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July 24, 2019

**VIA EMAIL**

Ms. Alice Stebbins  
Executive Director  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Supplemental Information to San Diego Gas & Electric Company's Request for Expedited Issuance of an Initial Safety Certification Pursuant to Public Utilities Code § 8389

Dear Ms. Stebbins,

On July 18, 2019, I sent you a letter on behalf of San Diego Gas & Electric Company ("SDG&E") requesting the expeditious issuance of an Initial Safety Certificate pursuant to Public Utilities Code § 8389. Consistent with the requirements of Section 8389(f), SDG&E provided documentation that it is meeting the requirements set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), (3) and (5) of subdivision (e). This letter provides supplemental information requested by the Commission's Safety and Enforcement Division, including the following:

SDG&E's Safety Committee Charter: SDG&E's initial Safety Committee Charter is included as Attachment 1 hereto. As noted in the Charter, the purpose and responsibilities of the Committee are to serve as advisor to the Board of Directors with respect to safety matters that affect SDG&E; to review and analyze issues pertaining to safety matters; and to oversee the management of resolution of issues relating to safety matters, at the discretion of the Board.

Safety Committee Members: As noted in my July 18 letter, SDG&E has established a Safety Committee of its Board of Directors composed of members with relevant safety experience. The committee members are:

Robert J. Borthwick: Mr. Borthwick's relevant safety experience includes fifteen years of energy experience. He has held executive leadership roles in environmental health, safety, and compliance functions across energy infrastructure and renewable energy subsidiaries.

Erbin B. Keith: Since joining Sempra Energy in 1998, Mr. Keith has had responsibility for a variety of operational, safety and compliance functions. Mr. Keith, a licensed professional engineer and member of the Bar, chairs the SDG&E Safety Committee and liaises with the Sempra Energy Environmental, Health and Safety Committee.

Trevor I. Mihalik: Mr. Mihalik’s relevant safety experience includes nineteen years of executive energy infrastructure management throughout the United States and South America. Since 2000, Mr. Mihalik has held managerial board positions with gas pipeline, storage, renewable energy and utility companies.

Safety Committee Biographies: SDG&E has included biographies of the Safety Committee of its Board of Directors as Attachment 2 hereto, which include details of “extensive public safety and wildfire experience.”

Community Wildfire Safety Council: SDG&E is also establishing a Community Wildfire Safety Advisory Council (“Community Advisory Council”) comprised of independent community members who possess extensive public safety and wildfire experience. The role of the Community Advisory Council is to advise the Safety Committee on safety matters. The council will meet two to four times per year, including joint meetings with the Safety Committee. Further information about the public safety and wildfire experience of Community Advisory Council members is included in Attachment 3 hereto.

In addition, as I believe you are aware, SDG&E has been at the forefront of utility wildfire mitigation efforts since the 2007 wildfires in its service territory. SDG&E management has invested over \$1.5 billion in wildfire mitigation and prevention since 2007. We have substantially upgraded our infrastructure, including the installation of more than 18,500 new steel poles, with plans for further investment. In our Vegetation Management Program, SDG&E manages more than 460,000 trees located near powerlines in our service territory, and we have enhanced our management practices. SDG&E has developed the densest utility weather network in the country, providing enhanced situational awareness, with near real-time information on temperature, winds, and humidity across our service territory. Our meteorology team was involved in the development of the cutting-edge Fire Potential Index, which classifies the fire potential based on weather and fuel conditions in eight operating areas. That team also developed the Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index, which is used daily by the U.S. Forest Service to rate Santa Ana wind events. Further, SDG&E developed and uses a Wildfire Risk Reduction Model – integrating weather and GIS technology – to identify wildfire growth patterns and high risk areas that need system hardening. SDG&E has enhanced its operational protocols – including reclosing settings, sensitive ground fault settings, and de-energizations for public safety – to better respond to environmental risk factors. SDG&E also has substantial fire coordination and aerial assets in place, as well as wildland fire prevention resources. In our community, SDG&E has engaged in an extensive fire safety stakeholder collaboration process.

