. Discussion.	83

9.	Public Comments.	96
11.	Closing Remarks.	98
12.	Adjournment.	99

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JULY 9, 2021

10:00 a.m.

3 MS. RAITT: All right. Well, good morning,
4 everybody. Welcome to today's 2021 IEPR Joint Agency
5 Workshop on Summer 2021 Electric and Natural Gas
6 Reliability. I'm Heather Raitt, the program manager for
7 the Integrated Energy Policy Report, or IEPR for short.
8 Today's workshop is being jointly held by the Energy
9 Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission and
10 the California Independent System Operator. This is the
11 second day of our two-day workshop.

12 This workshop is being held remotely consistent
13 with Executive Order N-08-21 to continue to help California
14 respond to, recover from, and mitigate the impacts of the
15 Covid-19 pandemic. The public can participate in the
16 workshop consistent with the direction and the executive
17 order.

18 To follow along today, presentations that are
19 being presented by panelists have been docketed and posted
20 on our website. All IEPR workshops are recorded and both a
21 recording and written transcript will be linked to the
22 CEC's website following the workshop. Attendees have the
23 opportunity to participate today in a few different ways.
24 For those joining through the online Zoom platform, the Q&A
25 feature is available for you to submit questions. You may

5

1 also upvote questions submitted by someone else. To do
2 that click the thumbs up icon. Questions with the most
3 upvotes will move to the top of the queue.

4 We'll reserve a few minutes near the end of the
5 session to take questions, but likely will not have time to
6 address all of the questions submitted. Alternatively,
7 attendees may make comments during the public comment
8 period at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions.
9 Please note that we will not be responding to questions
10 during the public comment period. Written comments are
11 also welcome and instructions for submitting them are in
12 the workshop Notice which is available on our website.
13 Written comments are due on July 23rd. And with that, I'll
14 turn it over to Commissioner Andrew McAllister to begin
15 opening remarks. Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Thank you very
17 much, Heather. I'll be very brief, but welcome, everyone.
18 I really appreciate everyone's attendance to the second day
19 of workshops on Reliability within the Reliability track of
20 this year's Integrated Energy Policy Report. Again this
21 year -- this day, we have a full dais and really appreciate
22 our colleagues from the California Public Utilities
23 Commission, as well as the Cal ISO. And I just wanted to
24 highlight that we had a great day of workshops yesterday
25 around Electric Reliability, really highlighting the key

6

1 issues at the moment. Certainly climate impacts hover over
2 everything as just a major, major factor in our planning
3 going forward, hydro resources and other elements of what
4 we have to do for near and long term planning going forward
5 on the electric side.

6 Today, we're going to switch to the natural gas
7 and highlight a bunch of key issues there. Certainly the
8 gas reliability and again, climate impacts, the polar
9 vortex, and then around issues around Aliso Canyon and our
10 gas planning around that. So, you know, the electric and
11 gas sectors are so intimately linked, sort of twins really,
12 inextricably linked as we go forward in our planning, ever
13 more so. And so, really key to have a situational
14 awareness across both elements and understand the bridges
15 between the two and how we can plan intentionally around
16 their coevolution. So today we're looking forward to
17 getting into these issues.

18 I want to thank my colleague, Siva, Commissioner
19 Siva Gunda, who is the lead on reliability. And again, all
20 of the staff here, Heather and her team on the IEPR team
21 here at the Commission and the Assessment Division team,
22 who has really driven this series of workshops under the
23 leadership of Commissioner Gunda. And forthwith, I will
24 pass it off to you, Commissioner Gunda, for some opening
25 comments and so we can get started. So thank you very

7

1 much.

2 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner
3 McAllister. Thanks for setting the stage for today.
4 Again, I just want to also recognize everybody that's here,
5 and all of the stakeholders, public participants, the
6 staff, but also the leadership from both CEC, CPUC, as well
7 as ISO. So thank you, everybody, for being here. As
8 Commissioner McAllister mentioned, I think yesterday was a
9 pretty sobering day for a number of us. I think it's just
10 kind of a continued recognition and realization of the
11 impact of climate change. We talked about the hydro
12 conditions, the uncertainty of hydro conditions moving
13 forward and what that means for our energy system planning.
14 We talked about, at a high level, what it means from an
15 import standpoint. You know, how does the West, as it
16 continues to decarbonize, how that puts impact on one of
17 the resources we all rely on, which is imports for our
18 electricity system planning.

19 On the top of that, we also recognize some of the
20 ongoing collaboration between CPUC and CEC, particularly
21 around DR, Demand Response, the future of demand response
22 planning, and also the planning around the resources that
23 we need through 2026. So, again, incredibly thankful for
24 staff and the leadership across the agencies for setting
25 the tone of collaboration. And I mentioned yesterday, I

1 think we all have very distinct functions. We have our own
2 streamlines of topics that we cover. But as we all try to
3 endeavor to succeed California and make sure that
4 reliability and safety is at the center for all
5 Californians, we cannot do that, any one agency, and that
6 is why you're seeing this collective work. And, you know,
7 that our collective success is the success of the State.
8 So I'm really thankful, again, to all the members. I want
9 to provide a special recognition to Commissioner Martha
10 Guzman Aceves, who is here from CPUC. Much of today's
11 workshop will be dealing with, as Commissioner McAllister
12 pointed out, the natural gas reliability, but also the
13 interconnectedness between the natural gas and the electric
14 system. She really is kind of taking a leadership role in
15 planning this afternoon sessions, particularly. But
16 without further ado, I want to really pass the baton to
17 Commissioner Guzman Aceves to set the stage for today and
18 then kind of open it up for remarks from other
19 Commissioners CEC and CPUC.

20 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Thank you,
21 Commissioner Gunda. I want to thank everyone also for all
22 of their collaboration and thank all of our staff as well.
23 I think you are so correct that yesterday obviously
24 highlighted, in a very condensed way, many of the issues we
25 know are out there, particularly with the drought. And I

1 think today is another dynamic, which is not only do we
2 have to make sure we have enough reliability for today and
3 moving into tomorrow with our new climate, but also the
4 interplay and the dynamic of our dependency on natural gas
5 and how our transition off of that is also going to make it
6 an extra challenge. And as you've mentioned earlier, all
7 of you have mentioned earlier, the importance of making
8 sure that this transition is not regressive and that we
9 have an equitable transition. And it's most keen when
10 we're talking about how we do this with natural gas,
11 including on our generation dependency.

12 So I want to thank you for this. I certainly
13 hope it's not -- it's not even the beginning, but we're
14 kind of in the middle of this discussion, and I know we'll
15 have much more iteration. I really look forward to hearing
16 from our panelists and from the public on how we continue
17 to look at all the dynamics and aspects that we're not yet
18 capturing so that we can make sure this transition is, as
19 we said, equitable, and safe, and reliable. So with that,
20 I turn back to you.

21 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner. So
22 with that, I don't know if anybody else from the dais would
23 like to make comments. Looking for, Commissioner Houck,
24 looks like you might want to make some comments.

25 COMMISSIONER HOUCK: Just really briefly, I'm

1 sorry I wasn't able to be here yesterday. I was able to
2 listen in on part of yesterday afternoons presentation and
3 agree that we've got a lot of challenges that we've got to
4 look at. And the PUC just recently opened a rulemaking
5 looking at distributed energy resources and I think it's
6 very timely to see that so that we can start looking at how
7 we can overcome the challenges with incorporating
8 distributed energy resources into our reliability toolkit.
9 And hopefully, it won't be this summer, but we're hoping to
10 come up with some answers and I'm looking forward to
11 working with the Energy Commission, the ISO and my
12 Bagley-Keene partner, President Batjer, and hoping that we
13 can help add some new tools to that mix. So I won't be
14 able to be here this afternoon, but I appreciate and thank
15 you for inviting me to be part of the meeting this morning.

16 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner
17 Houck. I would like to, yeah, call on the Commission
18 Rechtschaffen.

19 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Yeah. Thank you,
20 Commissioner Gunda. I don't -- I joined a couple minutes
21 late. I don't know if it was mentioned that President
22 Batjer may not -- probably won't be able to join us today.
23 She got pulled into some emergency meetings. I just want
24 to -- because she is closely following. I'm hoping at the
25 end of the second day, I could become an -- I could become

11

1 an honorary California Energy Commissioner. If I -- I
2 think it's like for those 10 card things at the yogurt
3 shops, if I come to 10 IEPR meetings in six months, maybe I
4 can become an honorary CEC member. Do you think that's
5 possible, Commissioner Gunda?

6 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: It's definitely above my pay
7 grade, but I'm pretty sure Commissioner McAllister and
8 Commissioner Douglas can make it happen.

9 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Okay.

10 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Look, I think it's more
11 like a buy ten, get one free.

12 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Okay. Good. I can
13 help at the next IEPR for free. But anyway, I'm very
14 much --

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Yeah. Exactly.

16 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: -- discussion for
17 all the reasons that my colleagues have articulated so far.

18 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: So Commissioner
19 Rechtschaffen, just to kind of react to what you just said,
20 I think, you know, the kind of the gentle, kind of fun
21 spirit tribute to what you just said, but also, I just want
22 to take a moment to recognize like your continued presence
23 at these workshops over this year, in both the Building
24 Decarbonization, the Resource Planning, and now the
25 Reliability. Just incredibly appreciate your leadership on

12

1 these issues and your continued participation.

2 So with that, I'll pass it back to Heather unless
3 President Mainzer wanted to say anything. I don't -- I
4 don't see him.

5 PRESIDENT MAINZER: I'm just fine. Thank you,
6 Commissioner. Looking forward to the proceedings and
7 thanks again for hosting an excellent session. Much
8 appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Mainzer. With that, back to
9 Heather.

10 MS. RAITT: Great. Thank you. So we'll start
11 off this morning with a series of four presentations on Gas
12 System Reliability and its Relationship to Electric System
13 Reliability. And the first presenter is Melissa Jones.
14 She's a senior policy specialist with the Energy
15 Commission's Energy Assessment Division, and so she'll be
16 giving an overview on Gas Reliability and the
17 Interdependence with the Gas and Electric Systems. So go
18 ahead, Melissa. Thank you.

19 MS. JONES: Great. Good morning, everyone. I am
20 Melissa Jones, and I'm happy to be here today. There are
21 two areas of focus that have been identified in the IEPR
22 Scoping order. Two areas including Situational Awareness
23 of the Emerging Topics in Natural Gas System Planning and
24 then Refining and Developing Critical Analytical Products
25 necessary to do that gas planning.

1 Today's workshop is going to be focused on Gas
2 Electric Reliability. We'll be having presentations on
3 December 2021, Gas Reliability Assessments for Southern
4 California. We'll then have a review of the event that
5 occurred during the winter 2021 called the Vortex Storm Uri
6 event, and this afternoon we will be talking about
7 Alternatives to Aliso Canyon that Ensure Reliability. I
8 also wanted to mention we've had one workshop in May on
9 Infrastructure. We anticipate having a number of other
10 workshops related to gas, including on the Gas Demand
11 Forecast and Rate Forecast; Long-term Demand scenarios.
12 We'll be having a session on Renewable Gas and also one on
13 Hydrogen.

14 The Warren-Alquist Act does ask us to analyze all
15 aspects of natural gas, including forecasting, assessment,
16 supply, demand, price, infrastructure, market, and all
17 related topics. This analytical foundation is what we use
18 for policy development in our IEPR.

19 One of the reason why I'm doing this overview
20 this morning is that gas issues haven't been a major focus
21 of IEPRs in the last few years. Electricity issues are
22 typically front and center. We want to start familiarizing
23 our IEPR stakeholders with the gas system, with gas issues,
24 and gas analytics. Today, the focus will be on the nexus
25 between gas and electric system reliability. Next slide,

14

1 please.

2 So as Commissioner McAllister stated in the
3 opening remarks, the gas and electric systems are very
4 interdependent. For several decades natural gas has been
5 the workhorse of the gas system, or of the electricity
6 system, excuse me. And it's been a dominant resource on
7 the electricity system. But we're seeing rapid growth in
8 solar and wind, which is now shifting the role of that
9 electric generation is playing. And it's moving towards
10 integrating renewables on the grid. Am I on the right
11 slide?

12 MS. RAITT: Actually, Melissa, you're
13 on -- Raquel, can you go back one slide, please? Thank
14 you. Sorry Melissa, go ahead.

15 MS. JONES: Okay. So we have had a large
16 increase in renewables and so electric generation is moving
17 to integrate those. Gas system operations are shifting to
18 accommodate the afternoon/evening ramps on the system and
19 the net peak as the sun sets, but we all have to remember
20 that electric generators get curtailed when there's
21 insufficient gas to meet all of demand in both cold weather
22 conditions and under constrained system conditions in
23 Southern California and other areas. And we're beginning
24 to see more demand in the summer, at least peaks on the
25 system in this new role of integrating renewables. These

15

1 two systems are deeply linked. Events and conditions in
2 one have significant impact on the other, and with the
3 large increases that we're anticipating in renewables over
4 the coming decade, we think the electric generation demand
5 is going to be the driver of gas system needs and
6 operations as we move forward. Next slide, please.

7 Just a little bit of background on the role of
8 the gas fleet; project a gas-fired power plant as the new
9 workhorse of the electricity system. In 2001, gas
10 accounted for about 56% of in-state generation. It
11 declined to about 52% in 2010. And then in 2020, it was
12 48%. It's still a very significant part of the generation.
13 At the same time, renewable resources have increased
14 dramatically from about 14% in 2001 to 31% in 2020. The
15 other thing that natural gas generation has provided for
16 the system is filling the swings in hydro. When there's
17 drought, we tend to burn more natural gas, and to show you
18 the extent of this swing, between 2001 and 2020 natural gas
19 generation went, it sprung, from 86,000 megawatt hours to
20 121,000 megawatts hours. That's a very big shift in
21 generation. But we are starting to see renewables that are
22 starting to fill in for that swing in loss of hydro,
23 starting around 2015, but again, gas is going to continue
24 to play an important role of the electricity system, at
25 least in the near-term and to some extent into the

1 midterms. Next slide, please.

