

# Affordability and Electric Rates Briefing

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## **Electric Rates Overview**

### **Distribution:**

• Poles and wires that deliver energy to homes and businesses

### Transmission:

 Long-haul overhead poles and wires that deliver energy from power plants to the region

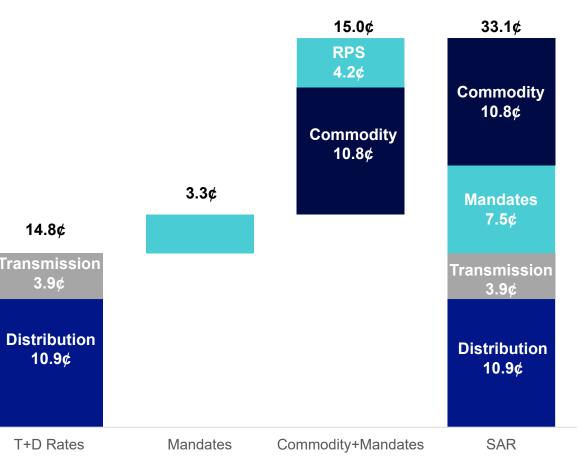
### Mandates:

- Represents ~23% of average rate
- Includes items such as tree mortality program, self generation incentive program, low-income programs, energy efficiency program, energy transition costs, and RPS program

### Commodity:

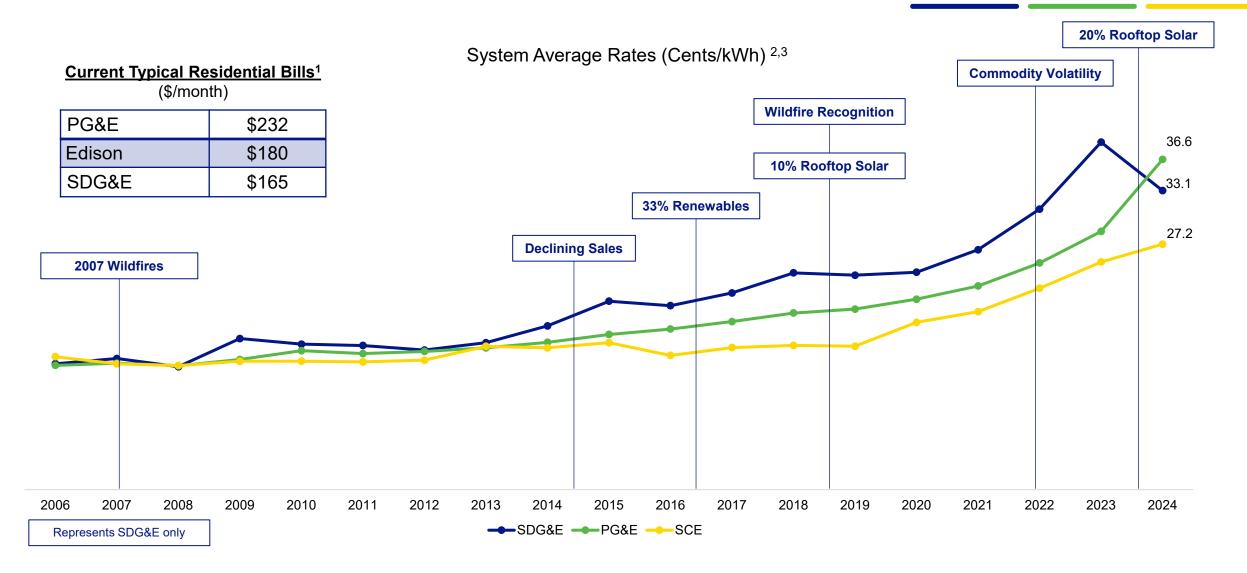
- Electricity to serve customers and utility owned generation
- SDG&E earns no profit on the cost of electricity
- Provided by a CCA for most SDG&E customers

System Average Rate Breakdown (SAR) (Cents/kWh)





