

## **HHIA - Utility Report for Meeting on 2017.11.20**

Main San Gabriel Key Water Well Level updates:

**Historic Low:** 172.20 ft. (As of 2016.10.07)

**Historic High:** 295.30 ft. on 1983.07.20 (Since entry of judgment in 1973)

**Current:** 183.20 ft. (As of 2017.11.03, 62% vs High (295.30 ft.).

### **Related link:**

<http://www.watermaster.org/>

Local Groundwater Level: 19% of Capacity

Major Reservoir Condition in CA: 63% of Capacity

Local Rainfall: 13% of Season Normal

CA Snowpack Level: 0% of Normal to Date

### **Related link:**

<http://sgvmwd.org/>

## **Rowland Water District**

### **WATER DISTRICT NAMED AWARD FINALIST FOR OUTREACH PROGRAM TO ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Statewide water industry group recognizes the District's fire hydrant painting jobs initiative.

**Rowland Heights, CA** (Nov. 1, 2017) – Rowland Water District's unique community outreach effort employing adults with disabilities to paint fire hydrants is a finalist for a prestigious statewide industry award.

The winner of the 2017 Huell Howser Best in Blue Award will be announced Nov. 29 at the Association of California Water Agencies' Fall Conference & Exhibition at the Anaheim Marriott. The award recognizes innovative programs by public water agencies to meet outreach goals.

Rowland Water launched the first-of-its-kind fire hydrant improvement initiative in January 2016, in partnership with OPARC, a non-profit organization that facilitates meaningful employment opportunities for adults with disabilities in Southern California.

Rowland Water invited four individuals with disabilities to join its workforce. Participants are paid \$15 per hour, more than twice what they would receive from government subsidies and nearly \$5 more than the current California minimum wage rate. In just one year, the four OPARC workers repainted more than 1,000 hydrants.

“The program not only gave participants a sense of achievement and pride in their work, it nurtured a remarkable spirit of community within the District and region,” Rowland Water District General Manager Tom Coleman said. “We are honored to be recognized as a finalist for the ACWA award.” The program helped Rowland Water meet its strategic communication goals of prioritizing opportunities to benefit all partners, broadening the definition of community through additional outreach, and creating internal messaging that enhances staff morale and experiences.

“The District saw this as an opportunity to directly and positively enhance the lives of individuals with special needs by providing them with professional development opportunities and to raise awareness of the many challenges they face,” added Rowland Water District Board President Szu Pei Lu-Yang. The district’s fire hydrant jobs program received special recognition from state senators Connie Leyva and Mike Morrell and state assembly members Eric Linder, Chad Mayes, Freddie Rodriguez and Marc Steinorth. Neighboring water agencies – La Puente Valley County Water District and Walnut Valley Water District – have since partnered with OPARC on programs of their own.

**Related link:**

<https://www.rowlandwater.com/water-district-named-award-finalist-for-outreach-program-to-adults-with-disabilities/>

## **The Metropolitan Water District**

Nov. 2, 2017

**METROPOLITAN’S 16TH ANNUAL SOLAR CUP™ LAUNCHES WITH BOAT-BUILDING SESSIONS THIS WEEKEND**

### **Field includes 39 teams of high school students for 2018 event, the nation’s largest solar-powered boat competition**

The nation’s largest solar-powered boat competition takes shape this weekend (Nov. 4-5) as teams of high school students from five Southern California counties assemble the 16-foot hulls they will equip and race next spring as part of Metropolitan Water District’s 16th annual Solar Cup™ competition. What began in 2002 with eight teams and about 80 students is now the largest solar-powered boat competition in the United States, showcasing technical ingenuity, scientific skills, creativity and collaboration. This year, about 800 students are expected to participate on 39 Solar Cup™ teams in the three-day competition next spring at Lake Skinner in Riverside County (see attached participant list). Beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday (Nov. 4) and Sunday (Nov. 5), teams will gather at Three Valleys Municipal Water District headquarters—at 1021 E. Miramar Ave in Claremont—to build identical, canoe-like hulls from kits of pre-cut, marine-grade plywood. Once the hulls are formed, teams return to their schools to equip them over the next seven months with motors, batteries, solar-collection panels, rudders and steering systems.