SDG&E has been widely recognized by policymakers and elected officials in the state for these efforts. For instance, Governor Newsom’s Strike Force Report noted that “SDG&E engaged in a robust fire mitigation and safety program after experiencing devastating fires in its service territory in 2007 and has become a recognized leader in wildfire safety.”<sup>1</sup> Similarly, the Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery’s Final Report stated that SDG&E “is widely recognized as a global leader on utility wildfire practices.”<sup>2</sup> But SDG&E is not resting on

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<sup>1</sup> *Wildfires and Climate Change: California’s Energy Future: A Report from Governor Newsom’s Strike Force* (April 12, 2019), p. 11.

<sup>2</sup> *Final Report of the Commission on Catastrophic Wildfire Cost and Recovery* (June 17, 2019), Appendix II, p. 7.

its accomplishments. Our goal is to continually improve our wildfire safety and mitigation efforts.

Please contact me if there is further information SDG&E can provide.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Skopel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Attachments

cc: Elizaveta Malashenko, CPUC Deputy Director for Safety and Enforcement

**ATTACHMENT 1**  
**SAFETY COMMITTEE CHARTER**

# San Diego Gas & Electric Company

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## Safety Committee Charter

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*The Safety Committee (the “Committee”) is a committee of the Board of Directors of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (the “Company”). Its charter was adopted by the Board on July 17, 2019.*

### I

#### Purpose and Responsibilities

The purpose and responsibilities of the Committee are to:

- at the direction of the Company’s board of directors (the “**Board**”), serve as an advisor to the Board with respect to safety matters that affect the Company (“**Safety Matters**”);
- review and analyze issues pertaining to Safety Matters, at the request of the Board; and
- oversee the management and resolution of issues relating to Safety Matters at the direction of the Board.

### II

#### Structure

##### 2.1 Membership

The Committee consists of not fewer than two members of the Board. The Committee’s members, including its chair, are appointed by the Board. The Board also may appoint one or more directors as alternate members of the Committee to replace any absent member at any Committee meeting.

All Committee members and alternate Committee members serve at the pleasure of the Board and any member or alternate member may be removed, with or without cause, by the Board.

##### 2.2 Power and Authority

In addition to the powers and responsibilities expressly delegated to the Committee in this charter, the members of the Committee may exercise any other powers or authority as are not inconsistent with this charter or the parameters from time to time established by the Board and

which are reasonably necessary to perform their duties and obligations and to carry out any other responsibilities as are from time to time delegated to it by the Board.

The powers and responsibilities delegated to the Committee may be exercised in any manner as the Committee deems appropriate (including delegation to subcommittees or working groups of the Committee) and without any requirement for Board approval, except as otherwise required by applicable law or the Company's charter or bylaws or as otherwise is specified in this charter or the authority delegated by the Board. While acting within the scope of the powers and responsibilities delegated to it, the Committee may exercise all the powers and authority of the Board and, to the fullest extent permitted by law, has the authority to determine which matters are within the scope of such delegated powers and authority.

The Committee has the sole authority to retain and terminate its own independent consultants and other advisors and experts ("*Professional Advisors*") and legal counsel ("*Legal Counsel*") and also may use the services of the Company's regular counsel (whether in-house or outside counsel) or other advisors to the Company as deemed appropriate by the Committee. The Company will provide appropriate funding, as determined by the Committee, for payment of compensation to Professional Advisors and Legal Counsel retained by the Committee.

Any such Professional Advisors or Legal Counsel shall serve as independent advisors or counsel to the Committee and shall perform such roles and responsibilities as the Committee may deem necessary in order for the Committee to fulfill its purposes, duties and responsibilities.

### **2.3 Procedures**

The Committee will determine its own rules of procedure with respect to the call, place, time and frequency of its meetings. In the absence of such rules, the Committee will meet at the call of its chair, or any member of the Committee, as appropriate to accomplish the purposes of the Committee. Meetings may be attended in person, by telephone conference or by video conference. Notice of meetings of the Committee will be given as provided in the Company's bylaws.

A majority or, if an even number, fifty percent (50%), of the members of the Committee will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Directors who are not members of the Committee may attend and observe meetings of the Committee, but shall not be entitled to vote. The Committee may, at its discretion, include in its meetings members of management or any other person, including, but not limited to, its Professional Advisors and Legal Counsel, whose presence the Committee believes to be desirable and appropriate.

In the absence of the Committee's chair at a meeting, the Committee members in attendance may appoint an acting chair from the members attending the meeting.