## **CA IOU Historical Electric Rates and Current Residential Bills**



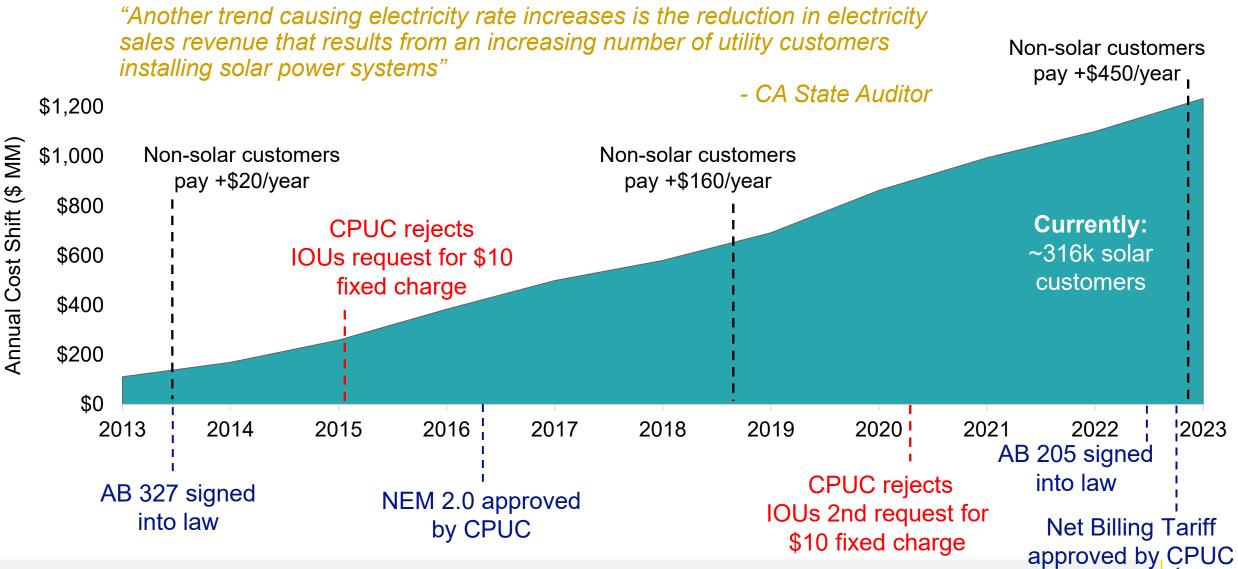


1. Average residential bill for bundled, non-CARE customer as of March 1, 2024, excluding Climate Credit. SDG&E bill based on 400 kWh. PG&E and Edison bill based on 500 kWh.

2. Represents system average rate, including Climate Credit. Source: CPUC Bundled System Average data request, and company Advice Letters.

3. 2024 system average rate as of March 1, 2024.

## **SDG&E NEM Cost Shift**





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## Supporting Affordability Requires Balancing Multiple Challenges

#### Challenges

#### Wildfire + Extreme Weather:

- 2020 was the worst fire season on record with 2021 being the second worst with four of top 20 largest fires ever
- SDG&E has invested ~\$6B to harden its system against extreme weather; no catastrophic utility-caused wildfires in SDG&E's service territory in the last 16 years

#### **State Climate Policy:**

- Aggressive, but necessary clean energy policy designed to reach net zero emissions by 2045
- Electrification will play a key role in transition, requiring additional grid investments to support additional usage and load

#### High Volumetric Rates:

- High volumetric rates are creating affordability challenges today and act as a disincentive to electrify
- Electrification may help reverse this trend over the long term

#### SDG&E's Multi-Pronged Approach

- Ensuring operations are as efficient as possible leveraging technologies such as generative AI and drone inspections of our service territory
- 2 Supporting residential rate reform to help provide more bill stability and support a more affordable energy transition relative to the current residential rate structure
- 3
- Pursuing securitization of necessary wildfire investments to help spread recovery of those costs over a longer period of time
- 4
- Continuing discussions around removing certain public policy costs from rates and funding them through other means or sunsetting certain programs



Pursuing federal dollars such as ITC for some of our energy storage projects as well as dollars from the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act for infrastructure investments



## **Electric and Gas Rate Audit Report**

- State audit of the CPUC and CA Public Advocates Office's oversight of electric and natural gas rates. The report highlighted:
  - SDG&E's rates have been set in accordance with regulation
  - Declining sales, wildfire mitigation and natural gas market costs have contributed to rate increases in recent years
  - A utility's rate of return is not guaranteed and it "may be higher or lower than the rate the CPUC authorized, depending in part how the utility manages its operations and costs"
  - SDG&E's operating expenses have minimally increased across recent rate case cycles

### Electric Utilities' Operating Expenses Change Last <u>Three General Rate Case Cycles<sup>1</sup></u>