The Solar Cup™ program is a team-based educational competition that allows students to apply their skills in math, physics, engineering and communications, while learning about Southern California’s water resources, resource management, conservation and alternative energy development. The Solar Cup™ competition is May 18-20, 2018 at Metropolitan’s Lake Skinner near Temecula, where the teams will compete in endurance and sprint races. The event is open to the public.

As part of the program, Metropolitan provides the hull kits and tool boxes and sponsors technical workshops for the teams and their teachers/advisors that represent schools in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. In most cases, Metropolitan’s member water agencies and, in some cases, local water retailers, sponsor the teams to help equip the boats.

The 2018 Solar Cup™ program includes five first-time rookie teams that will compete against each other. Another 34 returning or veteran teams must build a new hull but may re-use motors, batteries, solar panels and other equipment.

Teams also are required to submit technical reports and create conservation-themed content for social media. Winners in the rookie and veteran divisions will have the highest number of points from the competition, plus points awarded for attendance at workshops, technical reports and producing social media content.

The 2017 Solar Cup™ program featured teams from 43 high schools. Riverside Poly High School in Riverside, won first place in the veteran's division, followed by Oxford Academy and Calabasas High School in second and third place overall. Mira Costa High School in Manhattan Beach took the top prize in the rookie division.

**Related link:**

<http://www.mwdh2o.com/newsroom/Media-Releases/Pages/default.aspx>

## **Southern California Gas**

### **SoCalGas Encourages Customers to Take Advantage of Energy Efficiency Rebates to Save Money this Winter**

#### **Smart thermostats and other devices can help keep costs down**

Nov 8, 2017

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 8, 2017 / SoCalGas today issued a reminder about available smart thermostat and appliance rebates that give customers cash back while helping keep natural gas bills low. Temperatures in Southern California typically turn cooler in November and can remain cold through March. Lower temperatures are usually accompanied by an increase in home heating bills, but there are ways to save money.

SoCalGas offers rebates on hundreds of home products that help save energy. Among the most popular are smart thermostats. These devices can learn your schedule and temperature preferences and adjust the temperature in your home accordingly. They also allow users to adjust home temperatures with a mobile app or computer, and can even use local weather conditions to help control energy costs. Last winter, customers who participated in a smart thermostat energy efficiency pilot program saved enough natural gas to dry 2 million loads of laundry.

Rebates on energy efficient appliances are also available. Customers can save \$50 on Energy Star natural gas dryers, at least \$100 on select water heaters and up to \$200 on select washing machines. Customers can also save money on low-flow showerheads, including those with [thermostatic shut-off valves](#) that temporarily cut water flow once the water has become hot.

For more information on available rebates, visit: <https://www.socalgas.com/save-money-and-energy/rebates-and-incentives/natural-gas-appliance-rebates>

**Related link:**

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137375>

### **SoCalGas Offers Customers Tips to Safely Prepare Homes for Colder Weather and Save on Energy Costs**

## **Rebates available for energy efficient home upgrades**

Nov 6, 2017

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 6, 2017 / SoCalGas today issued tips to homeowners on ways to safely winterize their homes and to help save on energy costs. During cold weather, it's possible to use three to seven times more natural gas than in summer months as your home heater responds to your thermostat settings and your water heater works harder to keep water hot. It is also important to do a safety check of your heating units before winter weather begins.

### **Home heating safety tips:**

- Never store or use highly flammable products in the same room as any natural gas or heat-producing appliances. This includes gasoline, spray paints, foggers, varnish and other pressurized containers.
- Never store ordinary combustibles such as rags, mops or paper on or near an appliance.
- Never use your oven, range top or outdoor barbecue to heat your home. These appliances are not designed for this purpose.
- Make sure your natural gas heater is vented.
- If you suspect that you or someone else is suffering from carbon monoxide poisoning, call 911 immediately.

