



Meeting Date: September 09, 2025
Agenda Item No. 22
Batch No. 01

Brittany Applestein Syz
Vice President
External Affairs & Communications

8330 Century Park Court
San Diego, CA 92123
tel: (858) 654-1513
email: bsyz@sdge.com

Dear Chairwoman Lawson-Remer, Vice Chair Montgomery Steppe, and Honorable Members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors:

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) shares the County's deep commitment to affordability, equity, and accountability in energy services. We recognize the financial strain that rising utility costs place on San Diegans, particularly renters, low-income households, and those in wildfire-prone areas. We appreciate the County's leadership in advocating for solutions that protect ratepayers and promote transparency.

While we acknowledge the intent behind **Agenda Item 22** for the September 9, 2025, meeting titled "Support for the State's Utility Affordability and Accountability Legislative Package", this legislation does not provide immediate relief to ratepayers. We respectfully offer the following context and partnership opportunities:

- **Affordability is a key focus.** For the last 2 years, average residential bills have decreased. We are actively working to reduce costs further through targeted reforms and operational efficiencies.
- **We have proposed real, immediate savings for customers, including:**
 - We asked the legislature to remove costs for Public Purpose Programs from utility rates —saving customers approximately \$100 million annually. Public Purpose Programs have nearly tripled in price over the past 12 years.
 - We asked the CPUC for approval to discontinue **redundant** energy efficiency programs that are not cost effective, which could save customers **\$300 million over six years**. The San Diego Regional Energy Network (SDREN), which the County of San Diego is part of, will be offering similar programs to those currently offered by SDG&E and will serve all customer sectors along with programs offered at the statewide level—we want to lower bills and eliminate the risk of duplication.
 - Returning \$200 million in federal tax credits from battery storage investments, which flow through to savings for customers.



Brittany Applestein Syz
Vice President
External Affairs & Communications

8330 Century Park Court
San Diego, CA 92123
tel: (858) 654-1513
email: bsyz@sdge.com

- We requested the legislature increase the California Climate Credit and distribute it during the hot summer months when customers need it most.
- We asked the legislature to reduce or remove costs from utility rates for legislative mandates, which rose from \$15 per month in 2021 to \$38 per month in 2025. The cumulative cost of these legislative mandates—including renewable portfolio standards (RPS), public purpose programs, research and development mandates (e.g., the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC)), and more—has grown ~150% since 2012, now representing roughly one quarter of an average monthly electric bill.
- **We support accountability and transparency.** We supported AB 61, which requires the legislature to analyze the cost of any legislatively mandated program that increases rates.
- **We welcome collaboration.** Many of the goals outlined in the legislative package, such as wildfire cost mitigation, infrastructure modernization, and equitable access to clean energy, require coordinated action between utilities, regulators, and local governments. We believe that working together, we can achieve these goals without unintended consequences that may increase costs or reduce service reliability.

We respectfully ask the Board to consider SDG&E's ongoing efforts and proposed solutions as part of the broader conversation on utility affordability. We are committed to being a transparent, accountable, and engaged partner in this work.

Thank you for your leadership and for the opportunity to engage on this critical issue.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brittany Applestein Syz", written in a cursive style.

Brittany Applestein Syz
Vice President
External Affairs & Communications