The chair of the Committee or the acting chair will report on the Committee's activities to the Board at appropriate times and as otherwise requested by the chairman of the Board or the lead independent director.

## **2.4 Committee Secretary**

The Committee shall appoint a secretary for its meetings who shall keep minutes of the proceedings and carry out other functions as may be assigned from time to time by the Committee or the Committee chair.

# **III**

## **Duties and Authority**

### **3.1 Duties**

The Committee will at the request of the Board recommend a course of action to the Board that the Committee believes is in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders, and shall independently:

- (a) examine and review, in conjunction with management, consultants, legal counsel and/or other advisors or experts, as determined to be appropriate by the Committee, the facts and circumstances related to the Safety Matters;
- (b) assess, examine and advise the Board regarding strategies, processes and alternatives which may be available to the Company with respect to such Safety Matters;
- (c) report to the Board from time to time on the Committee's activities and recommendations and provide advice as may be requested by the Board;
- (d) coordinate the Committee's efforts with the Company's senior management, as and when the Committee may deem necessary or advisable;
- (e) be entitled, without further authorization from the Board, to consider such issues as it may consider relevant to the performance of its duties and responsibilities with respect to the Safety Matters; and
- (f) perform such other duties and responsibilities with respect to Safety Matters as may be assigned by the Board from time to time; provided, that the Committee shall not bind the Company in respect of any settlement or other similar agreement related to the Safety Matters unless such action is expressly authorized by the Board.

### **3.2 Authority**

The Committee will be provided by the Company the resources and authority necessary to discharge its purpose, responsibilities and duties, including:

- (a) to engage Professional Advisors and Legal Counsel on such terms as the Committee considers appropriate and at the expense of the Company;
- (b) to direct the Company's management to assist the Committee and its Professional Advisors and Legal Counsel and provide them with information relevant to the Safety Matters as to which the Committee from time to time is acting; and
- (c) to direct the Company's management to take action on behalf of the Company, consistent with applicable law and the Committee's delegated authority, as the Committee deems necessary or advisable.

The Committee's Legal Counsel shall report directly to the Committee. Communications between the Committee's Legal Counsel and the Committee, the Board, management, employees and the Company's advisors and agents will be considered privileged and confidential communications of the Company and the Committee will endeavor to take appropriate steps to preserve the privileged nature of those communications to the extent it deems necessary or appropriate.



**ATTACHMENT 2**

**SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES**

## **Erbin B. Keith-Safety Biography**

Since joining Sempra Energy in 1998, Mr. Keith has held a variety of leadership positions, including Senior Vice President, Delivery and Operations, Sempra Energy Solutions and President of Sempra Energy Solutions; Vice President, Global Regulatory Affairs, Sempra Energy and Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Chief Compliance Officer, Sempra Energy; Senior Vice President, General Counsel & External Affairs, Southern California Gas Company, and Chief Regulatory, Risk Officer and General Counsel, San Diego Gas & Electric (“SDG&E”). Mr. Keith currently serves as Deputy General Counsel for Sempra Energy.

### ***Selected safety-related responsibilities:***

**Sempra Energy Solutions (2000-2004)** Mr. Keith led operations for Sempra Energy Solutions (a former Sempra Energy subsidiary focused on the commercial and industrial energy market.) In his capacity as Senior Vice President, Mr. Keith had responsibility for safety functions.

**Sempra Global; Sempra Energy (2004-2010)** During this time period, Mr. Keith was responsible for the safety and compliance functions of Sempra Global. Sempra Global included all Sempra-affiliated operations other than SDG&E and SoCalGas. Mr. Keith oversaw Sempra Global regulatory activity at CPUC, FERC and Mexico regulatory agencies, including authorizations for major projects, enforcement investigations, permitting and compliance plans. Mr. Keith managed environmental services and compliance for existing facilities and new project development. In 2008, Mr. Keith’s responsibilities were expanded to manage external affairs organization in Mexico.

**SDG&E (2016-2017)** Mr. Keith served as chief risk officer and general counsel for SDG&E, one of Sempra Energy’s regulated California utilities. As chief risk officer, Mr. Keith and his team were responsible for identifying safety risks and working with operational safety experts to mitigate these risks.

