### 2018 Winter Natural Gas Prices

#### February 5, 2019

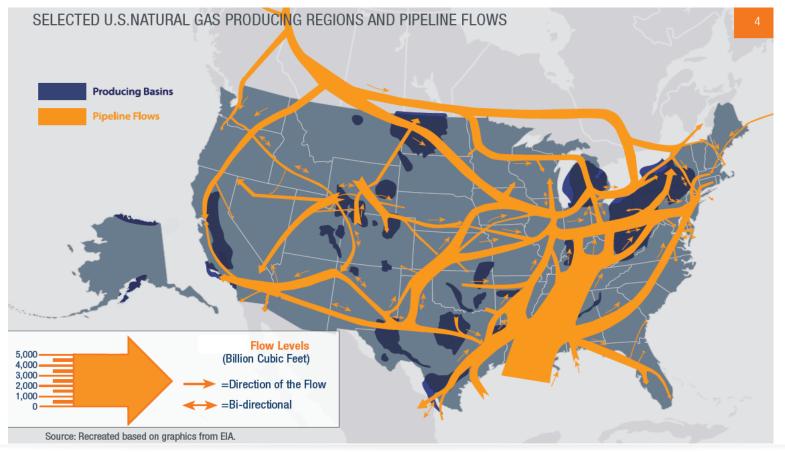




Over 90 Years of Providing Energy Services

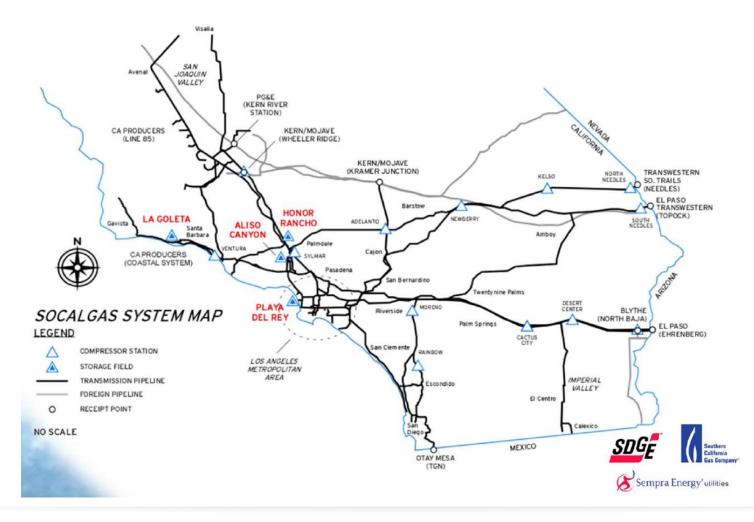
# Where does the natural gas that Energy Resources purchases for its customers come from?