For more safety tips, visit: <https://www.socalgas.com/stay-safe/safety-and-prevention/appliance-maintenance-and-safety>

### **Save on energy costs with these simple steps:**

- Customers can save 10 to 15 percent on heating costs by lowering the temperature setting on their furnace three to five degrees.
- Have air ducts tested. Leaky ducts can cost customers anywhere from 10 to 30 percent in heating and cooling costs.
- Install caulking and weather-stripping around doors and windows. This can save about 10 to 15 percent in energy costs.
- Clean or replace furnace filters.
- Install a smart thermostat.
- Install an energy efficient furnace.

SoCalGas also offers a Home Upgrade Program which takes a comprehensive, "whole-house" approach to energy efficiency. For more information, visit <https://www.socalgas.com/save-money-and-energy/rebates-and-incentives/energy-upgrade-california>.

### **Related link:**

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137373>

## **Elementary Students Learn About Renewable Natural Gas with Help from SoCalGas Engineers and College Scholars**

Nov 3, 2017

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3, 2017 / -- To interest students from underserved neighborhoods in STEM subjects, SoCalGas and Great Minds in STEM leaders spent today with about 100 fourth graders at Sunny Brae Avenue Elementary School in Winnetka, where Great Minds in STEM team members, SoCalGas engineers, and college students engaged students in hands-on STEM challenges related to natural gas pipeline safety and renewable natural gas. Photos of the event are available.

SoCalGas sponsored the program, "Viva Technology Student Day," created by Great Minds in STEM, a Los Angeles County-based national non-profit that focuses on student populations underrepresented in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) fields.

"These experiences show students that we need cutting-edge science to meet California's energy needs in the future," said Jimmie Cho, SoCalGas senior vice president of gas operations and system integrity. "We want to get students excited about the science of capturing renewable methane from sources like farm operations, landfills and wastewater treatment plants. Using that biogas both reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and creates additional renewable energy."

"Creating innovative hands-on activities engaged the students while highlighting that STEM is all around us and has important real-life applications," said Rene Amel Peralta, education programs coordinator for Great Minds in STEM. "Students gained new experiences that show how civil engineering and physics concepts keep the natural gas distribution system safe, and how we can use the methane created in normal biodegradation for our everyday energy needs."

SoCalGas engineers and students from California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA), California State University, Northridge (CSUN) and College of the Canyons (COC), who serve as role models, motivated the fourth-grade students through the STEM challenges.

The elementary students learned how renewable natural gas can be produced from waste like lawn clippings and unused food. They extracted and purified compounds from strawberries to help them visualize how various components are created when organic material biodegrades. To demonstrate some of the civil and mechanical engineering principles needed for natural gas pipeline integrity, the students learned how to build a dome with everyday materials.

The program included the selection of activity winners, and raffles awarding educational incentives to the students.

### **About Great Minds in STEM**

Great Minds in STEM™ is a national 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles County with a 29-year history of keeping America technologically strong through the delivery of national STEM awareness programs for students, parents and teachers in underserved communities. Through the GMiS network, academic, career development and mentoring opportunities are offered to students who are underrepresented in STEM fields. The organization is focused on working to build a diverse 21st Century STEM workforce in which all citizens contribute to innovation and experience prosperity.

### **Related link:**

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137372>

**SoCalGas Announces Upgrade Project to Modernize Natural Gas Pipeline in Arroyo Grande**

## **Pipeline modernization project will enhance public safety and reliability for the County of San Luis Obispo**

Oct 20, 2017

LOS ANGELES, October 20, 2017 – SoCalGas announced that work to replace a 1.5-mile section of a natural gas transmission pipeline in the city of Arroyo Grande will begin on Monday, Oct. 23. The project is expected to be completed in April 2018.

Modernizing this section of pipeline will enhance the reliability of natural gas service for thousands of residential and commercial customers in the communities of Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo.

“More than 90 percent of homes in this region use natural gas for heat and hot water,” said Timothy Mahoney, public affairs manager for SoCalGas. “Upgrading our pipeline system ensures we can continue to reliably provide the natural gas service our customers count on.”