2 So Southern California has been experiencing
3 reliability challenges through the last decade. These sort
4 of emerged in 2010 as we identified concerns with
5 implementing the OTC policy, the Once-Through Cooling
6 policy that affected about 20,000 megawatts of electricity
7 generation in the State. These are power plants that are
8 located along the coast. So we were planning for their
9 retirement, and then in 2012, there was the unplanned
10 retirement of San Onofre, which just exacerbated our
11 challenges. And because of its role in maintaining grid
12 stability in Southern California, it was a major concern
13 for us. And the three agencies, along with the gas and
14 electric utilities, began to coordinate and really try
15 to -- try to avoid having to curtail or end up with
16 blackouts on the electricity system. And then in 2015, we
17 had the Aliso Canyon leak. This reduced the amount of
18 storage and presented a new set of challenges for both the
19 gas and electricity system. And then recently in 2018, we
20 had several pipeline outages on SoCalGas system and that
21 just made their problem worse. We did have some gas
22 curtailment, and of course we had very significant price
23 spikes. Next slide, please.

24 Aliso Canyon, well so here's prices. These are
25 historic prices, and you can see from the black, two black

1 lines that in -- that starting in 2015, we began to see
2 increasing gas price volatility, the risk of curtailment
3 increased, and there was reduced instability of
4 infrastructure. But the limitations on the use on Aliso
5 began and then as I said, the two pipeline outages, lines
6 235 and line 4,000 in SoCalGas were out. You can see how
7 price spikes occurred following that. The most recent
8 price spikes that we've seen were in February 2010, or
9 2020. Excuse me. And these were related to the Storm Uri
10 event, which we'll talk about a little bit later this
11 morning. Next slide, please.

12 So just quick review on Gas demand in California.
13 There are two types of gas customers in the -- in the gas
14 world. There are core customers, which are generally
15 residential and small commercial. There are also non-core
16 customers, which are the remainder, the industrial
17 customers, large commercial electric generators. The two
18 types of customers matter when it comes to reliability
19 standards because the standards are different for these two
20 classes. So residential and small commercial demand, the
21 peaking demand is generally driven by space and water
22 heating. In the commercial sector we have rest -- we have
23 a whole variety of end-uses and types of businesses,
24 restaurants, educational facilities, commercial laundry,
25 health care, food processing. In the industrial sector we

1 see gas used as fuel and for process heat. And then, as I
2 just explained, electric generation, there is a reliant
3 there for system reliability and renewable integration.

4 We also are increasing the amount of gas that
5 we're using in CNG and RNG fueling stations. And then, of
6 course, transportation fuels. We have the oil refineries
7 for our big use of natural gas. And all of this use-gas is
8 delivered to customers via an extensive infrastructure
9 system. Next slide, please.

10 Just to give you a sense of how much demand is
11 attributed to each of the sectors, this shows gas demand
12 trends over the last 22 years. So we have actually been
13 seeing declining gas demand starting in about 2012, 2013.
14 I should note that that annual variations occur depending
15 on weather. PG&E and SoCalGas are forecasting a decline of
16 about 1% per year out to 2034. This is based on their
17 older forecasts. They recently filed new forecasts, but
18 we're still in the process of reviewing those. We will be
19 updating those as we move through the IEPR process. As I
20 mentioned, weather is a big driver for residential and
21 commercial, but it's also a big driver for electric
22 generation.

23 To give you a sense of the magnitude, residential
24 consumption's about 23% of gas demand while about 75% is
25 made up of industrial or commercial and electric

1 generation. And as I mentioned earlier, renewable
2 integration is likely to increase gas demand in the near-
3 term. It will probably be driving increased spikes on the
4 system or increase ramps on the system, which operators
5 will need to figure out a way to begin to handle. It's a
6 different way of operating the system. So next slide,
7 please.

8 Just for a quick review on gas reliability
9 standards. So the PUC sets gas reliability standards that
10 address the physical capabilities of the gas utility
11 system. These standards assume a combination of both gas
12 flowing through the intrastate pipeline and withdrawal from
13 storage fields to balance supply and demand. And unlike
14 electricity, which is transmitted almost instantaneously,
15 gas flows through the system at about 25 or 30 miles per
16 hour. And the way that gas is delivered under tariffs is
17 on what they call a ratable or ratable basis, which means
18 there's a constant flow on supply that's spread evenly over
19 the 24-hour period.

20 But what we know is that electric generators with
21 frequent starts and stops and with these large ramps,
22 they're taking larger amounts of gas over shorter periods
23 of time on the system. Gas utilities met core customer
24 demands on a very cold winter day, again, driven by space
25 and water heating. The gas utilities meet a lower winter

1 peak demand for non-core customers. These customers are
2 willing to accept a risk of occasional curtailment in
3 exchange for a lower rate. And storage has been a key
4 element of the system in providing reliability and also
5 minimizing the risk for curtailment and severe price
6 spikes. Next slide, please.

7 Quick review on intrastate gas infrastructure.
8 The -- so we have the storage fields that are operated by
9 three sets of operators. We have two investor owned
10 utilities, and we also have independent storage operators.
11 In the -- on the map, the red circles indicate storage and
12 PG&E has the Los Medanos, and McDonald Island, and Pleasant
13 Creek storage fields. SoCalGas has Aliso Canyon. Also
14 Honor Rancho, La Goleta, and Playa Del Rey. In terms of
15 independent storage operators, they operate Wild Goose,
16 Lodi Gas, Gill Ranch, and Central Valley Storage. You'll
17 also see an extensive set of black lines, which are the
18 interstate pipelines that connect at the borders of the
19 State to bring it interstate flows of supplies and deliver
20 them to those load centers. Next slide, please.

21 Just a reminder that we are a part of a large web
22 of infrastructure in the Western United States who get most
23 of our gas from over a thousand miles away. We are at the
24 end of those pipelines. We get about 90 percent of our
25 supply out of interstate transmission pipelines. It comes

21

1 from Alberta, Canada, also from Southern Wyoming. We get
2 gas from the San Juan Basins, in Northwest Mexico, from the
3 Permian Basins in West Texas and Southeast New Mexico. And
4 then the Receipt Point for these pipelines at the
5 California borders; up in the north, it's at Malin. In the
6 South it's at Topoc North and South, and then Wheeler Ridge
7 is where Kern River Interstate Pipeline connects to
8 California. PG&E, generally, is more reliant on Canadian
9 gas, while SoCalGas relies primarily on San Juan and Rocky.
10 Next slide, please.

11 So in terms of ensuring gas -- core gas
12 reliability, the gas utilities do purchase gas and provide
13 transportation storage services for the core customers.
14 The winter peak demand for residential and commercial has
15 driven the need for infrastructure, including pipelines,
16 storage, and other infrastructure. And as a result, the
17 allocation of those assets to the rate reflect that greater
18 use. Strict reliability standards are designed to meet
19 core demand under very, very extreme conditions without
20 interruption. For SoCalGas, they use what they call an
21 exchange peak day, which is an event of a with a 1-in-35
22 probability of occurrence. For PG&E, they use what they
23 call an abnormal peak day, which for the core is a 1-in-90
24 probability of occurrence event. Next slide, please.

25 So curtailment of core customers is considered an

1 option of last resort in maintaining system operations.
2 The reason for this is that restoring core gas services can
3 take several days, up to weeks, and it involves a
4 tremendous amount of manpower. Gas mains have to be bought
5 back individually and sequentially. Services to each home
6 or building has to be safely restored. Utility or other
7 people have to go to each home and light the pilots, which
8 means that a person has to be at that household. And there
9 are safety concerns and potential for explosion. Pilot
10 lights can flicker out inconsistently is line pressures
11 drop. And if there is not proper restoration of the
12 system, then there are safety risks there. Next slide,
13 please.

14 So in terms of noncore reliability, the noncore
15 reliability standard is for a cold winter day with a
16 1-in-10 probability of occurrence, and it also factors in
17 dry hydro conditions for electric generation. As I
18 mentioned earlier, when droughts occur, we end up relying
19 more on natural gas. The standards assumed, when were
20 originally established, that noncore customers had
21 alternative fuels such as distillate or diesel fuel.
22 That's no longer the case in the State. There is not this
23 dual fuel capability, largely due to air quality
24 regulation. And so this poses an interesting dilemma for
25 these customers in that they do face curtailment. Noncore,

1 I should just say that the electric generators do take the
2 gas off the system, as I noted before, when they're
3 dispatched by the electric system operators. And this new
4 demand pattern is the key example of the interdependencies
5 that we see between the gas and electric system. Next
6 slide, please.

7 So just this is a histogram that shows the last
8 22 years, see all of the peak days -- all of the peak days
9 during that occurrence, or during that period. And what we
10 see here, memories about temperatures and about weather are
11 particularly untrustworthy. We tend to forget them fairly
12 quickly. But on a cold day, PG&E demand is about 3.6 Bcf.
13 And so that's shown by the orange line. And then the
14 1-in-90 core and the 1-in-10 noncore are shown in the gray
15 line. And what you see on this graph is that there have
16 been 95 days during this period when it exceeded the
17 1-in-10 core noncore demand.

18 And there were 13 days when it was above the
19 1-in-90 core and the 1-in-10 noncore demand. These are
20 things that review their rare events, but they are very
21 disruptive and they're things we have to think about. We
22 will hear more about that later today. And when those days
23 are above that 3.6 and 4 Bcf, it does result in
24 curtailments, which tend to degrade electric system
25 reliability and it also disrupts industrial processes and

1 operations that are important to the state's economy. Next
2 slide, please.

3 This is the histogram for SoCalGas winter peak
4 demand, which is about a little under 5 Bcfs per day on a
5 very cold, abnormal day. SoCalGas experienced three days
6 that were greater than that 1-in-35 core and 1-in-10
7 noncore. And eight days where it exceeded the 1-in-10 and
8 core and noncore. Again, on these days, noncore
9 curtailments would be expected, and the implication of this
10 is if we lower reliability standards, what we're doing is
11 we are just increasing the number and risk of curtailments
12 that we'll face. Next slide, please.

13 So there's a number of issues we'll be facing in
14 terms of planning system that acknowledges this important
15 gas electric reliability interplay. Historically, if the
16 winter standards can be met, it's the assumption that
17 summer reliability could be met. Summer demand's generally
18 been lower than peak demand, and while flow through the
19 pipelines maybe lower overall, it's again, these peaks that
20 are going to drive the need for infrastructure in the
21 future and drive the need for changes in the way the
22 systems are operated. And we do have these larger ramps
23 and the peak and net peak loads that we have to meet on our
24 system until gas plants play an important role there.

25 We are going to have -- going to need to place

25

1 more emphasis on the impact of extreme heat on electric
2 generation demand. And the -- as one of the difficulties
3 we face with high summer peak demand on the electric
4 generation and gas system is the ability to inject storage
5 to prepare for the following winter. We think that the
6 future gas use will depend, to a certain extent, how
7 quickly we can deploy low carbon technologies to displace
8 gas. We also need to assess how the electric system demand
9 is going to change with electrification of buildings and
10 transportation, which may increase winter peak. And as we
11 learned in February, we also need to place more emphasis on
12 the impact of extreme cold events like the polar vortex.
13 We've seen these, a number of these, over the past 20 years
14 and with climate change, we anticipate these extremes to
15 continue. And next slide, please.

16 With that, I'm happy to take any questions.

17 MS. RAITT: Thanks, Melissa. This is Heather. I
18 think we'll move on to the next speaker and hold questions
19 for the end, if that's okay.

20 The next --

21 MS. JONES: Okay.

22 MS. RAITT: Great. The next speaker is Brian
23 Walker. He's the director of Gas Control and System
24 Planning for SoCalGas. Go ahead Brian.

25 MR. WALKER: Okay. Hello and good morning. We

26

1 could go right to the next slide, please. I'll talk a
2 little bit about our service territory. It goes from the
3 Visalia to the north, to the Mexican border to the south.
4 We cover 24,000 square miles where our system delivers gas
5 to 21.8 million customers through 5.9 million meters. Next
6 slide, please.

7 Our system takes in supplies from upstream
8 suppliers at 10 different receipt points in local
9 California production zones across our service territory.
10 We also have the four natural gas storage fields. The
11 SoCalGas and San Diego Gas and Electric gas transmission
12 system is nominally designed to receive up to 3.78 billion
13 cubic feet per day, flowing supply on a firm basis. This
14 means that if customers deliver that much supply to the
15 SoCalGas system and there are sufficient customer demand,
16 then SoCalGas can redeliver that gas supply to customers.
17 So supplies delivered to the SoCal system, however, do not
18 reach these maximum receipt levels for a variety of
19 reasons, such as maintenance on our system or upstream
20 pipelines, customers using balancing services, decline in
21 California production and demand not necessitating the
22 maximum delivery, in addition to just availability of
23 upstream supplies. So with that we go to next slide,
24 please.

25 And on slide four, we're going to touch a little

27

1 bit here on Winter Storm Uri. I know there's more later on
2 this in detail. So from February 13th to 18th, the polar
3 vortex over the Midcontinent impacted natural gas
4 deliveries to the SoCalGas system. However,
5 coincidentally, Southern California was experiencing
6 moderate weather for the winter in comparison to the
7 Midcontinent, so our demand was quite moderate during this
8 time. The inclement weather, however, in the Midcontinent,
9 it impacted what we can receive from the Permian Basin.
10 And we saw our pipeline Receipt Point Utilization drop to
11 approximately 47%, which is very low. Specifically in our
12 Southern System is where we were mostly impacted at our
13 Ehrenberg Blythe receipt points where customers were
14 nominating gas supply to come there, however, it was not
15 being scheduled because of the supply limitations upstream
16 of the SoCal system.

