



Robert Rickman

Board of Supervisors
Representing the Fifth District

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October 17, 2025

The Honorable Alice Busching Reynolds
President, California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Subj: Urging Rejection of Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) 2027 General Rate Case (GRC) Application
Being Heard at California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) October 22 and October 23, 2025,
Public Forums

Dear President Reynolds and Commissioners,

On behalf of the constituents of the Fifth Supervisorial District of San Joaquin County, I am writing to express my formal opposition to PG&E's 2027 GRC subject application. On October 22 and 23, 2025, PG&E will discuss a rate increase proposal in public forums before the CPUC.

I have previously written on behalf of our Board, our County, and my constituents expressing our formal outrage at PG&E for shifting their financial burdens onto the rate paying residents of San Joaquin County, especially when PG&E continues to post profits. At my urging, our Board has taken an official position to "register our opposition to any proposed rate increases." In addition to this letter urging your opposition and rejection of the subject application, you shall receive a letter on behalf of our Board of Supervisors reconfirming our County's strong opposition to any rate increases and to urge CPUC's rejection of any requested rate increases by PG&E.

San Joaquin County residents continue to be impacted by rising costs of living. One of the most pressing issues facing San Joaquin Valley residents are utility costs. The cost of keeping homes cool in the summer and warm in winter has become increasingly unaffordable in our County. Investor-owned utilities continue to turn a profit in California, and while we acknowledge and appreciate the vital services they provide to our residents, the cost they pass on for things like undergrounding powerlines, is unsustainable and inconsistent to the profits being made. Since January 2021, PG&E has increased power and gas bills by nearly 40%. Our regional Council of Government (SJCOG) reports that the per capita income in San Joaquin County is \$32,102, which is \$10,000 less than the per capita income of the average Californian. San Joaquin's median household income is \$74,962, which is lower than the State's average of \$84,097. In 2022-2023, our County provided \$7.3 million in emergency utility assistance to more than 6,379 low-income households so they would not have to choose between filling prescriptions and keeping the power on and their homes heated or cooled.

"I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain (what I consider the most enviable of all titles), the character of an honest man."

- George Washington -

Beyond San Joaquin County, electricity costs in California have been steadily increasing over the past decade, far outpacing inflation and wage growth. These rising rates have left Californians paying some of the highest energy bills in the nation, with the average household paying over double the national average for electricity. This has created significant financial strain, particularly for low- and middle-income families who are least able to absorb such costs. As you know, the CPUC is tasked with ensuring rates remain "just and reasonable" – an important consideration as these increases deepen the affordability crisis and broaden the economic divide.

I urge you to please exercise your oversight and ensure that PG&E prioritizes its customer base by rejecting their rate increase application. Your time and consideration are appreciated and, I look forward to your favorable actions.

Sincerely,



Robert Rickman
Supervisor, Fifth District
San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors

Copy: SJC CAO, SJC CC, SJC COB, Governor Newsom, PG&E CEO Pope, State Legislative Delegation

DTG: 29025/01ST

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