SoCalGas’ five-year capital plan includes \$6 billion in infrastructure investments, including approximately \$1.2 billion this year for improvements to distribution, transmission and storage systems and for pipeline safety.

“Residents and businesses owners in San Luis Obispo County continue to benefit from SoCalGas’ investment in our natural gas infrastructure,” said Judith Bean, president of the Arroyo Grande Grover Beach Chamber of Commerce. “Installing this new pipeline will ensure that our communities continue to receive safe, reliable natural gas service.”

The project will include Branch Street near the intersection of Rodeo Drive, Halcyon Road, Feah Avenue, Alpine Street, Fair Oaks Avenue and Valley Road in Arroyo Grande, as shown in this [link](#). Crews are expected to work on the natural gas pipeline on West Branch Street on Monday through Friday from 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. to minimize traffic congestion. Work hours at other project locations in the area will be Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Lane reductions and parking restrictions will be in effect on Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Traffic control officers, traffic cones and digital signage will help direct the flow of traffic near the work site. On Interstate 101, a message board at the off-ramps for Halcyon Road will alert commuters about potential traffic delays for that exit.

Customers are not anticipated to experience any service interruptions. Some residents and local business owners may occasionally smell the odorant in natural gas and may also hear some work-related noise. During work hours, commuters passing by the work site will see excavation, equipment and vehicles. Residents with questions may contact SoCalGas’ call center at 1-800-427-2200. The call center is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Pipeline replacement is one of the ways SoCalGas maintains the safety and reliability of our natural gas pipeline system. The effort is part of SoCalGas’ [Pipeline Safety Enhancement Plan](#), a multi-billion-dollar program that identifies various high pressure pipeline sections throughout SoCalGas’ system and schedules them to be pressure-tested and/or replaced.

**Related link:**

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137369>

## **SoCalGas Honors DB Sales & Service for Helping Businesses Save Nearly \$300,000 in Energy Costs**

**DB Sales & Service earns 2017 “Trade Professional Ally of the Year” award for helping business customers save energy and money**

Oct 17, 2017 **NEWS RELEASE**

LOS ANGELES, October 17, 2017 – SoCalGas recently honored [DB Sales & Service](#) as its 2017 “Trade Professional Ally of the Year” for helping businesses save more than \$289,000 in energy costs. DB Sales & Service is a Southern California company with headquarters in Garden Grove specializing in providing environmentally responsible and energy efficient products to business customers.

“DB Sales & Service has more than three decades of experience assisting clients in procuring commercial and industrial equipment,” said president and CEO Steve Mertz. “We are excited to partner with SoCalGas to make energy-efficient equipment more affordable for our clients, many of whom are unaware of the rebate programs available.”

DB Sales & Service was honored for its achievement as part of SoCalGas’ Trade Professional (“Trade Pro”) Program, which provides commercial and industrial customers services that assist them with energy-saving upgrades, such as the installation of more efficient equipment. Trade Pros sell, service or install products such as boilers, pipe and tank insulation, water heaters, steam traps, pool heaters and other natural gas equipment.

“All of our Trade Pro vendors help our business customers save energy, but DB Sales & Service went above and beyond with their extraordinary customer service to business owners,” said SoCalGas Vice President of Customer Solutions and Communications Lisa Alexander. “Informing our customers about new rebates and incentives benefits all of us because energy efficiency promotes healthier, sustainable communities.”

SoCalGas began publishing its Trade Pro Directory in 2013. This directory lists approved vendors who sell or install energy-efficient natural gas equipment.

To be listed in the Trade Pro Directory, a business needs to successfully submit either two rebates or complete a project that saved 10,000 therms of natural gas within one year. Manufacturing, food processing, hospitality, textiles and healthcare are among the industries represented in the Trade Pro Directory.

Since 1990, SoCalGas’ energy-efficiency programs have helped customers save more than 620 million therms – the equivalent of taking more than 700,000 cars off the road. The company offers its commercial and industrial customers numerous incentives and rebates to help them save energy and money.

The Trade Pro mixer took place on Oct. 5 at SoCalGas’ Energy Resource Center in Downey. Photos of the event are available.