17 So in response to the underperformance and low
18 supply into the Southern System, SoCalGas and San Diego Gas
19 and Electric issued a curtailment watch for the Southern
20 System. In particular because it has limited access to gas
21 supplies from other parts of our system. So it was more
22 significantly impacted by the, well freeze offs and the
23 impacts in the Permian Basin. So with the low pipeline
24 receipts, the gas system was reliant on stored field
25 withdrawals. And that is really the story of the event. A

28

1 lot of gas was pulled out of our storage fields to support
2 the system throughout this event in the Midcontinent. Also
3 wanted to note that Condition 1 of the Aliso Canyon
4 withdrawal protocol was met throughout the event, which
5 provided access to withdrawal from Aliso Canyon for the
6 duration of the event. And with that, I have a few charts
7 here. If we could go to the next slide.

8 This slide I have here, the blue line
9 representing the send out or the demand on our system in
10 the two billion cubic foot to two and a half billion cubic
11 foot range, which is moderate for the winter season, where
12 we can see send outs nearing four Bcf on colder days. So
13 with that, we could go to the next slide, please.

14 And this is here to explain the -- what was going
15 on the Southern System. So the blue line represents how
16 much gas customers were confirming they wanted to bring on
17 our system. And the orange line is what was actually
18 getting scheduled. And normally those lines are close
19 together, as seen before February 13th and after February
20 19th, where the lines are in alignment. However, during
21 the event, you can see that blue line and the orange line,
22 quite a large gap there where customers were trying to
23 bring in gas, however, upstream limitations were preventing
24 that gas from getting scheduled and brought into the SoCal
25 system. So with that, we could go to the next slide where

29

1 we could talk about our Summer 2021 Outlook.

2 SoCalGas evaluated a "Best and Worst Case"
3 scenario. And in the best case, we found that we'll be
4 able to meet peak day demands and fill the storage fields
5 without the use of Aliso Canyon. I'm sorry, that peak day
6 demand could be met without the use of Aliso Canyon. And
7 in the worst case, we found that we could still meet the
8 peak day demands, however, we'll have insufficient receipt
9 capacity to serve summer demand and fill the storage
10 fields. So with that, we can go to the next slide, please.

11 And in the scenario evaluation, we consider
12 planned maintenance activities on the system. And in the
13 best case, we consider that the maintenance activities will
14 go as planned and no changes to their schedule. And in the
15 Worst Case, we consider potential delays for various
16 reasons on that work, which would further limit supplies
17 into our system.

18 To touch on maintenance this summer, we have a
19 line 4,000 maintenance outage that started in May and is
20 expected to last until October 1st. We had line 2001
21 maintenance activity, which was scheduled in May and went
22 as planned. Lastly, indicated here, is the line 5,000
23 maintenance event, which is coming up in the coming weeks
24 in July. So with that, I wanted to move to the next slide,
25 please.

1 Okay, so our Peak Demand Forecast. So in the
2 Best and Worst Case scenario, there's a difference between
3 the Receipt Point Utilizations and in the Best Case
4 scenario, we have more available receipts due to lesser
5 maintenance impacts and potential supplies at the Otay Mesa
6 Receipt Point. And so -- and also in the Best Case, we do
7 not take into account that customers fully utilize all
8 capacity on our -- on the receipt points. So we consider
9 that 85% of that capacity is used by customers. In the
10 worst case, we have less available receipt capacity, but we
11 do consider a higher utilization of the receipt points due
12 to tighter balancing requirements on customers. So we
13 consider 90% in the Worst Case here.

14 In both cases, the scenarios ended up with 2.4
15 billion cubic feet of assumed pipeline supply. So very
16 close together there. So the supply, pipeline supply,
17 coupled with the available storage withdrawal we expect to
18 have in these scenarios, allows us to expect to be able to
19 meet the forecasted peak summer demand, which is just over
20 3.2 billion cubic feet on that peak day this summer. So in
21 fact, you know, our total system capacity and our peak
22 period this summer was found to be 3.89 billion cubic feet
23 per day with the use of Aliso Canyon and 3.3 billion cubic
24 feet per day without the use of Aliso Canyon. So with
25 that, I'd like to go to the next slide, please.

31

1 So maintaining Summer energy reliability, first
2 and foremost, SoCalGas is going to continue to coordinate
3 with electric grid operators to facilitate reliability of
4 our systems. We are going to continue to perform our
5 compliance and safety related maintenance and try to do so
6 in periods of low demands. Utilizing operational flow
7 orders will happen to incentivize customers to balance
8 their deliveries and use of gas. Consistent to the Aliso
9 Canyon withdrawal protocol, withdrawals from Aliso Canyon
10 may be utilized to maintain service to customers. And
11 lastly, if we needed to maintain service to higher priority
12 customers, we may need to issue curtailments. So with
13 that, I'd like to go to the next slide, please.

14 You know, on the summer for reliability, we're
15 seeing the need to utilize our storage fields in two ways
16 this summer. Withdrawals from the storage fields will be
17 needed to meet peak demand conditions when demand exceeds
18 pipeline supplies. Also, when customer demand is lower
19 than supply, we will continue to inject gas into the
20 storage fields to increase or replenish our storage field
21 inventories.

22 We wanted to note what's been observed as
23 benefits of the 2019 updated Aliso Canyon Withdrawal
24 Protocol. It's been recognized to reduce system stress and
25 improve reliability. It assists in preserving inventory

1 levels at the non Aliso Canyon fields. That helps reduce
2 price spikes. That results from limited supply and high
3 customer demands. And it can reduce the need for
4 operational flow orders.

5 I wanted to touch on last year's peak summer
6 dates on our system and how the storage fields were
7 essential to meeting that high, really peak-hour demand.
8 And if we could look at the next slide, please.

9 That -- so here's our look back from the peak
10 days in August in the 2020 summer. What you can see here
11 is the demand on our system or the send out, the blue line
12 is quite variable. And the lowest point, you know, we're
13 between 70 and 80 million cubic feet per hour in the early
14 morning, late night hours. But in that peak evening time,
15 you know, it's over 100 million cubic feet higher on a peak
16 hour. And so those swings, demand on our system, how we're
17 able to manage that is with the withdrawals from the
18 storage field. So as you can see in the orangest area
19 that's rather flat-lined across the chart there, that's our
20 pipeline supplies that are rather consistent on an hourly
21 basis. And to manage that peak demand, we're utilizing our
22 storage fields on withdrawal to keep the system to maintain
23 system integrity. So with that, I'd like to move to the
24 next slide, please.

25 To touch on our current status in storage field

1 inventories, you know, storage field withdrawal capability,
2 it's important to meeting that demand and those peak hour
3 demands. And the withdrawal capability it is directly
4 corresponds to our field inventories. And the higher
5 inventories we have, the more withdrawal we can -- we can
6 pull out of the fields on those peak hours. So you know,
7 Aliso Canyon's at, this is as of yesterday, 31.6 billion
8 cubic feet, Honor Rancho 24.9 billion cubic feet, La
9 Goleta, 19.5 billion cubic feet, and Playa del Rey at 1.6
10 billion.

11 So overall, over 90% full in our storage fields
12 as of yesterday. And you know, as the storage fields get
13 full or they fill up, just wanted to point out that that
14 injection capacity on our system will no longer be
15 available. Our system capacity will be reduced, which can
16 cause more high operational flow orders to be issued with
17 tighter balancing tolerances on our system.

18 So with that, that concludes my presentation.
19 And if there's any questions, I can answer now or later.

20 MS. RAITT: Great. Thank you, Brian. I think
21 we're going to hold questions for the end. So thank you so
22 much. And next, we have Kristina Abadjian, and she is a
23 senior energy analyst at the CPUC, to present the CPUC
24 Summer Assessment. Go ahead Kristina.

25 MS. ABADJIAN: Thank you, Heather, and thank you,

1 Commissioners and Commission staff for hosting this
2 critical workshop. Next slide, please.

3 So today I'll be going over the Supply Outlook
4 Assumptions that were built into our Summer Reliability
5 Assessment. And then I'll discuss the Gas Balance Scenario
6 results. Compare those to actual outcomes we've observed
7 as of June 30th. And lastly, I'll go over the Summer Peak
8 Day Analysis that we incorporated into our assessment.
9 Next slide, please.

10 So the Supply Outlook section includes two major
11 components. First is the SoCalGas's -- the status of
12 SoCalGas's transmission pipeline network. The only major
13 line that we assume to be out of service during the
14 duration of the summer season was line 4,000. So we
15 assumed that line 4,000 would be out of service for repairs
16 from May 1st through September 30th, resulting in a
17 reduction of 120 million cubic feet per day to SoCalGas's
18 Northern Zone. No other major pipelines were assumed to be
19 out of service.

20 The second component is gas storage inventory
21 levels. So we observed and included the gas storage
22 inventory levels as of March 31st, 2021, which is
23 the -- which is considered to be the end of the winter
24 season in the gas world and right before the start of the
25 summer season. So the combined inventory was approximately

35

1 62% full. And when comparing that to March 31st of the
2 previous year, the inventory levels look nearly identical.
3 We consider these to be fairly healthy inventory levels
4 going into the summer season, especially when you compare
5 these to the inventory levels of some recent years. I
6 would say that this is largely a result of the current
7 withdrawal protocol for Aliso Canyon, which was revised in
8 the summer of 2019.

9 SoCalGas, under the current withdrawal protocol,
10 has more flexible access to Aliso Canyon, in part to help
11 balance the non-Aliso fields to ensure that they don't
12 reach critically low inventory levels. Next slide, please.

13 So I guess Balance is a tool that enables us to
14 observe margins between available capacity and customer
15 demand. It doesn't include hourly variations you may see
16 in a day, and it is based on average daily consumption,
17 which means that in reality, you may have days with demand
18 that's higher and days where demand is actually lower. Our
19 Gas Balance Scenarios include two important limitations.
20 The first are the low inventory shut-ins that are required
21 under current Cal general rules. So under these rules,
22 SoCalGas is required to take its four storage fields out of
23 service for its low inventory shut-in. And this typically
24 occurs during the spring injection season right around
25 April or May, when a -- when a storage field is shut-in,

36

1 it's completely taken offline, meaning you can't inject
2 into the field, and you can't withdraw from it.

3 The second limitation we incorporated into our
4 Gas Balance Assumptions are the storage injection rules
5 that are required under the current SoCalGas triennial cost
6 allocation processing. So under these rules, there is a
7 certain amount of storage capacity allocated to core
8 customers for injection and a certain amount of injection
9 capacity allocated for load balancing purposes. So in our
10 gas balances, we included two different demand scenarios
11 which were based on the 2020 California Gas Report.

12 The first scenario was based, a hydro scenario,
13 which assumes average hydro conditions, which means less
14 dependence on gas fire generation. Under this scenario,
15 the non Aliso fields became full in June and Aliso Canyon
16 became full in July. Withdrawals were needed in August and
17 September and as a result, all four storage fields were
18 slightly drawn down by October. Our second Gas Balance
19 Scenario was a cold year, dry hydro scenario, which I know
20 sounds unusual, but the California Gas Report doesn't
21 include a Hot Weather Dry Hydro Scenario. So this was our
22 substitute scenario, which is important to include because
23 under the scenario you have higher demand than under base
24 hydro assumptions.

25 So in this scenario, the non Aliso fields became

1 full in June, but Aliso Canyon did not reach its maximum
2 allowable capacity, 34 Bcf, during any of the summer
3 months. Withdrawals were needed in July, August, and
4 September, and as a result all four storage fields were
5 more significantly drawn down by October. Next slide,
6 please.

7 So here we're going to compare the Gas Balance
8 Predictions to actual Outcomes. So as mentioned in the
9 previous slide, in both the base hydro and dry hydro cases,
10 the non Aliso fields became full by the end of June, and we
11 did not need withdrawals to meet customer demand in May or
12 June. However, when we observed actual outcomes as of June
13 30th, the combined non Aliso fields were 90% full and Aliso
14 Canyon was 87% full.

15 Actual injection patterns in May and June were
16 actually fairly similar to the Gas Balance Injection
17 Assumptions. However, the lower actual non Aliso inventory
18 levels can be attributed to withdrawals that were needed in
19 May and June. And as we know, June saw record breaking
20 temperatures, which required withdrawals, mostly from the
21 non Aliso fields. Next slide, please.

22 So the last bit that I'm going to go over here is
23 the Summer Peak Day Analysis that we incorporated into the
24 assessment. This was important because, as I mentioned,
25 the gas balance doesn't capture peaks or hourly variations.

1 So we wanted to include a Summer Peak Day Analysis to see,
2 you know, could we meet that data should it occur again?
3 Again, the summer high demand day was -- it was an
4 assumption from the California Gas Report. The high demand
5 day was assumed to occur in September. And as you can see
6 in the first table, line 4,000 was assumed to be out of
7 service. And we assumed Aliso Canyon would be available
8 for withdrawals under the current withdrawal protocol.

9 So as Column E shows in the first table, you are
10 able to meet the summer peak day demand with a combination
11 of pipeline receipts and withdrawal capacity. And you end
12 up with a surplus of 755 million cubic feet. The second
13 table, we -- the only difference here is that we assumed
14 Aliso Canyon would not be available under the current
15 withdrawal protocol. So again, as Column E shows, you have
16 a surplus, you are able to meet the summer peak day demand
17 with a combination of pipeline receipts and non Aliso
18 withdrawals. However, you're left with much tighter
19 margins. That concludes my presentation. And I will turn
20 it over to you, Heather. Thank you.

21 MS. RAITT: Thank you so much, Kristina. And I'm
22 sorry, I totally mispronounced your last name. Thank you.

23 MS. ABADJIAN: You're very welcome.

24 MS. RAITT: So next we have Joseph Long, and he's
25 an energy economist for Energy Policy Market Assessment

1 portion of Aspen Environmental. So go ahead, Joseph.

2 Mr. Long: Thank you, Heather. Good morning.

3 And first, thank you to members of the dais and the
4 attendees. I'm Joe Long, an energy economist at Aspen, and
5 we provide technical support to the Energy Assessments
6 Division at the CEC. Today, I'll be presenting a take at a
7 Hot Summer Demand Scenario featuring SoCalGas. We also
8 have the ability to do this same analysis for PG&E. But we
9 started off with SoCalGas's system and the data we used is
10 public and comes from SoCalGas's Envoy web portal.

