March 14, 2010

To whom it may concern:

I strongly oppose any rate increase for SCE & G for many reasons among which are:

- SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008.

- New rate hike will boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about $140 a year by July 2011.

- For Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about $93, following its recent rate increase. For SCE&G, the same level of power costs $118. The rate boost, if granted, would put it at $130.

- SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper.

In these times of economic recession to approve any increase in rates would be wrong!

Sincerely,

Robert J. Kovach