### California continues to depend upon out-of-state imports for nearly 90 % of its natural gas supply



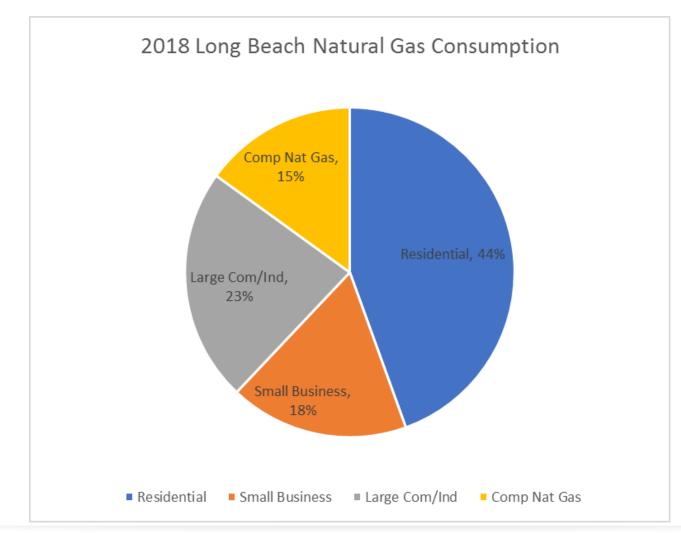


## Where does the natural gas that Energy Resources purchases for its customers come from?



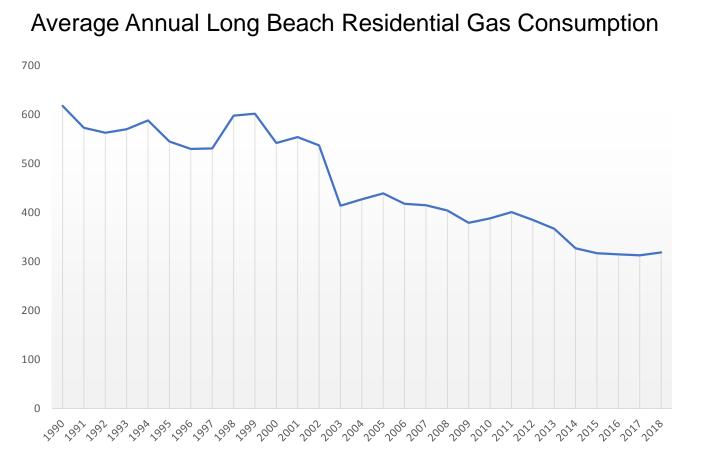


# Who are the consumers of natural gas within Long Beach?





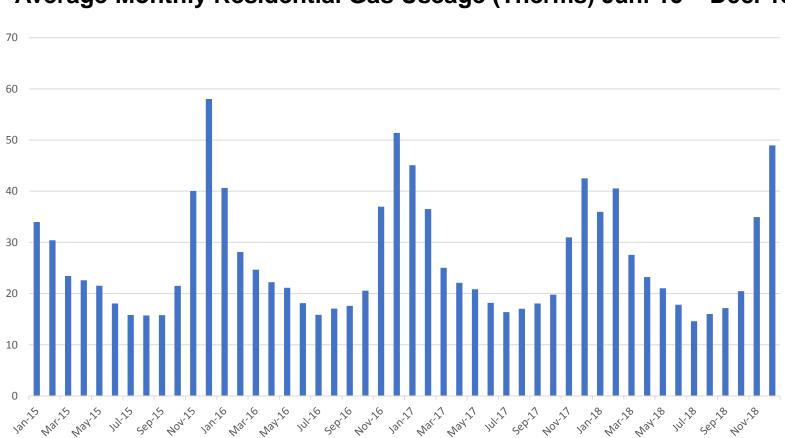
# Who are the consumers of natural gas within Long Beach?



Year	Therms		
1990	618		
1991	573		
1992	563		
1993	570		
1994	588		
1995	545		
1996	530		
1997	531		
1998	598		
1999	602		
2000	542		
2001	554		
2002	537		
2003	414		
2004	427		
2005	439		
2006	418		
2007	415		
2008	404		
2009	379		
2010	388		
2011	401		
2012	385		
2013	367		
2014	327		
2015	317		
2016	314		
2017	313		
2018	318		



# Who are the consumers of natural gas within Long Beach?



#### Average Monthly Residential Gas Useage (Therms) Jan.'15 – Dec.'18

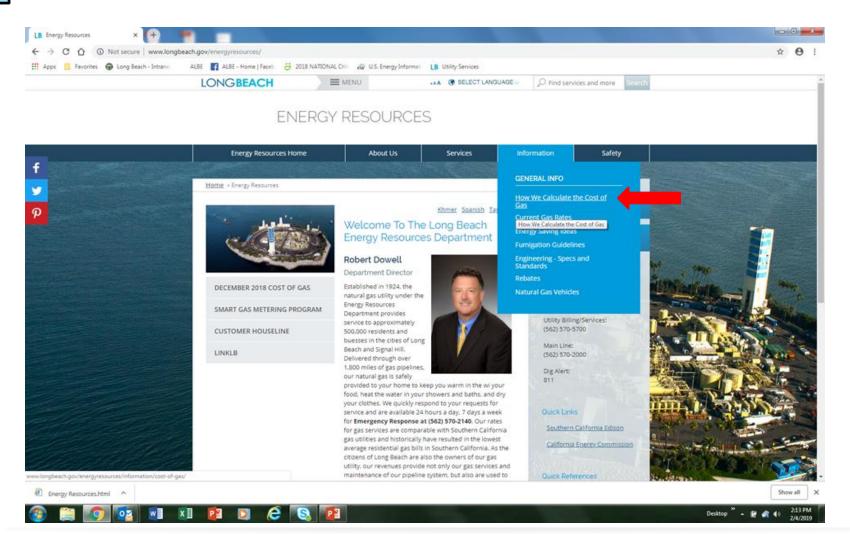


### How is the cost of gas determined for Energy Resources customers?

- Energy Resources buys natural gas from producers and marketers at the best possible prices on the open market. By law, utilities may not mark-up the price of the natural gas commodity.
- Market prices are posted on the first of every month and Energy Resources incorporates those prices into calculating its monthly Cost of Gas price. *This price is published the 1st of every month on Energy Resources website.*
- Energy Resources has not increased its transportation rates, the cost of delivering the natural gas to its customers, since October 2016.



