PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING

Southwest Gas – Hydrogen Blending Pilot in Truckee, California
(A.22-09-006)

# What is a Public Participation Hearing?

The purpose of this Public Participation Hearing (PPH) is to provide an opportunity to communicate directly with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regarding the pending Southwest Gas (SWG) application to pilot blending hydrogen into the natural gas distribution system serving SWG’s district office in Truckee and up to 20 commercial customers in the vicinity. The PPH will be an opportunity to learn how this application could impact you and share any concerns you may have about the proposed pilot project with the CPUC.

# What is this Pilot Project About?

This pilot project is part of a broader, statewide effort led by California’s major gas utilities to explore the safe and effective blending of clean renewable hydrogen into the natural gas system. The use of clean renewable hydrogen generated using renewable energy is seen as a potential way to help reduce the carbon intensity of the gas supply and move California closer toward its goal of 100 percent carbon-free energy by 2045.

SWG asked the CPUC for permission to conduct a pilot on an isolated segment of plastic pipeline serving SWG’s district office and up to 20 commercial customers in Truckee, CA. The pilot would study blends of up to 20 percent hydrogen by volume and would help contribute to developing safe hydrogen blending adoption standards, particularly for cold-weather regions such as Truckee.

# Background

As California pursues ambitious carbon reduction targets, including carbon neutrality by 2045, clean renewable hydrogen has emerged as a fuel that could potentially help decarbonize hard-to-electrify commercial and industrial customer operations. Blending clean renewable hydrogen into the existing natural gas infrastructure may offer a near-term strategy to lower greenhouse gas emissions while utilizing current pipeline systems.

In response to CPUC Decision 22-12-057, SWG proposed a small-scale pilot that will test hydrogen blending in Truckee’s alpine climate by injecting up to 20 percent hydrogen into a short polyethylene segment serving SWG’s district office in Truckee and up to 20 commercial customers in the vicinity. The pilot’s aim is to understand how a hydrogen blend behaves in cold weather conditions and whether distribution system materials and gas using appliances remain reliable in such conditions.

# Key Project Details

**Location:** The pilot project will test hydrogen blends up to 20% into a small, isolated section of high-density plastic pipeline by SWG’s District Operating System. SWG says that the pilot would affect about 20 commercial meters but no residential meters.

**Duration:** The pilot project will last approximately 3.5 years of active testing in which hydrogen would be blended into the gas supply for the affected buildings, followed by decommissioning of the equipment and testing of the affected pipe.

**Cost:** SWG estimates direct costs for this pilot of approximately $10.21 million

# Public Participation Hearings

PPHs will be held on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 2:00 PM and at 6:00 PM at:

**Truckee Elementary School Gymnasium**

**11911 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161**

For the most up to date information on the PPHs, visit [cpuc.ca.gov/pph](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/pph).

# How Your Voice Can Be Heard/Find More Information

This project is part of Application (A.) 22-09-006. You can find more information or submit comments related to this application and project via the methods outlined for CPUC proceedings, such as:

* Speak at an upcoming PPHs in your community.
* Submit comments electronically to the CPUC using the “Add Public Comment” button on the Docket Card for A.22-09-006 at: [apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2209006](http://www.apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/A2209006).
* You can subscribe to receive documents regarding A.22-09-006 at: [subscribecpuc.cpuc.ca.gov](http://subscribecpuc.cpuc.ca.gov/fpss/Default.aspx).
* View the pending application (including SWG’s portion) at: [docs.cpuc.ca.gov/p/A2209006](http://www.docs.cpuc.ca.gov/p/A2209006).
* Contact SWG with questions about their project at: [RegServe@swgas.com](http://RegServe@swgas.com).
* Contact the CPUC’s Public Advisor’s Office for questions on CPUC processes or assistance participating in this proceeding:
	+ Visit their webpage: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PAO/>.
	+ E-mail: public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.
	+ Phone: 1-866-849-8390 or 1-415-703-2074.
	+ Mail: CPUC Public Advisor’s Office, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102.
	+ Please reference “A.22-09-006” in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.