**Sempra Energy (2017-present)** For the past two years, Mr. Keith has served as the legal advisor to the Environmental, Health and Safety Committee (“EHS&T Committee”) of the Sempra Energy Board of Directors. In this governance role, Mr. Keith assists the EHS&T Committee chairperson in identifying critical and relevant safety topics to be reviewed by the EHS&T Committee, and assists the chairperson in the EHS&T’s committee report to the Sempra Energy Board of Directors.

### **Additional Professional Experience, Licenses and Education:**

Mr. Keith is a member of the State Bars of California and Texas and a licensed professional engineer. Before becoming a lawyer, Mr. Keith was a lead engineer and project manager for Bernard Johnson, Inc. and prior to that, at Suttles, Madget & Dabney Consulting Engineers.

In 2001, Mr. Keith was selected as “Energy Professional of the Year” by the Association of Energy Engineers. He previously served on United States Department of Energy’s first Federal Energy Management Advisory Committee.

## **Robert Borthwick-Safety Biography**

Mr. Borthwick has served in various capacities at Sempra Energy over the last 15 years. Most recently, he was general manager of Sempra Renewables, leading all aspects of Sempra's renewable energy business segment, including commercial development, finance and operations, as well as supporting the sale of its U.S. wind and solar assets. He was previously vice president and general counsel at Sempra Infrastructure, LLC, where he led the legal, environmental, health and safety, regulatory, human resources and external affairs groups supporting both Sempra Renewables and Sempra LNG. He also served as vice president and general counsel for Sempra U.S. Gas & Power, and associate general counsel for Sempra Energy.

### ***Selected safety-related responsibilities:***

**Sempra Energy (2005-2012)** Mr. Borthwick worked extensively on San Diego Gas & Electric's litigation arising out of three 2007 wildfires, specifically the Witch, Guejito, and Rice fires. He provided advice on changes and enhancements to SDGE's inspection and fire prevention procedures.

**Sempra U.S. Gas & Power/Sempra Infrastructure (2013-2018)** Mr. Borthwick had management and operational responsibility for a number of teams at Sempra U.S. Gas & Power and Sempra Infrastructure, including the environmental, health and safety (EHS) permitting and compliance functions. Safety practices included assigning a safety monitor to all major construction projects, establishing guidelines for qualified electrical worker designations, implementing a contractor safety screening process requiring contractors to meet safety metrics prior to submitting bids, establishing new minimum requirements for contractors performing critical lifts, and increasing the sharing of safety enhancements and lessons learned between plants and with industry groups. Mr. Borthwick led compliance committees for both companies and oversaw their annual risk assessments. Mr. Borthwick also served on the board of directors of two regulated public utilities, Mobile Gas in Alabama and Willmut Gas in Mississippi, from 2013 to 2016. In these board roles, he provided oversight on a variety of employee and public safety issues.

**Sempra Renewables (2018-2019)** As the General Manager for Sempra Renewables, Mr. Borthwick was responsible for operations, including health and safety. Sempra Renewables was a leader in safety compliance, conducting semi-annual safety summits to introduce new programs and share best practices, introducing a program to cross-train plant employees by having them lead semi-annual safety and environmental performance inspections at sister plants with support from safety and environmental professionals, and implementing a telemedicine service for employees at remote operating plants to provide better access to health care services. The Copper Mountain Solar complex in Nevada and the Mesquite Solar complex in Arizona were the first solar generation facilities in the United States to receive OSHA's VPP (Voluntary Protection Program) certifications.

**Sempra Energy (present)** Mr. Borthwick's responsibilities include overseeing Sempra Energy's compliance program and coordinating on compliance issues with its operating companies in California, Mexico, Chile, Peru, and Texas.

## Trevor I. Mihalik-Safety Biography

### *Selected safety-related responsibilities.*

**Bridgeline Holdings (2000-2005)** Bridgeline, a joint venture between Chevron and Targa Resources, was a gas pipeline, storage and marketing operation consisting of over 1000 miles of intrastate gas pipelines and 25 bcf of high turn salt dome gas storage. Mr. Mihalik was one of the four senior executives responsible for the daily operations of the pipeline. During Mr. Mihalik's tenure, the organization handled multiple significant events and outages. Bridgeline held annual safety summits with the field personnel to ensure compliance with the Chevron standards of safety protocol.

