# INFORMATION ON PG&E's PROPOSED OFFER OF A CASH BALANCE PENSION PLAN FOR NEW HIRES AFTER 2013

#### **Background on Cash Balance Pension Plans**

#### COMPANIES WHO HAVE CONVERTED TO CASH BALANCE PLANS

- 1998: San Diego Gas and Electric
- 1999: Southern California Edison
- 2010: NV Energy

#### **DRIVING FACTORS:**

- Pension regulations
- Volatility in stock market
- Regulatory/public pressure

## Cash Balance Plan Design

Annual contribution of negotiated percentage of wage

+

Negotiated interest

+

Increased 401(k)

=

Fixed amount at retirement with choice of:

- Lump sum pay out
- Convert to a lifetime annuity

### PG&E Plan Design for New Hires After 2013

5-9% of Straight Time Pay (See <u>Plan Formulas</u> below)

+

**30-year Treasury bond rate interest** 

+

401(k) 75% up to 8% Automatic enrollment with opt-out

=

Lump sum or convert to a lifetime annuity

### **Comparisons with Local Utilities**

	Cash	401(k)	Total
	Balance		
San	7.5%	50% to	10.5%
Diego		6%	
Edison	3%	100% to	9%
	9%	6%	15%
NVE	4%	100% to	10%
		6%	
PG&E	5%	75% to	11%
Proposed	9%	8%	15%

## Comparison with Existing Pension

Includes all components of retirement income: pension, 401(k), and social security

Before age 52: cash balance account provides higher income replacement

Position	Age	Comparison
Electric Crew Foreman	55	81%
	62	93%
	65	97%
Customer Service Rep	55	81%
	62	91%
	65	96%

Pension Plan Formula	<ul> <li>Monthly paid pension based on pay and service at retirement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cash balance account of accumulated annual pay credits plus interest</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>1.5% final pay X service up to 25 years, plus</li> <li>1.6% final pay x 25+ years of service</li> </ul>	Annual Pay Credits based on Age and Service:  • Less than 40 points 5.00%  • 40-49 points 6.00%  • 50-59 points 7.00%  • 60-69 points 8.00%  • 70 or more points 9.00%  Annual interest based on 30-Year Treasury rates	
	<ul> <li>5-year vesting</li> </ul>	3-year vesting	
	<ul> <li>Not portable if you leave PG&amp;E before retirement; pension payments can begin at age 55 or later</li> </ul>	Portable—you can take your benefit with you if you leave PG&E before retirement	
	Early retirement benefit reductions may apply	Full account balance payable when you retire or leave PG&E—regardless of age	
	Monthly annuity for life	Choice of monthly annuity for life or lump- sum distribution	
401(k) Match	<ul> <li>\$0.60 per \$1 up to 3% of pay for 1-3 years of service</li> <li>\$0.60 per \$1 up to 6% of pay for 3+ years of service</li> </ul>	\$0.75 per \$1 up to 8% of pay after completing     1 year of service	

#### **Issues for Consideration**

- Value to employee of lump sum option
- Regulatory pressure on pension costs
- RSP is a greater component, so greater risk is transferred to employee
- Two-tier / two platforms
- No changes to current program of pension and 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan (RSP) for current employees
- New retirement program for new employees hired January 1, 2013, or later
- Higher 401(k) company matching contribution
- Automatic enrollment in 401(k) at the full company match level
- Current employees can opt in to the new program, effective 2014
- Detailed, personalized information will be available in 2013 to help employees decide which program to choose

For more information go to the union website at www.ibew1245.com