Vendors or business customers who want to know more about being listed in the directory or how to obtain rebates, may visit [socalgas.com](http://socalgas.com) and search “[Trade Pro.](#)”

**Related link:**

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137368>

## **Southern California Edison**

### **Still Time to Apply for \$1.2 Million Edison Scholars Program**

**Dec. 1 is the deadline for high school seniors to pursue the \$40,000 scholarships.**

November 08, 2017

Media Contact: [Susan Cox](#), (626) 302-2255

ROSEMEAD, Calif., Nov. 8, 2017 — The clock is ticking, but there’s still time for high school seniors — the makers of tomorrow — to apply for Edison International’s \$1.2 million [Edison Scholars Program](#).

Now through Dec. 1, students who dream of making a difference and powering the future using science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) ingenuity, are invited to apply for a \$40,000 scholarship — paid over four years — to 30 scholars enrolled in a four-year accredited U.S. college or university after high school graduation. Edison International, the parent company of Southern California Edison, awards the scholarships.

Applicants must live in [SCE’s service territory](#) and plan to be a full-time undergraduate student majoring in one of the following STEM fields: mathematics, engineering, computer and information services, management information systems, natural resources and conservation and physical sciences. Eligible students must also be a high school senior, have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA and demonstrate financial need.

Learn more at: [edisonscholars.com](http://edisonscholars.com), [Edison Scholars 2018: Makers of Tomorrow](#) or [Edison Scholars Thrive in STEM Pursuits](#)

Since 2006, Edison International has awarded more than \$7.5 million in scholarships toward 580 students’ higher education through the Edison Scholars Program. Edison International is one of the largest charitable contributors in Southern California, investing \$20 million in local communities annually.

Edison International’s support of charitable causes, including the Edison Scholars Program, is funded entirely by Edison International shareholders. SCE customers’ utility bill payments do not fund company donations.

**Related link:**

<https://newsroom.edison.com/releases/still-time-to-apply-for-1-2-million-edison-scholars-program-6651411>

## **Southern California Edison Introduces Clean Energy Proposal to Meet State’s Climate, Air Quality Goals**

October 31, 2017

**Media Contact: Charles Coleman**, (626) 302-2255

**Investor Relations: Sam Ramraj**, (626) 302-2540

ROSEMEAD, Calif., Oct. 31, 2017 — Southern California Edison today proposed an integrated strategic framework for the state of California to meet its ambitious climate and air quality goals. SCE describes its *Clean Power and Electrification Pathway* in a white paper released today.

The approach builds upon existing state programs by identifying cost-effective actions to increase clean energy in the electric system and to leverage that clean electricity in the transportation and building sectors to achieve needed emissions reductions. California environmental goals include reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40 percent from 1990 levels by 2030 and by 80 percent by 2050, as well as reducing nitrogen oxides (NOx) and other health-harming pollutants in areas of the state with the highest levels of air pollution by 2032.

“Climate change and air pollution are serious threats that will require the state to transform the way energy is produced and used,” said Pedro Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International, the parent company of SCE. “California is a global leader in addressing climate change and we will enable those efforts by leading the transformation of the electric industry to better serve our customers, protect the environment and improve public health.”

The integrated approach developed by SCE emphasizes the urgency of implementing the actions outlined. With only 12 years to reach the 2030 target, timely and proactive decisions will have to be made. Policymakers as well as business and community leaders must quickly align on the near-term policies, programs and market changes needed to meet California’s ambitious timeline.

“I am encouraged to see SCE proposing solutions and taking seriously our clean air needs and climate protection goals,” said Joseph Lyou, president and CEO of the Coalition for Clean Air, and South Coast Air Quality Management District board member.

“SCE’s push to evolve the role of solar energy and the clean energy market will result in making zero emission electric supply available cost effectively for expanded use in transportation, homes and businesses,” said Mark Widmar, CEO of First Solar.

