

Direct Access (DA) Transactions – This PD authorizes and implements a plan for increased limits in the allowed level of DA transactions within the service territories of California's three major investor-owned electric utilities: PG&E, SCE and SDG&E, in accordance with the provisions of SB 695. Among other issues:

Effective April 11, 2010, all qualifying customers will be eligible to take DA service, up to the new maximum cap subject to the conditions as set forth in the PD;

the increased DA allowances shall be phased in over a four-year period, subject to annual caps in the maximum DA increase allowed each year; DA remains suspended, except as provided by this PD implementing SB 695; and existing rules and processes currently in place for DA service shall remain in place, except for changes specified in the PD as necessary to implement the provisions of SB 695.

This PD only addresses implementation issues that must be resolved in order to begin the process of new enrollments of DA load effective April 11, 2010 (R.07-05-025) [Agenda Item 35]

Q1. Will all customers be eligible for the Limited DA Reopening?

A1. All non-residential customers will be eligible, but residential customers who are not already taking DA service are excluded. However existing DA-eligible residential customers on bundled service that have already given their 6-month notice to return to DA will still retain the right to return.

Q2. When will the rules and enrollment process be finalized?

A2. The expected date for the final decision by the Commission is March 11. Bill inserts generally informing all non-residential customers about the Limited DA Reopening will be sent from March 11-April 9. We are currently planning on posting final rules and processes on our website the day after the final decision. We also expect to have a customer letter available for reps by that date too..

Q3. What process will be used to determine which customers will be selected for DA eligibility under the cap limitation?

A3. A Notice of Intent (NOI) will need to be submitted for those customers seeking to be eligible for DA switching. As mentioned in the recent Electric Specialists webcast, it will be basically on a first come/first serve basis, with a date/time stamp of the NOI as the basis for any acceptance/rejection cutoffs. NOIs will be accepted until the annual cap is attained. As a result, NOIs will need to be prioritized by date/time stamp. PG&E will be accepting NOI submissions by email, FAX, and U.S. Mail, but I expect the majority of submissions will be by email (we will be setting up a specific email address for this purpose).

Q4. Will the NOI need to be submitted by an ESP on behalf of a customer?

A4. The NOI is intended for a customer to submit (just like the current return to PG&E/Return to DA forms). An ESP (or other 3rd party) may be able to submit on a customer's behalf if they have customer authorization to do so (we are currently trying to work out this desired process as requested by ESPs)

Q5. When will the official NOI be available?

A5. After the final decision, the NOI will be filed as part of our compliance filing updating applicable tariffs, and is expected to be available around April 1 (subject to change).

Q6. When will the initial Open Enrollment Window begin and end?

A6. Assuming the current language in the PD is adopted, PG&E would begin accepting NOIs starting April 16 and lasting until June 30. Thereafter, the NOI process will revert to the existing 6 month notice timeline for future availability under the cap.

Q7. Is there anything on the CPUC's website where a customer can find additional information?

A7. Here is the link to the Commission's website section on Hot Topics, where SB695/DA Reopening is featured. Links to other applicable documents are available here.

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/hottopics/1Energy/091204_sb695.htm