11 So why are we doing this analysis? Normally when
12 we consider the gas system, we would be talking about
13 winter and winter heating demand, but there are a few
14 reasons why we are now looking at the summer. Immediate
15 concerns include the past August Heat Storm Event, which
16 calls for attention to reliability. There is also a higher
17 likelihood of extreme temperature events in the future due
18 to climate change. And with the expected increase in heat
19 events, there's also an implied increase in natural gas
20 electric generation demand for air conditioning use. We
21 also have some technical motives. To start, the Energy
22 Commission doesn't have a model to forecast a Hot Summer
23 Dry Hydro Demand scenario. And on the utility side, as
24 Kristina mentioned, SoCalGas and PG&E do not produce a Hot
25 Summer forecast for the CGR.

1 So the CEC and the CPUC wanted to think how we
2 could construct a case for the summer without a temperature
3 model. And we will present some of -- some of the ideas
4 for doing so using the historical data as a substitute.
5 Next slide, please.

6 So to set the scene for what a hot summer may
7 look like, we looked back at the past August when we had
8 blackouts due to heat storm over the weekend. This is the
9 first thing that came to our mind when we considered what a
10 hot summer could look like. The chart shows the event on
11 each day in August of 2020 during the Heat event from the
12 14th to the 19th, gas demand ranged from 2,616 MMcfd to
13 3,249 MMcfd. The 261 on the slide should be 2,616 there
14 for all of you following along at home. So as a benchmark,
15 this exceeds SoCalGas's CGR Forecast of summer high send-
16 out demand, which was forecasted to be 3,206 MMcfd in 2020.

17 One of the main concerns for the summer are
18 multiday peaks and last summer realized a period of
19 extended high send-out over the second half of August. We
20 considered this as a potential case for our analysis to
21 imagine last August demand for the entire summer to test
22 the implied stress on the gas system. We considered this
23 to be an extreme case and were surprised to see that when
24 we looked back in the historical data, there were years
25 that were much worse for demand. 2,000 in particular was

1 very high demand year during the power crisis. Next slide,
2 please.

3 So to get a broader picture of the past, we
4 pulled system send-out for the last 22 years. On this
5 graph, each line represents a year for 1999 to 2020 and
6 shows average monthly demand for each summer months. Some
7 of the takeaways are that August is the highest demand
8 month out of the summer in 15 out of the last 22 years. We
9 can see the trend in the red dotted line, which is the
10 average of all the prior years. And there's an uptick in
11 August. Anecdotally, the demand in August of 2000 was
12 about 3,600 MMcfd on average. And we can see some decline
13 in demand over the years with 2019 and 2020 at the top of
14 this range in blue and to 2000 and 2000 -- Oh sorry, 2,000
15 and 2001 at the top of this range in blue and 2019 and 2020
16 at the bottom of the range in gray and gold. So I wanted
17 to emphasize, as Kristina did as well, that these are
18 monthly averages and daily demand will swing above these
19 averages and the peak daily demands emphasizes this.

20 So the next question is whether it is right to
21 use 22 years of data when the gas system has changed over
22 time, and so we did some hypothesis testing to address
23 that. Next slide, please.

24 We had a hypothesis that capacity and generation
25 would have decreased over time and wanted to test this to

1 see if it was reasonable to include 22 years of data. This
2 graph looks more specifically at EG gas demand and shows
3 EIA data for natural gas Generation and Generation
4 Capacity. Capacity on the left axis and Generation on the
5 right. In the last two decades, natural gas capacity grew
6 over time, which is the orange line, and began to fall in
7 the last six years. Overall, natural gas capacity remains
8 higher today than it was in 1999. We can see Generation
9 rise and falls over the period but is also still higher
10 than 1999 and some of the larger Generation years can be
11 linked to droughts and low hydro conditions. This tells us
12 that gas Generation is higher today, even with
13 decommissioning of plants alongside with the introduction
14 of more renewables on the grid. So this leads us to the
15 question of efficiency of Natural Gas Generation over time.
16 So we looked at the Volume of the Natural Gas Burn as well.
17 Next slide, please.

18 So for Gas Burn, there is a decline in demand
19 over time, which can be seen in the last graph. We still
20 see periods of higher demand resulting from low hydro years
21 but overall gas demand for EG is declining as efficiency of
22 Gas Burn increases since we are using less gas to generate
23 more electricity. This supports the idea of doing the
24 Analysis with the shorter historical period as the gas
25 system, as the gas system has changed, with the important

1 caveat that we're trying to come up with a Hot Summer
2 scenario that covers prolonged heat events and continued
3 high demand such as the year 2000. So if we exclude these
4 higher demand years as outliers, then we would be under
5 exaggerating a 1-in-35 or 1-in-10 standard that we are
6 trying to replicate. So for that reason, this analysis was
7 done with the full data set to include the extreme years.
8 But we can, of course, explore different sensitivity cases
9 as well. Next slide, please.

10 So back to the historical data. Here is a heat
11 map of the average demand by month and year, another
12 visualization of historical data we showed previously. The
13 heat map emphasizes the fact that August is our hottest
14 demand month, and that average demand is indeed declining
15 as the lower half of this table gets less extreme as we get
16 to 2020. Although demand is declining over time, including
17 the earlier high demand years allows us to look at a
18 scenario where demand could increase in the future due to
19 electrification and higher natural gas demand for
20 Generation. The heat map also shows again how bad 2000
21 was, as 2000 looks to be one of our 1-in-35 type cases for
22 the summer. Next slide, please.

23 So we wanted to be sure that it wasn't just that
24 August was the peak month on average but wanted to see if
25 it was also the peak day for the summer as well. This

1 graph shows the peak day for each year from 1999 to 2020.
2 And it shows that the peak day for the summer occurred in
3 August in 8 out of the last 22 summers and July and
4 September tied for second place where the peak occurred
5 seven times. Peak day demand ranges from about 3,000 MMcfd
6 to about 4,000 MMcfd, historically. It also echoes the
7 downward trend in demand over time as we see the peak day
8 decreasing here. So that is all for background. We will
9 get to the gas balance and our options. Next slide,
10 please.

11 So we looked at four options for Hot Summer
12 Demand scenario. The graph here shows them, along with
13 some measures to base them off of. The gray shaded area is
14 our historical range again. We also have the average of
15 all historical data by month, which is the red dotted line
16 again. And so the first case we consider is the black
17 dotted line, which shows what would happen if we had last
18 summer's average August demand occurring throughout the
19 entire summer.

20 This is the August Blackout Demand Case, and it
21 is constant. The second case is in blue, which is a
22 composite of the highest average demand month out of the
23 historical period, which just combines 2000 and 2001, which
24 we call the Composite Case. A third case takes a
25 probabilistic approach and looks at demand two standard

1 deviations above the mean for each month. We call this the
2 Sigma 2 Case, and the Sigma 2 Case says that 97.5% of all
3 the demand days would be at or below this demand level.
4 The Sigma 2 Case is also very close to the definition for
5 the 1-in-35 standard. So that's a comparison. And for the
6 last case, we created a 1-in-10 probability of occurrence
7 from the historical data, which is in purple there.

8 We can also do sensitivity cases, like I
9 mentioned before, looking at a 10-year record or just a
10 single standard deviation. But the demand level really
11 depends on what is considered safe for reliability. For
12 comparison, the graph also shows the historical peak
13 demand, which is the green dash line of top, which shows
14 the highest daily demand in the record for each given
15 month. This is to emphasize the point again that demand
16 varies higher than the average monthly demand. The
17 probability of occurrence of these days is next to zero as
18 shown on the table on the right, but it shows they have
19 occurred in the past, and we should still be worried about
20 them for reliability. The goal now is to look at whether
21 the gas system can maintain deliverability and whether
22 storage can be built for winter under a given demand level,
23 and we will use a Gas Balance and the Sigma 2 Case to
24 demonstrate this. Next slide, please.

25 So we used the Gas Balance, which again allows us

1 to look at deliverability and storage inventory levels over
2 time. There's a lot to digest, so I'll try to go through
3 it carefully. To start, line two shows demand out
4 of -- out to March of 2022. Here we use the Sigma 2 values
5 for the summer, which is May to October. And for April and
6 November to March the rest of the year, we used SoCalGas's
7 Monthly Average Temperature Forecast. Line three shows
8 pipeline supply, which is assumed to be 2820 MMcfd and the
9 difference in supply and demand results in injections and
10 withdrawals from storage as shown in line 4. In the Sigma
11 2 Case, demand is larger than pipeline supply in the summer
12 and results in withdrawals in May through October, in all
13 the summer months. To be more specific, line 4 shows
14 SoCalGas would have to withdraw from 77 MMcf a day on
15 average in May, up to 739 MMcf a day in August.

16 On average, withdrawal capability is large enough
17 to meet requirements for deliverability, assuming storage
18 inventory is available. But on any given day, more
19 withdrawals may be needed as daily demand varies above the
20 monthly average. This tells us that there would be no
21 ability to inject gas during this period and storage
22 inventory would then decline. And as storage inventory
23 declines, so does withdrawal capability. But the main
24 concern for the gas balance here is looking at storage
25 inventory for the winter. This brings us to the inventory

1 line, which is line 5, which shows storage inventory drops
2 below zero by the end of October and has no chance of
3 meeting our winter storage inventory requirements under the
4 Sigma 2 demand level. So assuming SoCalGas wants to meet
5 those winter inventory requirements of 60 Bcf, for example,
6 they would begin to curtail noncore load and if it is done
7 on average over the summer, SoCalGas would have to curtail
8 370 MMcf every day of the summer, which is shown on line 6.
9 We see on line 7 an injection and withdrawal after
10 curtailment allows for injection in May and June and
11 October. But SoCalGas would still have to withdraw gas in
12 July, August, and September. Under this Curtailment
13 scenario, SoCalGas would reach 60 Bcf of storage inventory
14 by November 1st. This is, of course, an example SoCalGas
15 would likely curtail differently in each month, depending
16 on temperature forecasts and inventory, and they may end up
17 curtailing more in May and June, for example, to prepare
18 for heavier electric generation load in July, August and
19 September. Next slide, please.

20 So the original question was to provide a proof
21 of concept for potential summer demand scenarios and ways
22 to evaluate them so we can use this process to test
23 different demand levels or Sensitivity Analysis. But once
24 there is a threshold for reliability, it can be tested.
25 And of course, we can also do the same analysis for PG&E.

1 Other next steps would be to look at our view of
2 SoCalGas's EG demand more specifically, rather than the
3 statewide trends. We would also like to see CAISO and
4 LADWP's recalculated Minimum Generation Values as we worry
5 about electric reliability. But most importantly, we need
6 to define the level of reliability and therefore the level
7 of risk that we are willing to bear. The table shows this
8 idea visually as the potential cost and implied curtailment
9 values increase depending on the Reliability Case. So we
10 are looking forward to continuing and expanding this
11 analysis with your help.

12 And that is all I have for today. With that I
13 will turn it back to Heather and thank you.

14 MS. RAITT: Great. Thank you so much, Joseph.
15 So Commissioners if you have any questions for our
16 speakers. And speakers, if you could go ahead and turn on
17 your video again.

18 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah, first of all, I think
19 just before jumping into questions, thank you for those
20 extremely thorough presentations. That's an incredible
21 amount of detail. And Melissa, thank you for your
22 presentation, setting up the stage and the context of that.
23 And Brian, for your assessment, and as well as Kristina and
24 Joseph. Great presentations and helpful. Again, this
25 continues the trend of sobering information of climate

1 change and the impacts of that and the way we design our
2 extreme scenarios and how do we plan to risk, the cost is
3 different, elements. I think I have one high level
4 question that I think one, for this year, for any of
5 the -- any of the speakers. And two, a little bit more on
6 the longer term, longer-term question. For this summer,
7 looking at Joseph's presentation specifically on looking at
8 an extremely, you know, hot summer, two Sigma, Sigma 2
9 situation, which then kind of results in a higher natural
10 gas usage. But then you combine that with Kristina's
11 analysis on looking at some of the drought conditions as
12 well. Right. I mean like you made the composite.

13 And first question is, is there real concern of
14 curtailments this summer, from your vantage point?
15 Especially to electric gen, and you know, the broader
16 reliability that you know, has been the theme over the last
17 two days. That's one question. And the second question
18 is, as we build through the analysis to think through the
19 Worst Case planning, how -- what are we thinking about
20 potential winter peaking electric system and the impacts of
21 the winter peaking electric system on the natural gas
22 system reliability. So you know, any one of you want to
23 take those two questions? I mean, I have a million
24 questions to ask, but I'll stop there, and I'll pass it on
25 to other Commissioners who might want to ask questions.

1 Maybe Kristina.

2 MS. ABADJIAN: Yeah. From my vantage point, I
3 wouldn't say there is an immediate concern for potential
4 electric generation curtailment this summer. However, I
5 think the concern would be if you see multiple back to back
6 hot weather days, right. As withdrawal capacity dwindles
7 and the hot weather days just aren't ending, that's when
8 you may have some potential concerns. But from an
9 immediate vantage point, I would say the concerns are more
10 so for the winter.

11 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: So anybody else want to add
12 to that? Brian looks like you want to add.

13 MR. WALKER: Yeah. So in looking at Increased
14 Electric Generation scenario, you know we get concerned
15 about being able to have adequate storage inventories going
16 into the winter. And if the win -- going into the winter
17 you have lower storage inventories, you're going to tend to
18 have to curtail noncore customers in the winter to maintain
19 your minimum inventories through the winter to maintain
20 core reliability. I mean that's kind of what we're
21 thinking if that situation were to happen.