The *Clean Power and Electrification Pathway* calls for three closely linked efforts that support and build upon each other:

1. Doubling the use of carbon-free electricity from 40 percent today to 80 percent by 2030, supported by energy storage - The electric sector has already reduced GHG emissions below 1990 levels and now accounts for only 19 percent of California’s GHG emissions.

The plan calls for increasing the use of large-scale, carbon-free generation such as wind, solar and large hydroelectric power plants to at least 80 percent of electricity delivered to customers, continued use of distributed rooftop solar and doubling energy efficiency by 2030.

2. Accelerating the use of electric vehicles, including passenger cars and medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, to more than 7 million by 2030 - The transportation sector is the largest source of GHG

emissions and local air quality problems, with 40 percent of the goods entering the nation moving through the region's ports and highways. "It is critical that we work toward providing measurable reductions in air pollution that causes health problems and disproportionately affects communities that are located near transportation corridors with heavy freight movement," Pizarro said.

To encourage consumer acceptance and [adoption of electric vehicles](#), SCE's proposal urges development of additional charging infrastructure and continued financial incentives that lower the purchase price of electric vehicles during the early stages of adoption, particularly for low- and middle-income communities.

3. Increasing electrification of commercial and residential space and water heating - SCE's plan indicates that the electrification of nearly one-third of residential and commercial space and water heaters, combined with continued improvements in energy efficiency in buildings, could reduce GHG emissions significantly.

The SCE proposal provides continued support for the state's market-based, cap-and-trade program as a critical component of efforts to reduce GHG emissions, while ensuring that electricity remains affordably priced for utility customers. The proposal also recognizes the importance of geographically diverse sources of renewable energy and regional markets that support affordable, zero carbon energy supplies.

"SCE is dedicated to delivering a clean energy future for California," said SCE President Ron Nichols. "The *Clean Power and Electrification Pathway* provides a blueprint to achieve the company's and the [state's air quality and climate policy goals](#) by building a clean energy economy while creating high-skill middle income jobs. SCE will continue to leverage and expand a wide variety of innovative technologies, including large-scale and customer-sited renewables, energy storage and energy efficiency."

**Related link:**

<https://newsroom.edison.com/releases/southern-california-edison-introduces-clean-energy-proposal-to-meet-states-climate-air-quality-goals>

**NO-BURN ALERT: MANDATORY WOOD-BURNING BAN IN EFFECT TODAY FOR RESIDENTS OF THE SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN**

***All Indoor and Outdoor Residential Wood Burning Prohibited Due to High Air Pollution Predicted for Today, Saturday, November 11, 2017***

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has issued a residential no-burn alert effective Saturday, November 11, 2017, for all those living in the South Coast Air Basin, which includes Orange County and non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. SCAQMD reminds residents in these areas that burning wood in their fireplaces or any indoor or outdoor wood-burning device is prohibited through midnight tonight. The no-burn rule prohibits burning wood as well as manufactured fire logs, such as those made from wax or paper.

No-burn alerts are mandatory in order to protect public health when levels of fine particulate air pollution in the region are forecast to be high. Smoke from wood burning can cause health problems. Particles in wood smoke – also known as fine particulate matter or PM2.5 – can get deep into the lungs and cause respiratory problems (including asthma attacks), increases in emergency room visits and hospitalizations.

Residents can help reduce the harmful health effects of wood smoke by signing up to receive e-mail alerts at [www.AirAlerts.org](http://www.AirAlerts.org) to learn when a mandatory no-burn alert is issued.

SCAQMD's no-burn alerts do not apply to mountain communities above 3,000 feet in elevation, the Coachella Valley, or the High Desert. Homes that rely on wood as a sole source of heat, low-income households and those without natural gas service also are exempt from the requirement. Gas and other non-wood burning fireplaces are not restricted.

SCAQMD's *Check Before You Burn* program is in effect from November through the end of February, when particulate levels are highest.

A link to additional information and an interactive no-burn alert map is available at [www.AirAlerts.org](http://www.AirAlerts.org). For 24-hour recorded *Check Before You Burn* information, call (866) 966-3293.

SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Report by *Ted Chang*  
HHIA Board Member, Utility