**Iberdrola Renewables Holdings (2006-012)** Iberdrola Renewables was the U.S. division of the Spanish utility Iberdrola S.A., one of the world's largest utility holding companies. In this position, Mr. Mihalik served as one of the four senior executives overseeing the U.S. operations. Iberdrola Renewables, the second largest wind power developer and operator in the U.S., developed and built over 6,000 MW of wind power at 60 wind farms across the U.S. Mr. Mihalik served on the Board of two joint ventures and, in that capacity, had financial and operational oversight for the wind farms. Iberdrola Renewables maintained one of the highest safety records in the industry, with a workforce involving over 700 field operating personnel.

**Sempra Energy (2012-present)** Mr. Mihalik is Executive Vice President and CFO of Sempra Energy. As a senior executive, he has held governance roles in a number of energy infrastructure and utility subsidiaries. As Chairman of the board of Chilquinta Energia and Luz del Sur, Mr. Mihalik had oversight of the management team where safety was deemed the highest priority. Part of his role included ensuring that the Sempra safety standards were adhered to for all South American operations. Worked to facilitate best practices between South American operations and the US utilities, including annual safety summit participation.

Mr. Mihalik has also served as a board member of SDG&E, SoCalGas, IEnova, Sempra U.S. Gas and Power and Sempra International. Board meetings regularly discussed and addressed safety issues and best practices.

**ATTACHMENT 3**

**COMMUNITY WILDFIRE SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

## **SDG&E COMMUNITY WILDFIRE SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

### **Donald Butz, Fire Chief, Lakeside Fire Protection District and President of San Diego County Fire Chief's Association**

Donald Butz is the Fire Chief of the Lakeside Fire Protection District. The district serves a population of approximately 62,000 residents living in the communities of Lakeside, Johnstown, Blossom Valley, Flinn Springs, Pepper Drive, Eucalyptus Hills, Wildcat Canyon and other areas of unincorporated San Diego County. Mr. Butz serves as President of the San Diego County Fire Chief's Association. Mr. Butz has also served in leadership roles in numerous communities in San Diego County, including the Lakeside fire Protection District, the Viejas Fire Department, and the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District.

### **Debbie Case, President & CEO, Meals on Wheels San Diego County**

Ms. Debbie Case is a leader in the food insecurity movement, but she is especially focused on seniors. She is the founder and leader of the San Diego Senior Alliance, a group of 20 distinct organizations which collectively serve 63,000 seniors, with a combined annual budget of \$277,400,000, that employ 2,840 individuals and enlist more than 30,000 volunteers. Ms. Case is a Patron Member of the board of directors of USO San Diego and is a board member of the national Meals on Wheels America.

### **Dr. Neal Driscoll, Professor of Geosciences, University of California San Diego**

Dr. Neal Driscoll is a Professor of Geosciences at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego ("UCSD"). Dr. Driscoll, along with the UCSD and University of Nevada Reno team was instrumental in the rapid deployment of SDG&E's utility scale high definition and high resolution camera network. The Alert SDG&E Cameras have become a critical wildfire safety tool.

### **John Ohanian, President & CEO, 2-1-1 San Diego**

Mr. Ohanian is President and Chief Executive Officer of 2-1-1 San Diego, a non-profit agency that serves as a resource and information hub to connect people to community, health, and disaster services. As a leader of the state and national network of 2-1-1 organizations, Mr. Ohanian is well known in Sacramento and Washington D.C.

### **Jerry Sanders, President and CEO San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Jerry Sanders began his lifelong career in public service when he joined the San Diego Police Department at the age of 22, ultimately serving as the SWAT Team commander before becoming one of the youngest police chiefs in the city's history. In 1999, Mr. Sanders retired from the police force and became CEO of the United Way of San Diego. Three years later, Mr. Sanders chaired the board of the local chapter of the American Red Cross. From 2005 to 2012, Mr. Sanders served as Mayor of San Diego, where he instituted a broad reform agenda. Mr. Sanders currently serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce.

## **Brett Van Wey, Retired Fire Chief, San Marcos Fire Department**

Brett Van Wey served as the Fire Chief of the San Marcus Fire Department and Area Fire Coordinator until his retirement. Prior to that, he served in leadership positions in the San Marcos Fire Department, including Fire Battalion Chief. The department provides fire protection to the more than 95,000 residents of San Marcos. Mr. Van Wey has also served as an adjunct instructor and fire technology coordinator at Palomar University.