22 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Joseph, I don't know if you
23 wanted to add --

24 MR. JONES: Yeah, I was just going -- I was just
25 going to add to the point of this summer. You know, we

1 were kind of modeling an extreme case of, you know, high
2 demand over the entire summer. And sort of as we look back
3 at May and June, we can see we're obviously in a better
4 state than we were there. And, you know, May and June were
5 relatively mild for SoCalGas. But the question becomes,
6 like Kristina said, the extended periods of heat like we've
7 seen, you know, in the Pacific Northwest that could bring
8 more attention to electric reliability. And then we also
9 have this, the whole point of the summer concern is about,
10 like we said, filling inject, or filling storage for
11 winter. So the Summer Analysis still goes into our
12 concerns for winter reliability.

13 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Okay. Before I pass it on
14 to another Commissioner, I recognize that you can't really
15 compare the gas and the electric systems. I know it takes
16 21 days for us to get some molecules from Texas versus, you
17 know, an instant on the electric side. But I just want to
18 think through this broader planning of, you know, if we
19 peak in the winter by moving forward on the electric side,
20 how do you all think about the changing need for planning
21 or any insights that you currently have? Just as a -- as a
22 starting point for us to think through. Should I call on
23 somebody? I don't know if you're all being polite, so
24 maybe Brain, if you want to take it on.

25 MR. WALKER: Yeah. So changing to winter peaking

1 in summer is kind of a compounding issue because that's
2 already the heating peak demands. So it just goes to the
3 importance of storage, in my opinion, in having adequate
4 storage inventories and being able to fill it to support.
5 Because you know, you run into scenarios like these polar
6 vortex events that happen, and your pipeline supplies can
7 be limited and you know, even more demand means it kind of
8 even more kind of resiliency you need with the storage
9 system being this part of the gas system at the end of the
10 gas system, as it was pointed out by Melissa earlier.

11 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah, thank you. So
12 Commissioners if anybody else want to ask a question it
13 would be great to either, I think raise the hand would be
14 good, but I'll start off with Commissioner Martha Guzman
15 Aceves.

16 MS. GUZMAN ACEVES: Okay, thank you. I just had
17 a couple of factual questions. I think I heard a slightly
18 different thing from Melissa and Brian on the SoCal system.
19 I thought maybe Melissa, you said that the SoCal system was
20 more dependent on the Rocky Mountain Basin and the San Juan
21 Basin, but then Brian, your presentation said you're more
22 dependent on the -- on the Permian Basin.

23 MR. WALKER: I can take that. So the -- or I
24 could start off. I'm sorry. You know we, the Rocky
25 Mountains, San Juan, and Permian Basins are all supplies

1 into our system. The Southern System at our Blythe area
2 receipt point is primarily dependent on the Permian
3 supplies as opposed to the other receipt points on our
4 system. That was the most constrained during the event
5 earlier in February.

6 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Right. And is that,
7 generally speaking, you know, a third of your dependency or
8 is it 10% of your receipt points, usually? Your --

9 MR. WALKER: Approximately a third would be fair?

10 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Mm-hmm. And when
11 you said 47% of your RPU was, or your RPU was at 47%, was
12 that system wide or was that the Southern?

13 MR. WALKER: System wide.

14 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: System wide. So the
15 Permian Basin kind of freeze-off, if you will, that
16 literally impacted your system wide receipt point to 47?

17 MR. WALKER: Yes. So I -- yes. That -- the
18 event that day was 47% across our system.

19 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Mm-hmm. And so
20 typically, just I'm getting the math here, if it's a third,
21 it would typically be -- I guess, how much -- is 47%
22 representing something that is assuming you basically were
23 not using any of that and a little bit the rest of the
24 system was pretty normal. It's just that you stopped using
25 any imports there.

1 MR. WALKER: So we had, I guess you could say,
2 diminished or lower than expected supplies at Blythe, or
3 Permian. And I think the other areas we saw lower
4 deliveries, but the confirmation, the scheduled quantities
5 there wasn't so much of a deficit. So it was specifically
6 in the Blythe where there was upstream limitations directly
7 impacting that utilization at that receipt point.

8 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Okay. And then a
9 separate factual question for Melissa. You talked about
10 electric generation driving the demand of natural gas.

11 MS. JONES: Mm-hmm.

12 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: And certainly as we
13 see this whole interplay here, all of our efforts of
14 decarbonizing, given that statement and the percentage, and
15 I did have a question on the percentage, 75% is from
16 non-res. How much of that is from electric generation?

17 MS. JONES: If you look on that, well, I'll go
18 back to the table and look. It is -- I just don't have the
19 numbers right in front of me. Electric generation appears
20 to be about half, historically about half, and then it
21 increases a bit more, maybe 60%.

22 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Okay. Yeah. Just
23 this focus that we've, in terms of the timing of our
24 strategies, it's an interesting thing to see the main
25 driver being this electric generation and how our focus on,

55

1 you know, let's say this shortfall that Joseph just pointed
2 out of 350 million in the Basin. How much of that is
3 equivalent to the electric generation that should become
4 non gas and maybe that being more of the priority, given
5 that it's the driver? Hey, that's not a question, but a
6 reflection if anyone wants to build on that.

7 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner. Do
8 you have any follow up question, Commissioner?

9 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: No. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Okay. So with that, just
11 looking for anybody else, want to have any questions?
12 Yeah. Commissioner McAllister please and then Commissioner
13 Monahan.

14 Commissioner McAllister, you're muted.

15 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: The dreaded double
16 mute. Apologies. So I really enjoyed the presentations.
17 Thank you. They complimented each other extremely well.
18 So all the knowledge just is very apparent across the board
19 here. So thank you.

20 Just one quick -- one comment maybe to build on
21 Commissioner Guzman Aceves just now. I guess, and if
22 anybody has any insight on this. But you know, so yes, we
23 have a lot going on the electric side and generation side,
24 trying to wean off of fossil and you know, substitute in
25 renewables of different flavors. On the -- on the core

1 customer side also, you know we're looking at building
2 decarbonization and that should, in theory, also free up
3 some gas from that part of the sector. So interested in
4 any comments about the timing of, you know, sort of the gas
5 for direct-use versus gas for electricity generation and
6 how those things, you know, can be managed over time and
7 balanced. And so, you know, any sort of strategy that you
8 all have been thinking about in that regard would be
9 helpful to hear.

10 I guess my question, my specific question is for
11 Brian. During the Vortex episode, you showed a graph that
12 sort of had, you know, projections, versus deliveries,
13 versus minimum flow requirements. And there were two or
14 three points there where it looked like the actual
15 deliveries approached were low enough that they approached
16 the minimum flow requirements. And I guess I'm just
17 wanting you to explain that a little bit more and give us a
18 sense of what the implications of that are for core and
19 noncore customers if those two lines were to actually
20 cross.

21 MR. WALKER: Okay. Yeah, there were a couple
22 points there where the -- we were getting close to the
23 Southern System minimum with deliveries in the Southern
24 System and the implication of that is, if we're not meeting
25 the minimum, you know there's a system operator tool to

57

1 purchase supplies in the Southern System to alleviate, to
2 try to alleviate that. And then when you get into these
3 conditions where there's no additional gas to procure in
4 the Southern System then, you know that's a challenge. And
5 that's why another reason, you know, we add that
6 curtailment watch is to notify folks that, you know, if
7 this gets worse or it continues, we could end up in
8 curtailment. So you know, we would start with our
9 seven-step process and the dispatchable electric generation
10 would be curtailed first. And then lastly, ending at the
11 core customers. So we didn't quite get there. We were
12 concerned enough to put the curtailment watch out, but we
13 were able to, you know, serve all the customers in that
14 Southern System and not have to curtail anyone.

15 MS. JONES: So, this is Mellissa. Brian, we had
16 talked to some of the people from SoCalGas who indicated
17 that in the Southern System you have fewer noncore
18 customers that you can curtail but, just because of the
19 population. And so we had thought that that was a
20 contributing factor as well in moving towards curtailment.

21 MR. WALKER: Yeah. I don't have the specific
22 numbers to speak to you know how -- you know the percentage
23 to other places, but you know, generally, a smaller
24 population base of our -- of our overall customer. So
25 likewise the noncore demand can, you can draw some

1 parallels there. So yeah, it could quickly and not -- you
2 could exceed the -- it could not be enough noncore demand
3 to curtail quickly and enter the potentially core side. So
4 on a rather sensitive area of our system.

5 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Thank you.

6 MS. JONES: And then there was one other point I
7 wanted to make about storage withdrawals. It's not just
8 for supplies, you know for reliability, with prices the way
9 they were marketers and noncore customers who had storage
10 were obviously going to withdrawal, and SoCal as well.
11 You're going to withdraw your storage rather than buying
12 out on the spot.

13 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner
14 McAllister, and for those responses. So I just wanted to
15 recognize, so we are looking over time, but I just asked
16 Heather that we spend a few more minutes from questions
17 from the dais. So Commissioner Monahan and Commissioner
18 Rechtschaffen. So we're going to try to tease up in the
19 next five minutes. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Great. Thank you. I have
21 two quick, one is a quick question and one, maybe, is a
22 little bit of a Pandora's box. But Brian, I'm curious,
23 does the location of the storage matter in terms of being
24 able to meet the systemwide demand?

25 MR. WALKER: So you know, being near the LA

1 Basin, the storage fields kind of, you know, support that,
2 the area of high demand. One challenge with the storage
3 fields is, you know, and is getting gas into our Southern
4 System area. So that is a challenge that, you know storage
5 gas, you know, does not necessarily get to the Southern
6 System. And that's why we have that Southern System
7 Minimum Flow Requirement for that area. Is that along the
8 lines of answering your questions?

9 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah. Well and the
10 Pandora's Box question is just all of the analysis that
11 shows Aliso Canyon remains a storage option, and I'm
12 curious about analysis underway with, assuming that Aliso
13 Canyon is not available for storage.

14 MS. JONES: So Commissioner Monahan, just to
15 respond to that. This afternoon we're going to be having
16 an extensive discussion about Aliso. And there are cases
17 that have been --

18 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Ah.

19 MS. JONES: -- missing that.

20 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: And I'm missing this
21 afternoon. So I'm going to miss all the fun.

22 MS. JONES: Oh, that's too bad.

23 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Too bad for me. Too bad
24 for me. All right. Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Commissioner Rechtschaffen.

1 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Yes. I don't have
2 any questions, Commissioner Gunda.

3 COMMISISONER GUNDA: Thank you, Commissioner. I
4 guess I didn't see you raising your hand or anything. So
5 okay. It looks like -- looks like we are good. For the
6 questions again, thank you so much for all the panelists
7 for your time on this panel. I guess to Commissioner
8 Guzman Aceves' question and then Commissioner Monahan's
9 question at large, I think the analysis, you know, requires
10 to evolve, to think through a lot of different conditions,
11 especially on the electric side. I mean, we do have these
12 decarbonization goals across all different sectors and kind
13 of thinking through how they interplay and what that really
14 means, being able to look holistically, show that to
15 broader public, but also kind of, you know, members in the
16 leadership would be really helpful. So I encourage you to
17 continue to look at those things. And thank you so much.
18 I'm going to pass it back to Heather.

19 MS. RAITT: Great. Thank you. So we have
20 Jennifer Compagna is here to -- from the Energy Commission
21 to moderate some questions that we received from the
22 audience. So go ahead, Jennifer.

23 MS. CAMPAGNA: Okay, good morning. Can you hear
24 me okay?

25 MS. RAITT: Yeah.

1 MS. COMPAGNA: Okay, great. The -- we have a few
2 questions here. The first one I'll start off with is from
3 Peter Scanlon. And this question is directed to Brian. It
4 says, considerable effort has been made to address summer
5 readiness on the electric grid, including managing electric
6 generation outages to avoid shortages during peak demand
7 summer periods or at least requiring replacement. Are
8 efforts made to avoid events like the July Inspection
9 Outage on Line 5000 during summer months, or at least
10 providing long lead notice to customers that need the
11 capacity to meet electric demand during heat events?

12 MR. WALKER: Alright. So the July inspection,
13 that's upcoming. You know, we have compliance inspections
14 that are, we have to do and it's one of those activities
15 that we have to schedule when there's the lower demand to
16 get the work done. So you know, we communicate with, you
17 know [indiscernible] to, you know, address any concerns on
18 an ongoing basis. And that's kind of -- that's kind of
19 where we're at on it.

20 MS. CAMPAGNA: Okay. Thank you, Brian. I will
21 move on to the next question. This is from Norm Peterson.
22 Brian, this is for you again. And there's three parts.
23 What will be the capacity of Line 4,000 when it returns to
24 service on 10-1-2021? What will be the capacity of Line
25 235 after 10-1-2021? And what will be the capacity of the

1 Northern System after 10-1-21?

2 MR. WALKER: Yeah. That's all future capacity
3 related questions that would be answered on our Envoy
4 webpage when that information is available to the market.

5 MS. CAMPAGNA: Okay. Heather, do we have time
6 for one more question or should we move on?

7 MS. RAITT: Sorry about that. Yeah. Go ahead
8 and just do one last question, please.

9 MS. CAMPAGNA: Okay. Okay. Last question is
10 from Denise Santacruz for either SoCalGas or Aspen. For
11 summer the primary concern is EG demand during the 4-hour
12 evening ramp. Increasing renewable energy integration will
13 exacerbate this in the coming years. Solar goes away as
14 people return home to hot buildings and natural gas fired
15 generation is quickly ramped up to meet electric load
16 demand. Can SoCalGas sustain those large hourly demand
17 swings with or without storage?

18 MR. LONG: So for our analysis, we didn't really
19 look at the hourly component of it, but I think it really
20 gets to sort of what the Commissioners were saying about,
21 you know, the balancing act in the sense that, okay, we're
22 electrifying residential customers, but they still need
23 this air conditioning demand. You know, what is that
24 balancing act between, yes, we're increasing renewables,
25 but we're decarbonizing maybe in a way where we're

1 increasing the ramp. So how do we balance those things?
2 And then I think it also goes back to the point where, yes,
3 summer demand is lower and we have a winter peaking gas
4 system, but we could have increased gas demand even on a
5 daily basis just due to these, you know, extreme
6 temperature events and higher air conditioning loads. So
7 that's what I have for that. But less on the hourly stuff.
8 So maybe Brian can help.