### How is the cost of gas determined for Energy Resources customers?





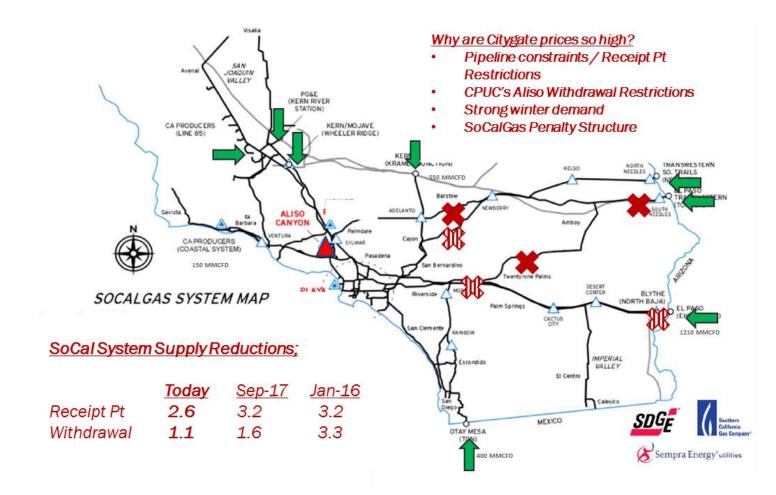
### How is the cost of gas determined for Energy Resources customers?

#### Core Commodity Charge (Per Therm)

February 2019	\$0.4707
January 2019	\$0.7895
December 2018	\$1.3465
November 2018	\$0.5858
October 2018	\$0.4090
September 2018	\$0.5238
August 2018	\$0.9449
July 2018	\$0.3993
June 2018	\$0.3615
May 2018	\$0.3013
April 2018	\$0.2764
March 2018	\$0.3440
February 2018	\$0.3440
January 2018	\$0.3943
December 2017	\$0.5732
November 2017	\$0.3757

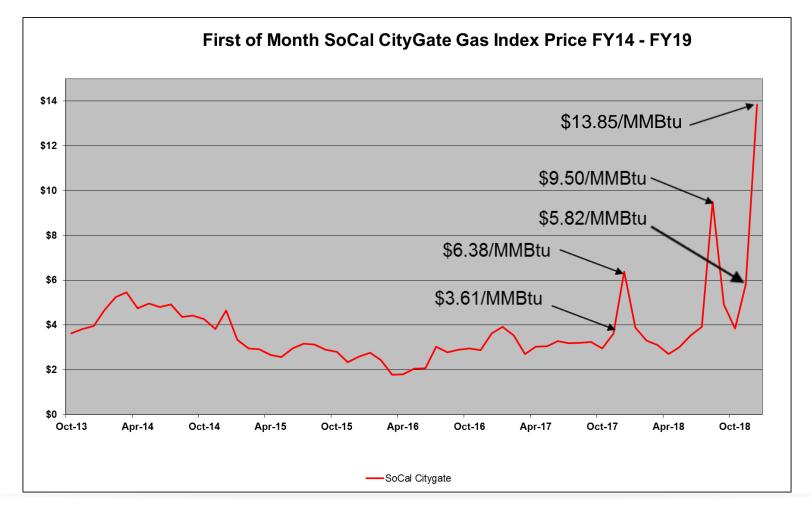


## What happened in December 2018 for natural gas costs to increase?





## What happened in December 2018 for natural gas costs to increase?





### Impacts to customers as result of December 2018 natural gas costs

- Impact to average residential customer (44 Therms) was determined to be approximately \$34 higher versus their Dec. 17 gas bill.
- Impact to high or significantly higher gas consumption customers (> 44 therms) would be predictably larger than the increase seen by the average customer.
- ER put a fact sheet on the front page of their website, utilized social media and worked with the Press-Telegram and other outlets to get stories out in the paper about this regional issue.
- Call center representatives were briefed with the appropriate information, including options of what can be done if any customers experienced financial burdens as a result of their high gas bill.



### Impacts to customers as result of December 2018 natural gas costs

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incentivize new building technologies to reduce GHG emissions, and the "Technology and Equipment for Clean Heating" initiative, which will incentivize the deployment of low-emissions technologies for space and water heating in both new and existing residential buildings. The programs will be funded through an annual \$50-million pool, drawn from the emissions allowances allocated to natural gas utilities as part of the cap-and-trade program between 2019 and 2023.

The order instituting rulemaking also noted that energy-efficiency incentives that utilities are currently providing to customers who are rebuilding after recent wildfires don't have enough funding to allow for adequate electrification and decarbonization strategies. As part of the proceeding, the commission plans to consider whether it should develop decarbonization pilots targeted specifically to areas affected by the wildfires.

The Building Decarbonization Coalition, a group of industry stakeholders, energy providers, local governments and environmental organizations, released three white papers on Jan. 29 that included recommendations—such as creating time-of-use rates to incentivize energy usage during off-peak hours and

#### [10] Agencies Examine Natural Gas Price Volatility, SoCal Gas Pipeline Issues

State agencies are focused on mitigating the impacts of high regional wholesale natural gas prices on customers, with some parties to the discussion suggesting the main problem is that Southern California Gas Co. hasn't put key pipelines back into service.