9 MR. WALKER: Yeah. So you know, I don't, you
10 know without storage is definitely a challenge because
11 pipeline supplies are consistent across the day. And as I
12 tried to show in the chart, you know the hourly demand, it
13 ramps up quite a bit, as indicated by the question here.
14 So the way we manage that is by utilizing our storage
15 fields and they're variable. We dispatch them to meet the
16 demand to maintain the system integrity. You know, and
17 likewise, the de-ramp can be a challenge too, where you may
18 need to inject in storage fields to manage the de-ramp of
19 the electric generators in the evening as well.

20 MS. RAITT: All right, thank you so much,
21 Jennifer, and thank you so much to Melissa, and Brian, and
22 Kristina, and Joseph for your presentations and for
23 answering all those questions. We appreciate it.

24 And so if it's okay, Commissioner, I think it's
25 time to move on to our next segment. Okay.

1 So next, we'll move on to, we have presentations
2 from CPUC and Energy Commission staff on the February 2021
3 polar vortex event. And so first, we'll hear from Anthony
4 Dixon. He's the lead gas modeler at the Energy Commission.
5 Go ahead, Anthony.

6 MR. DIXON: I hope everyone can hear me.

7 MS. RAITT: Yep.

8 MR. DIXON: Good. I had some computer issues and
9 had to switch computers. So good morning, everyone. I am
10 Anthony Dixon, the lead natural gas price modeler here at
11 the Energy Commission. And I will be giving a brief
12 overview of some of the impacts and things that happened
13 during the Winter Storm Uri Event this last February. And
14 can actually go to one more slide, please. Sorry. My
15 notes are not coming up. All right.

16 So the extreme polar event lasted around February
17 13th through 17th, plus or minus a couple days. It was an
18 emergency event, and it was greater magnitude than past
19 polar vortex events that we have seen. This event extended
20 all the way from Canada, all the way to the Gulf of Mexico,
21 and saw numerous record cold temperatures throughout the
22 middle of the United States. I mean, they saw snow in
23 Galveston. This is probably one of the worst events we've
24 seen, as far as this cold, in the last two decades. Next
25 slide, please.

1 This had severe impacts on the natural gas and
2 electricity reliability. And this was due to energy
3 infrastructure shutdowns, disruptions, natural gas
4 production losses, skyrocketing demand, we had rolling
5 blackouts, load shedding, and there were natural gas and
6 electricity price shocks that happened throughout this
7 event. Next slide.

8 The shutdowns for the electricity and natural gas
9 were due to multiple things. There were gas supply issues
10 from well freeze-offs, the gathering in lines froze, valves
11 froze, processing plants froze, power outages, which also
12 reduce electricity, which is needed to run compressors and
13 things to get gas onto the system. So you had a basically
14 a compounding effect. It was even so cold that the wind
15 turbines were freezing, and they weren't able to use your
16 wind power. And of course, since it was a storm, we lost
17 solar output. It was even so cold in Texas that there was
18 a nuclear power plant they had to shut down because one of
19 its water pumps froze. Next slide, please.

20 So how cold was it? This kind of shows some of
21 the pricing hubs throughout North America and their average
22 February temperatures, the coldest temperature that was
23 seen during that week and their departure from the normal.
24 The one, the Oklahoma, which is the "ONEOK", kind of in the
25 middle, was forty four degrees below average for that time

1 of year. Another important one is the El Paso Permian hub
2 saw temperatures 40 degrees lower than what they normally
3 would see. These are the temperatures that caused the
4 water and these natural gas systems to freeze and led to so
5 many issues. It was so cold in Texas that on February
6 14th, Texas averaged 15 degrees where Alaska was averaging
7 18 degrees. We saw a record of -10 degrees in Kansas City.
8 Oklahoma City saw -14 degrees, the second lowest
9 temperature on record there. Houston saw a low of 16
10 degrees and Dallas had a record low of 4 degrees. Next
11 slide, please.

12 And this drastically impacted production. As you
13 can see from this graph, the biggest one is that red line,
14 which is the production out of Texas. The drop in
15 production from Texas alone is greater than a lot of those
16 other producing regions, combined production without these
17 problems. Texas dropped so much that it was producing
18 approximately 30% of what it normally produces during that
19 time of the year. We saw production declines in Louisiana.
20 We saw production declines in Oklahoma. Key notes is that
21 we, and also the Permian Basin, that's in the New Mexico
22 side. There was no loss of production in North and South
23 Dakota as they are accustomed to cold temperatures kind of
24 like Canada is. So their systems are winterized. And it's
25 also to note that Kansas area did not see any production

1 decline so obviously, and they had some very, very cold
2 temperatures as well. So obviously, their system has been
3 winterized. The San Juan basin in New Mexico did not see
4 loss of production, and it wasn't because of necessary
5 winterization, it's the temperatures there weren't cold
6 enough to actually cause issues. Next slide, please.

7 So this loss of demand, or loss of supply, excuse
8 me, plus a great spike in demand led to price spikes for
9 the natural gas system. Several states and regions saw
10 these spikes, including Southern California. And natural
11 gas has the effect of kind of a double whammy when it comes
12 to its price, as it's a direct impact as those who directly
13 use the gas as heating and cooking. So these higher
14 commodity prices are passed directly onto the consumers and
15 then in the secondary, where natural gas is a major price
16 effect on electricity prices. So a consumer now is paying
17 a higher electricity in natural gas price on their bill
18 because of these events. Next slide, please.

19 So to kind of show some of the prices across
20 North America during -- on February 17th where some of the
21 highest prices were seen. Prices were over \$900 per MMBtu
22 in Oklahoma. \$150 in Iowa. We saw \$100 plus per MMBtu in
23 SoCalGas's service territory. This point, to notice that
24 the Northeast in February did not see any price spikes from
25 that. PG&E was relatively unscathed as they are able to

1 get supplies from Canada and also can rely heavily on their
2 storage systems to help alleviate some of these issues.
3 SoCalGas did see some price spikes, but these are not any
4 more elevated than we have seen since the Aliso Canyon and
5 the Line 235 incidences. So those were within what
6 normal -- what the new normal is for their system. Next
7 slide, please.

8 So the potential effects on California and things
9 we have to be concerned about. California is very
10 susceptible to outside things happening. We are at the end
11 of the interstate pipeline. We've seen these effects hit
12 us from the February 21 incident that just happened,
13 January 2014, February 2011, and even the heat waves that
14 have been happening. We were fortunate that this time that
15 was low demand here in California, as was mentioned
16 earlier. PG&E was slightly over their average. PG&E norm
17 for the last five years, have averaged about 2,900 million
18 cubic feet per day of demand. Or excuse me, they averaged
19 about 2,900 cubic -- million cubic feet of demand that
20 week. Their average for February is around 2,600.
21 SoCalGas was below average. They were around 2,200 million
22 cubic feet averages during that week and for their February
23 average is around 2,400.

24 Some withdrawals were -- like --- was mentioned
25 by Melissa. Some of the withdrawals from storage were made

1 for price reasons, not necessarily reliability, especially
2 since utilities and the market participants really relied
3 on storage to mitigate some of these effects. Next slide,
4 please.

5 So winterization. This is basically protecting
6 equipment from freezing. These can be simple things, well
7 I wouldn't say simple, but this could be something like
8 putting antifreeze in the system, kind of like we do in our
9 cars to keep it from freezing. You can insulate equipment
10 with blanket, with basically a thermal blanket that's
11 designed. You can put equipment in buildings and keep them
12 warm. NERC and FERC Report from the 2011 event showed it
13 costs approximately \$20,000 to \$50,000 per well to
14 permanently winterize them. Then the Federal Reserve Bank
15 of Dallas estimated the losses in Texas alone from the
16 winter storm Uri, this is Texas alone with \$4.3 billion.
17 So if an event like Uri happens once every 10 years, that's
18 \$430 million dollars a year, approximately, and that's more
19 than what it would cost to winterize these systems. And
20 this is only talking about Texas. This is not expanding
21 out how much it costs all the way to here, to California,
22 and the rest of the Midcontinent, and other areas. And
23 there is concern that events like Uri could happen more
24 often, which just from what we know, we've had three in the
25 last 10 years. Next slide, please.

1 We studied New Mexico. They were particularly
2 hard hit in the February 2011 polar vortex event. There,
3 approximately 32,000 homes and businesses went without
4 natural gas for several days. A state of emergency was
5 issued. They had to open up numerous warming centers. At
6 a point, they had to bring the National Guard out to help
7 re-light the pilot lights. And this kind of furthers
8 Melissa's point about relighting the pilots. A person has
9 to go to every single house, they have to make sure
10 everything's okay, and then relight the pilot light. And
11 compounding that problem is someone has to be home to let
12 them in. And if they have no gas or electricity, they
13 could be at one of these warming centers or they could be
14 with someone else's house. So it's very time consuming,
15 very cost intensive. That's why Core is usually, they do
16 everything to do to keep their lights on. Next slide,
17 please.

18 So what did New Mexico do? Mexico -- the New
19 Mexico utilities contracted for more natural gas and fuel
20 oil and took other power options from the open market. The
21 New Mexico Gas Company shifted away from the Permian Basin
22 natural gas to San Juan when they realized this event was
23 coming. San Juan did not see these extreme cold
24 temperatures and did not see production losses. El Paso
25 Electric contracted with fuel oil suppliers for their

71

1 Montana plant. And this is in Western El Paso County in
2 Texas. So it's part of the WECC, not part of ERCOT. The
3 public service company of New Mexico also took numerous
4 other power options from the Western grid. And both New
5 Mexico Gas Company and El Paso Electric improved and
6 winterized their electric and natural gas infrastructure
7 after the 2011 incident. They did things like expand
8 pipeline sizes, expanded their electricity infrastructure,
9 they winterized much of their equipment. Next slide,
10 please.

11 So kind of in summary and some conclusions.
12 After this event, Texas Governor Abbott signed Senate Bill
13 3, which is to winterize production wells in the state of
14 Texas. However, the caveat about it is these are supposed
15 to be wells that directly supply power plants.
16 Unfortunately, there's no way to tell which well or which
17 place is necessarily feeding directly to a power plant
18 unless they have a direct connection from point A to point
19 B, which they usually or most likely do not. Gas is kind
20 of like electricity, it goes into a big pool, and you pull
21 from it. So there's some kind of issues with this.

22 California is also, like I said, it's at the end
23 of the natural gas line, so we're susceptible to these
24 extreme events outside of California. We didn't see the
25 cold weather here. It was there at -- in the Midwest and

1 the Midcontinent and still affected us. And this can also
2 happen in summer when as a heat wave hits those areas. You
3 know, Texas is going to get the gas, then New Mexico, then
4 Arizona. All these other places are going to pull gas off
5 those El Paso lines and the trans western lines before they
6 ever even get to us. These can lead to significant rate
7 and price impacts. And we are very reliant on natural gas
8 storage to mitigate these extreme events. And next slide.

9 And that concludes my presentation. And I will
10 turn it back to you, Heather. Thank you.

11 MS. RAITT: Thank you so much, Anthony. Next we
12 have Jean Spencer, and she is the project supervisor at the
13 CPUC. So go ahead, Jean.

14 MS. SPENCER: Hi Heather. I don't see my slides.

15 MS. RAITT: Let's see. Here they come.

16 MS. SPENCER: Okay, thank you. All right. So my
17 presentation is going to echo a lot of what you've heard
18 today, but I'm going to be focusing specifically on the
19 impacts of the polar vortex in California. Next slide.

20 So I'm going to be looking at the difference
21 between the impact on PG&E versus SoCalGas, how impacts
22 were different by customer class, how it impacted
23 electricity prices, and then I'm going to focus in a little
24 bit on SoCalGas because that's where a majority of the
25 price spikes occurred. Next slide.

1 So the difference, this chart just shows the
2 difference between the average spot market prices in the
3 SoCal service territory versus the PG&E service territory.
4 And as you can see, PG&E spiked, I think up to \$11 and then
5 went back down fairly quickly. SoCalGas got up to, and
6 this is the average price, \$140 MMBtu. And for comparison,
7 normal is \$3.00. So this is just an astronomical
8 difference compared to normal prices. And they stayed
9 quite high for several days and had a much more significant
10 impact on the south. Next slide.

11 So why are these differences? I think Anthony
12 already mentioned some of them. One is that PG&E is less
13 exposed to Texas Gas. As you mentioned, they get a lot of
14 gas from Canada, and they really leaned hard on that
15 Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin. You can see on the map
16 up at the top. So that was the second part. They're less
17 exposed to Texas and they have access to Canada. They have
18 more total storage because PG&E has its own storage fields
19 but there's also the independent storage providers in
20 Northern California, which have a lot of extra storage
21 inventory. And storage is also available to noncore
22 customers in Northern California. In Southern California,
23 since the Aliso Canyon gas leak, there has not been
24 sufficient storage for noncore customers to purchase new
25 contracts. So they're really exposed to pipeline gas in

1 the south in a way that they're not in the north. Next
2 slide.

3 This is just to reiterate, this is the amount of
4 gas flowing west from the Permian Basin, which was, as
5 everyone mentioned, the hardest hit. Just, it just kind of
6 fell off a cliff during this event. We did hear from, you
7 know, some of the customers that there were some cuts to
8 firm contracts from other Basins, but nothing on the scale
9 of the Permian, which as was also mentioned previously,
10 supplies the southern part of the SoCalGas system in normal
11 times. Next slide.

12 So this is a visual of what was happening in each
13 of the two service territories. And you can see in the
14 PG&E service territory, the orange is storage, and the blue
15 is Canada. And that's basically where all their gas was
16 coming from. There's just really marginal amounts coming
17 from the other areas. At some points during this event,
18 PG&E was getting 70% of its gas -- of its gas demand and
19 supply by gas from storage. In the SoCalGas service
20 territory, there was a lot of gas coming out of storage as
21 well, but they just don't have as much storage available.
22 So they just couldn't pull as much out of storage. Some of
23 the pipelines went down quite low, as you can see. And
24 then a lot of the gas was coming in from El Paso and
25 Kern/Mojave, which it, supplies are coming a little bit

1 more to the north. Next slide.

2 So this -- So I put some numbers on that picture
3 on the last slide. SoCalGas went through about 5.3 Bcfs
4 during this period. Excuse me. PG&E withdrew about 5.7,
5 but that's only part of the story because you have Wild
6 Goose, Lodi, Gill Ranch, and Central Valley. And combined
7 in northern California, 17.5 billion cubic feet of gas came
8 out of storage to meet demand, compared to 5.3 in the -- in
9 the north. So that just had a huge impact on flattening
10 gas prices in the north. Next slide.

11 Okay. So the next thing I want to talk about is
12 who is actually paying these stock market prices? And it
13 wasn't everybody. It's important to understand that, you
14 know, there's different ways to contract for gas. And if
15 you have a firm contract, you get -- you pay the price that
16 you agreed to when you signed the contract. So if I had
17 signed a contract for all of winter and I was going to pay,
18 let's say, \$3.50 MMBtu for my gas, that's what I was paying
19 during this event. I was not paying the spot market price.
20 And if I have a firm contract, I'm first in line for
21 whatever supply is available. So if there's cuts, I might
22 get cut. But everybody, you know, anyone else is going to
23 be cut before me and I'll probably have a pro-rata cut than
24 a complete cut to my gas, unless things are just terribly
25 dire. So if you have a firm contract, you're in a really

76

1 different position during an event like this than if you
2 have -- if you're out in the spot market. And core
3 customers, which as was mentioned earlier, the residential
4 and small business customers tend to have a lot of firm
5 contracts. And the reason for that is the utilities buy
6 their suppliers, and the CPUC regulates the utilities, and
7 they -- we require them to hold at least 100% of their
8 average daily winter demand in firm pipeline contracts.
9 And we also require them to hold set amounts of inventory
10 in storage at the beginning of winter. And that's to
11 ensure that core reliability, which as everyone mentioned,
12 is so critical because of the pilot light issue. So the
13 thing about holding all this firm pipeline and storage
14 contracts is that it's more expensive on the average day.
15 But you know that Warren Buffett thing about when the tide
16 goes out, you find out who's been swimming naked. Well
17 core is not just wearing a bathing suit, they're like
18 wearing a Victorian bathing costume.

19 So when there's a crisis, they are way more
20 covered than your average customer. And I don't want to
21 imply that they could never be hurt because they could if
22 it was really high demand in California, they would be out
23 in the spot market too, because if demand was super high,
24 their firm contracts wouldn't cover it all. But in an
25 event like this where there was moderate demand in

1 California, they had gas to spare and so they sold gas into
2 the market. And that made a lot of money for ratepayers,
3 actually. PG&E ratepayers getting \$89.3 million back.
4 SoCalGas ratepayers are getting \$123 million dollars back
5 because of some of the gas that was sold in February. Next
6 slide.

7 So noncore customers are in a really different
8 situation when it comes to their gas supply, and these
9 include commercial industrial as well as electric
10 generation. They purchase their own gas, and we have
11 nothing to do with it. We don't regulate it. We're not
12 allowed to regulate it. So they are making their own
13 decisions about risk exposure. And we also don't have much
14 insight, you know, they're making their own decisions,
15 they're making their own purchases, we don't know whether
16 they gained or lost or how they did. You know, that's a
17 black box as far as we're concerned. And as I mentioned
18 before, in Southern California, the noncore can't purchase
19 new storage contracts. So they don't have that -- they
20 don't have any way to hedge against events like the one we
21 saw where the supply just wasn't available outside of the
22 state.

23 Within the non-core customer class, different
24 groups, I would guess, again I don't have firm date on
25 this, were contracted differently. Industrial customers

1 often have predictable loads. So if you have, if you know
2 for example, say you're going to use one 100 million cubic
3 feet every day, it would make a lot of sense for you to
4 enter into a firm contract for that. So you know, you're
5 getting your gas every day. But if you -- if you have
6 really variable demand, it can be really, you know, a hard
7 financial decision to enter into a firm contract, and
8 that's what you see with the electric generators,
9 especially those in the CAISO market, they don't know
10 whether they're going to run or not until the day ahead.
11 And so they don't want to enter into long term gas
12 contracts, which means they're in the spot market. Like if
13 I had to bet who is in the spot market during this event,
14 would bet a lot of it was electric generators. And that
15 has an impact on electric prices. Next slide.

16 So gas fired electric generators tend to be the
17 marginal unit in the CAISO market. So they tend to set the
18 price at which the, you know, the electricity clears and
19 that's what happened here. So when there's prices in the
20 gas market, I mean when prices spike in the gas market,
21 they cause price spikes in the electric market, and they
22 also tend to happen across the state. So NP15 is Northern
23 California, SP15 is Southern California. The prices, the
24 electricity spikes, prices spiked in both markets because
25 it's more of a statewide electricity market. Even though

79

1 the PG&E gas prices were low. Those Southern California
2 gas prices were high and that impacted electricity markets
3 across the state. We've seen that happen repeatedly.
4 Fortunately, in this event, it was a relatively low
5 electric demand period. So even though the prices were,
6 they were higher than I've ever seen, far higher than I've
7 ever seen, there wasn't that much demand that was paying
8 those prices. So compared to like summer 2018, I don't
9 think the impacts on electric, you know, overall electric
10 vehicles will be as significant. Next slide.

11 Okay. So this has been covered a bit, so I'll
12 just go over this quickly. But what we saw because of the,
13 you know this kind of crash in production in Texas was the
14 Receipt Point Utilization was way down. So that means the
15 pipelines are flowing half full. If you look at the 16th,
16 I think SoCalGas mentioned this already. My number is 1%
17 higher. I had it at 48% full. The pipelines just
18 were -- they were flowing more or less half full because
19 they're just, the supply was just not available. Next
20 slide.

21 And as I think this was mentioned previously, but
22 I think it's helpful to have this in mind with looking at
23 the next slide, there's two main reliability standards for
24 the Southern California area. There's a 1-in-10 cold day
25 and a 1-in-35. So the 1-in-10 day is the coldest day in 10

1 years. But it actually is a higher demand number than the
2 1-in-35 day because it assumes that all customers will be
3 served. No one will be curtailed. And the forecasted
4 number for 2021 was 4,967 million cubic feet a day. Or you
5 could say 4.9 Bcf, or billion cubic feet. And the 1-in-35
6 day, because it's only core customers being served, is only
7 3,440. So it is actually lower. So that's important to
8 keep in mind on the next slide.

9 So as this was happening, you know, I think about
10 reliability every day and what was going through my mind
11 was it's really mild weather here in California right now.
12 What would be happening if we were having a high demand day
13 here in California? And I think, I just want to point out
14 here, that it's worth mentioning that I'm not sure that
15 that would happen because, you know, the Rocky Mountains, I
16 do, I think provide us some protection from these kind of
17 polar vortex. I am by no means a climate expert, but I
18 think that's something we should be looking at. Are we
19 likely to ever have as cold a day in California as are
20 having at Texas at the same time? I think that's a
21 critical question.

22 But if we did, which was what my thought
23 experiment was here, what would have happened during this
24 event? So this first table, you know in the first column
25 is just the dates of the event. The second column is the

1 receipts that came onto the system, so that's the gas
2 that's flowing in from the interstate pipelines. The third
3 column is the available withdrawal capacity. So that's how
4 much gas you could pull from storage on that particular
5 day. And then the actual send-out. And as was mentioned
6 previously, the send-out was super low, less than half of a
7 peak day for most of these days. So in our actual event,
8 there was a surplus for the day. However, in a 1-in-10
9 day, there would have been huge curtailments, as much as
10 2,037 on the 16th, which I just want to point out that's,
11 even though no one's supposed to be curtailed on a 1-in-10
12 day, that would actually get down to the core level on that
13 kind of day. That is a huge amount of curtailments. On a
14 1-in-35 day, again, just highly concerning that you would
15 still be seeing core curtailments even with all the noncore
16 customers curtailed. Next slide.

17 Okay. So then the second part of my thought
18 experiment, and I think one of the Commissioners asked a
19 question similar to this, is what if demand had been higher
20 and Aliso Canyon was closed? So this table is you know, the
21 first few columns are the same as the previous table. The
22 only difference is the available withdrawal capacity is
23 lowered to indicate the unavailability of Aliso Canyon. So
24 what happens here is, again, just huge curtailments on a 1-
25 in-10 day and actually even curtailments during the actual

82

1 event that we had, which was a very low demand day. You
2 can see on the 16th there's actually 35 million cubic feet
3 of curtailments on that day. And the 1-in-35, again, just a
4 huge, curtailments. I mean this would be, you know, just a
5 kind of catastrophe of pilot relighting afterwards. Next
6 slide.

7 So again, I feel like I'm, you know I'm
8 reiterating points that have been -- that have been made
9 earlier, that California is at the end of the interstate
10 pipelines and that poses supply risks that are beyond our
11 control. We can't control what Texas does with its
12 winterization. You know, we can't control what FERC does
13 or, you know, things like that. That's just beyond what we
14 can control. What is in the State's control to mitigate
15 against these kind of supply risks, are access to diverse
16 gas basins and storage. So I think, you know, even with
17 SoCalGas the, as you saw, that because they had access to
18 different Basins, they were able to keep the supply coming,
19 even though it got really tight during this event. So with
20 that, I --

21 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you. Thank you, Jean,
22 for the presentation, and Anthony. Really helpful. I
23 mean, I have a ton of questions, but I and I have the
24 privilege of talking to both of you on a more regular
25 basis. So I'll first pass on, the baton, to anybody else

1 who might want to ask questions. Commissioner
2 Rechtschaffen, please. You're muted, Commissioner.

3 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: I have a question
4 and a comment and maybe another question, but they're
5 short. What -- if we were to translate the polar vortex
6 into a Probabilistic Assessment of our cold winter days,
7 what would we equate it to? Is it 1-in-35, 1-in-90. Do we
8 have any sense, or Anthony, do you know what it was just in
9 terms of the Texas Grid planning planners, do we have any
10 sense of that at all?

11 MR. DIXON: Didn't look into the probabilistic of
12 it, but I know just from looking at Jean's, she did the
13 1-in-10, which I'm guessing that was the, her equating
14 that. So yeah. But we can look into it. I didn't -- did
15 not look into seeing what it would have
16 probabilistically --

17 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Yeah.

18 MR. DIXON: -- for their system and what they
19 were checking into.

20 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: Yeah.

21 MR. DIXON: But it's something we can definitely
22 look into.

23 COMMISISONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: I understand. You
24 know, 44 degrees below zero, it has to be a fairly extreme
25 outlier for what we normally plan for. [indiscernible]

1 question. I'll ask my question and then I'll make a
2 comment. Do we know if FERC is likely to make any
3 recommendations or, I don't know if they impose
4 requirements on things like winterization of distribution
5 facilities or otherwise. But Jean or Anthony, do we have
6 any sense of what they might do in the aftermath of what
7 happened this winter?

8 MS. SPENCER: So I have a very limited knowledge
9 of FERC. I apologize. I did see some movement where they
10 were kind of rumbling about doing something. I, and again
11 I'm not a legal expert in this either, I do think there's a
12 limited, you know the gas system is quite deregulated,
13 especially the production, the gas production side of the
14 system. So I, you know I, this is definitely not a legal
15 opinion. I'm not sure how much they can do, but I do think
16 they are increasingly interested in it as they see how much
17 gas and electric reliability is intertwined.

18 COMMISSIONER RECHTSCHAFFEN: That comment I was
19 going to make probably repeats the obvious, since I didn't
20 say it, it has --maybe it should be said. In all
21 seriousness, the combination of an outlier event or what
22 seems to be an outlier event in this winter where it's 44
23 degrees below normal and then the heat storms and the heat
24 storms we've had this summer where in the northwest or
25 Canada, temperatures are 30 or 40 degrees above normal at

85

1 climate threshold -- climate scientists are now thinking we
2 may have crossed the threshold where the climate's going to
3 behave in unpredict -- very unpredictable ways and the heat
4 storms like this may be the norm. And you have the similar
5 event with what we've seen in wildfires, where last season
6 the wildfire acreage doubled from the prior year when
7 climate scientists thought that would take 30 or 40 or 50
8 years. All of this it scrambles how we think about
9 reliability issues and these standards, and Joseph's point
10 of how much we have -- we, you know, what are we going to
11 pay for reliability and what that even means in the context
12 of these extreme and unpredictable events makes our
13 challenges even greater. I don't have any solutions, I'm
14 just thinking aloud and reflecting upon some of the lessons
15 that we're taking from these very extreme, unpredictable
16 events.

17 MS. SPENCER: If I can just ---

18 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah. Thank you. Go ahead,
19 Jean.

20 MS. SPENCER: -- respond to that. And I just
21 want to say that's one of the challenges that we're seeing,
22 is that on the gas side, we do expect gas, average gas
23 demand to go down significantly. But it's really unclear
24 whether peak demand is going to go down and if so, by how
25 much. And that the peak demand is what drives the amount

1 of infrastructure you need. So that's one of my concerns,
2 is that if these peaks are really wild, then we might have
3 to maintain a lot of infrastructure for reliability, which
4 is, you know, obviously more expensive than maintaining
5 less.

6 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Thank you, Jean. Thank you,
7 Commissioner Rechtschaffen. I know President Mainzer
8 raised his hand, so thank you.

9 PRESIDENT MAINZER: Thank you Commissioner. Yes.
10 I actually, Commissioner Rechtschaffen, I wanted to
11 respond. It's actually a really interesting line of
12 questioning. I was just going to offer, you know I think
13 that on the FERC Technical Conference on Western Resource
14 Adequacy a couple of weeks ago. This was actually a really
15 interesting question that Commissioner Glick raised. I
16 think, you know, the Commission tends to, you know, have a
17 pretty light footprint with respect to, you know certainly
18 state level resource planning and, you know, things that
19 are kind of in the jurisdiction of Public Utility
20 Commissions, etcetera, in terms of, you know, specifics for
21 individual research participants.

22 But they did ask a question, could they be
23 helpful or what would be a mechanism to develop a greater
24 sort of understanding of what's, for example, loss of load
25 probability means? Do you need to have some more

1 standardized definitions of some of these resource adequacy
2 metrics so that you could develop a better sense of you
3 know, what does 1-in-10 mean? Once every 10 years? Once,
4 you know days, months? What's the time definition? And
5 then -- and then also, how do you start taking these
6 uncertainty variables that you were talking about, in terms
7 of weather volatility, load volatility, and packing that
8 uncertainty into your assessment of what a reserve margin
9 even looks like anymore? So that that was an interesting
10 question.

11 And I'm not sure we necessarily want, you know,
12 sort of some sort of FERC regulation on that,. But even at
13 a subregional level, like we described yesterday, working
14 with the power pool up north, working with the desert
15 southwest entities, working with others to develop a little
16 bit more of a common definition and then socializing the
17 expectations around extreme events, seems like it would be
18 useful because at the end of the day, cost considerations
19 and those different tradeoffs come in. So I was just going
20 to offer that perspective, and see if anybody has any
21 reactions to that, if that's consistent with your thinking.

22 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Well, I can actually
23 respond partially to that. Not that it was pointed to me,
24 but part of my question for these, Anthony and Jean, too,
25 is you know this, certainly we have a narrow but regulation

1 over some of the electric generators that are utility
2 owned. But to your point, Elliott, is there, just as
3 you've recently required some firm contracts for firm
4 imports for the LSEs, is there also more we can be doing
5 about what the electric generators have to do with their
6 firm gas supplies to participate in the ISO as an example?
7 Or, you know, certainly, can we be exploring what the
8 utility owned electric generation must control, or even
9 potentially with all the LSEs must have as part of their
10 generation contracts?

11 It's very clear that there's, as we've all said,
12 the dependency on storage to both reliability and avoiding
13 the tremendous cost impacts of when these gas prices peak
14 is necessary, but also that there's not much being done
15 from the electric generator community. And that's part of
16 the question we have, and hopefully we'll explore further
17 in this afternoon's panels. And they could even be looking
18 at some of what Jean mentioned in terms of firm contracts,
19 but also the use of storage for those noncore customers.

20 But I did want to also add, obviously, the other
21 strategy. I know everyone's mentioned the utilization of
22 storage as one of these immediate, obvious needs that we
23 have. But the other obvious need that we have is, as we
24 all sit here, and we talk about this volatility in our
25 climate, and we know that the impact of methane to that

1 volatility and this kind of perverse necessity to continue
2 to rely on one of the leading causes of the heating of our
3 climate. We know that the other strategy is obviously to
4 invest in non-gas generation. To then, and local non gas
5 generation, and we're obviously very limited in that. But
6 that's the obvious other thing that we need to be acting on
7 immediately. Something obviously that we talked more about
8 yesterday.

9 So I just wanted to say that really wasn't a
10 question that we need to act just as aggressively on these
11 strategies to find that clean net peak generation that we
12 need to have and particularly, the more of that that's
13 local, the better.

14 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah. Thank you. Thank
15 you, Commissioner. It's thoughtful words. So I think I,
16 just in interest of time, I will bring it back to Heather,
17 unless anyone from the dais has a pressing question. So I
18 don't see anything. And I did think one way of like a
19 comment that I think -- oh. Commissioner Monahan. Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER MONAHAN: Yeah. I don't really have
21 a, it's not a question, but just a really quick comment.
22 And I'm not going to be here for the afternoon, but I want
23 to just build on what Commissioner Rechtschaffen was
24 saying, and Elliott as well, in terms of this sense we have
25 that, you know, our old metrics and ways of evaluating

1 risks are in flux. And 1-in-10 no longer seems necessarily
2 like the right metric because we're seeing an increase in
3 these polar vortex, high heat events across the country.
4 And so it -- we're just in this, I think period of real
5 dilemma about well, how do you make sure that we have
6 sufficient resources to account for when these extreme
7 events occur and they're occurring on a more frequent basis
8 because of climate change.

9 And as Commissioner Guzman Aceves said, we have
10 to move to lower carbon energy sources that are resilient
11 and build resilience into our greater storage, and reliance
12 on strategies to address, you know, when we are having high
13 heat events, how do we make sure that we have enough
14 resources for critical needs to prepare for them? And so
15 just this growing sense, I think, that we're all struggling
16 with about how do we make sure that we're doing all we can
17 to protect Californians and make sure we have a resilient,
18 affordable energy system while also making sure that we're
19 accounting for some of these high heat, high cold polar
20 vortex event. So just a comment more than anything else.

21 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: So thank you, Commissioner
22 Monahan. I think you put it really well. And I think
23 Commissioner Martha Guzman Aceves kind of mentioned this
24 morning about the equity of this entire transition. I
25 think from my kind of vantage point, just as a closing

1 thought on this really is, you know, we have a pretty
2 robust planning process now on the electricity side,
3 obviously. Even though we have a robust planning process,
4 it's still I know we're going through this incredible flux
5 that requires, you know, additional. And I think this is
6 this is really an opportunity for us to think through, you
7 know, the robust planning kind of a framework for the gas
8 side. And I know -- I know Jean is involved in this, and
9 Commissioner Rechtschaffen of the, you know the CPUC has
10 the proceeding coming on the Phase 3 I believe, or the
11 Phase 2 on the Natural Gas Transition.

12 So I think, you know, we are in an incredible
13 transitional period and then everything that's hitting us,
14 you know, this last year and then now we are observing. So
15 I'm just, I'm grateful for the staff, for their continued
16 work. And I really would like us to really think through
17 how broadly we can conserve our scenarios so we can really
18 think through a path that's reliable, safe, and equitable
19 for State of California. So hopefully we'll get there. So
20 with that, I'll pass it to Heather.

21 MS. RAITT: Thank you, Commissioner. So I think
22 we have time for one question from attendees. So Jennifer
23 Campagna, if you can so the companies could go ahead and
24 read out the question. Thank you.

25 MS. CAMPAGNA: Yes. A question from Jack Cheng.

1 Is there a reason why this SoCalGas deficit was lower for
2 the 1-in-35 day than for a 1-in-10 day? It seems like it
3 should be higher for the 1-in-35 day.

4 MS. SPENCER: Yeah. That's why I presented the
5 standards before I got into that. So the 1-in-35 Forecast
6 is actually lower because it assumes that all the noncore
7 customers are curtailed. So hospitals, electric
8 generators, refineries, everybody is curtailed. The only
9 people who are still getting their gas are the residential
10 and small business customers. That's why it's lower.

11 MS. CAMPAGNA: Okay, thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: If, I mean, I think I see
13 only one other questions. Heather, do you think it's okay
14 for us to get to that one question too?

15 MS. RAITT: Sure. Go ahead.

16 MS. CAMPAGNA: Okay. Question from Norm Peterson
17 and this is for Jean. Brian Walker said, SoCalGas's
18 Receipt Point Utilization dropped as low as 47% during the
19 polar vortex event. Has the Energy Division been able to
20 determine how much of that decline in RPU was because the
21 Gas Acquisition Department decided to sell into the market,
22 taking market away from border flowing supplies and making
23 the \$123 million for the core and shareholders through the
24 gas cost incentive mechanism? Let me know if you need me
25 to repeat any part of that.

1 MS. SPENCER: I think I've got that. I don't
2 know if we looked at that specifically, but I mean, I think
3 it's really we, a lot of what we know I can't discuss
4 publicly. So what can I say here? I would say that gas
5 acquisition is required to meet the needs of its customers.
6 And it did that. So we could perhaps delve into more
7 detail. We have delved into some detail, but I think
8 that's about the extent of what I can say.

9 COMMISSIONER GUZMAN ACEVES: Jean, can I ask a
10 follow up on that? I don't know if it's -- so we were
11 withdrawing at this, during these days, obviously, to keep
12 everyone served. But the fact that we were selling as
13 well. Is that a practice -- should we have allowed the gas
14 company to sell gas that otherwise could have been kept in
15 inventory?

16 MS. SPENCER: So let's see. So the core, I mean
17 the gas acquisition is supposed to get the best deal
18 possible for core customers. That's its role. And the one
19 thing, you know and again, back to Norm's question a little
20 bit. A lot of times it wouldn't necessarily mean that gas
21 is going out of California through the pipelines. It might
22 just be that gas is sold before it gets to California. So
23 that would be my guess as to what happened as far as, you
24 know, gas that was sold elsewhere.

25 As far as keeping it in storage, I think, I mean

1 this would just be my take, is if we were looking at a
2 situation similar to, and I'm trying to remember what year
3 it was. Was it '18, '19 when gas stored supplies were
4 critically, dangerously low? If I saw gas acquisition
5 selling gas out of storage in that circumstances, I would
6 be very, very concerned because the storage was low. It
7 was very dangerously low. However, that wasn't the case
8 this year. And I would say again that I think there was a
9 lot of effort to supply the Southern System from the north
10 that was helpful to the entire area.

11 So I guess the way the way it's set up now, gas
12 markets are really deregulated and that's the rules of the
13 game as they are set up right now. I don't, I guess I
14 think that's open to question how people feel about that.
15 You do see these huge gas prices, and I think gas spikes
16 got up to \$1,250 in Oklahoma, but that is a way of
17 allocating scarce resources in a time of great crisis when
18 people's lives are on the line. Whether that's the correct
19 way, I would venture.

20 MS. RAITT: Okay. Commissioner Gunda, I think we
21 should probably move on to public comment.

22 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Absolutely, Heather.

23 MS. RAITT: Thank you, Jean and thank you,
24 Anthony. Very much appreciate that. So RoseMary Avalos
25 from the Public Adviser's Office is here to manage public

1 comment, so go ahead RoseMary.

2 MS. AVALOS: Thank you, Heather. Commenters,
3 please allow one person per organization to make a comment.
4 And comments are limited to three minutes per person. I'll
5 first call on the folks using the hand raise on Zoom. We
6 have Norman Peterson. Your line is open. Please state
7 your name, your first and last name, and spell your first
8 and last name and let us know if you have an affiliation.
9 So go ahead and speak. You may need to unmute on your end.

10 MR. PETERSON: Yes. My name is Norm Peterson,
11 but I actually did not have a comment. I asked my
12 questions through the question feature.

13 MS. AVALOS: All right. Well thank you. So
14 we'll move on to the phone line and we have 497. Go ahead
15 and open your line by hitting *9. All right. Please take
16 your first and last name and spell your first and last name
17 and any affiliation as well. Go ahead.

18 MR. PETERSON: Good afternoon. This is Todd
19 Peterson, T-O-D-D, P-E-T-E-R-S-O-N. I'm a principle with
20 Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Energy Procurement and
21 Policy. So PG&E appreciate the opportunity to provide
22 comments on the Integrated Energy Policy Report, the Joint
23 Agency workshop today. Something PG&E would like to do is
24 to encourage the California Energy Commission, the
25 California Public Utilities Commission, and the California

96

1 Gas Utilities to work collectively to look more closely at
2 the projected summer and winter peak conditions,
3 particularly as electric vehicle use and building
4 electrification policies grow.

5 PG&E also recognizes the need for more granular
6 gas demand projections than just the annual average gas
7 projections that we've see, to better understand a few key
8 elements, particularly infrastructure needs. We do see
9 growth in electric vehicles and growth in municipal
10 building electrification policies. And then, as we talked
11 about earlier today, particularly the relative daily and
12 seasonal gas demand variability and particularly as
13 California finds more intermittent gas generation capacity
14 vary, are hydro conditions and also electric vehicle and
15 building electrification policies.

16 Another point to look at here is to acknowledge
17 the importance of the relative Northern and Southern
18 California gas prices that certainly impact the economic
19 dispatch of electric generation, and particularly in the
20 CAISO marketplace. And that this can cause electric
21 generation gas throughput to change significantly in one
22 region or one service territory versus another, on these
23 relative gas prices. I have -- PG&E will strive to provide
24 written comments by July 23rd to elaborate more on these
25 verbal comments.

1 Thank you for the opportunity.

2 MS. AVALOS: All right. Thank you. And seeing
3 there are no other raised hands, this completes public
4 comment. I now turn to Commissioner Gunda.

5 COMMISSIONER GUNDA: Yeah. Thank you RoseMary.
6 Thank you again to all the panelists and all the attendees
7 for the questions and the comments, as well as the time
8 that the panelists gave us today and sharing their thoughts
9 in their subject matter expertise, but also answering the
10 questions. I think it really important, incredibly
11 important conversation. And I'm glad that we are having
12 this today. And I hope most of you are able to join for
13 the afternoon session, which will be led by Commissioner
14 Martha Guzman Aceves, specifically looking at Aliso Canyon
15 and the reliability issues there.

16 So I'm guessing we'll be back at 2 o'clock as per
17 plan. But before I hand it over to Heather, maybe just ask
18 Commissioner McAllister if he has any comments and then
19 pass it back to Heather.

20 COMMISSIONER MCALLISTER: Great. Thank you,
21 Commissioner Gunda. Yeah. Just looking forward to having
22 everyone back here in the afternoon. Thanks to all the
23 presenters. That was incredibly substantive. A lot of
24 good, solid baseline information for us to utilize in
25 deliberations going forward throughout the IEPR cycle and

1 beyond. Really helpful level setting. And again, I think
2 building on what we talked about yesterday on the electric
3 side, you know, sobering in terms of just identifying the
4 challenges and the potential challenges that you have some
5 likelihood of occurring and creating, you know, really near
6 term stresses for the gas and electric side. So really
7 appreciate that. Looking forward to this afternoon. Thank
8 you, Commissioner Guzman Aceves for initiating and leading
9 that.

10 And so with that, I think we're adjourned for the
11 morning, and we'll see you at 2:00.

12 (The Joint Agency Workshop Adjourned at 12:31 p.m.)

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of October, 2021.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.



October 8, 2021

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367