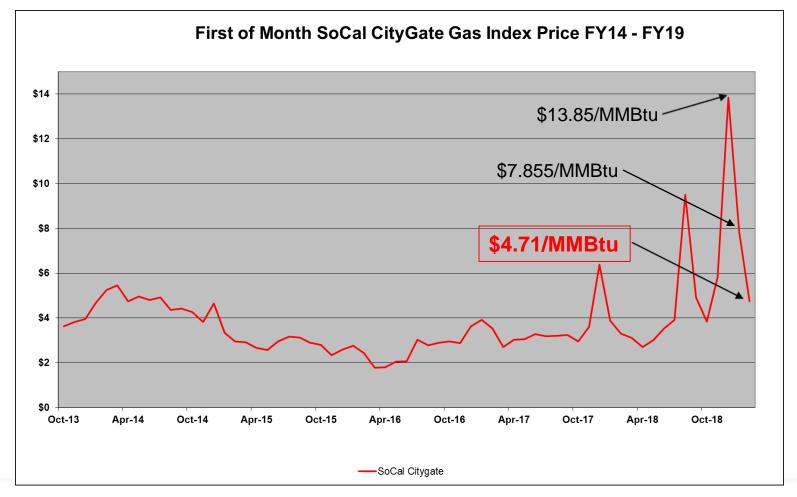
The California Energy Commission and California Public Utilities Commission held a joint workshop on Southern California energy reliability Jan. 11; additional letters have recently been filed as the docket closed Jan. 25 [18-IEPR-03].

The central issues affecting volatility are reduced regional capacity because of Aliso Canyon storage limitations since February 2016 and outages of key natural gas pipelines, which are undergoing repairs. Constraints continue to trigger the issuance of low operational flow orders by SoCal Gas that force natural gas prices higher, precipitating higher wholesale and retail power prices.

As an example, between Nov. 29 and Dec. 6 regional energy prices skyrocketed due to inconsistent natural gas supplies and colder weather.



### Impacts customers as result of December 2018 natural gas costs





## Assistance for customers with financial hardships resulting from the 2018 winter gas costs

- ER call center staff have assisted numerous impacted customers during this difficult period through a variety of means.
- It is estimated that less than 1% of ER's 154,000 customers have contacted the call center regarding their December gas bills.
- Several customers have been enrolled into payment arrangement plans, which distribute the increased gas costs over several months.
- Staff is also promoting participation in the <u>Level Pay Plan</u> to smooth out the ups and downs of a customers monthly natural gas bill.



## Preparing for 2019 Winter Heating Season

- Energy Resources will continue to work to inform its customers in advance, when possible, of pending price spikes utilizing bill messaging, website, and social media postings.
- LinkLB can be used to provide updates to customers that subscribe and elect to receive notifications from Energy Resources.
- Communications campaign for the 2019 winter season to encourage everyone to keep their thermostats at 68°F, conserve where they can and sign up for the Level Pay Program.



#### **Preparing for 2019 Winter Heating Season**

 Develop messaging to better inform customers how to utilize information provided on their current bills to estimate their next months bill.



#### CITY OF LONG BEACH UTILITY CUSTOMER SERVICE

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD LONG BEACH, CA 90802-4664



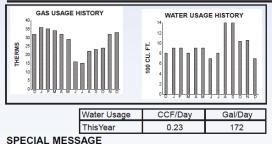
CUSTOMER SERVICE: (562) 570-5700 PAY BY PHONE: (833) 408-8405 WWW.LONGBEACH.GOV/UTILITYBILLING

#### ACCOUNT INFORMATION

ACCOUNT NUMBER: ACCOUNT NAME: SERVICE ADDRESS: BILLING DATE:

v	1234567890
-	JOHN DOE
S	1629 E MAIN ST
M	12/28/18

#### HISTORICAL USAGE



FREE HOLIDAY TREE RECYCLING. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.LONGBEACH-RECYCLES.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/LBRECYCLES OR TWITTER: @LBRECYCLES

REGULAR BILL					
GAS			\$68.31		
SERVICE PERIOD: 11/27/18 TO METER READ: 1471 - 1503	12/27/18				
GAS SERVICE CHARGE TIER I USAGE COST OF GAS (AB32) CA CARBON REDUCTION (AB797) CA SOLAR THERMAL	<u>THERMS</u> (30 DAYS) 33 33	RATE 0.164400 0.597900 1.270303	TOTAL 4.93 19.73 41.92 1.32 0.41		
WATER/SEWER			\$43.10		
SERVICE PERIOD: 11/27/18 TO METER READ: 3405 - 3412	12/27/18				
WATER SERVICE CHARGE TIER I USAGE TIER II USAGE	100 CU. FT. (30 DAYS) 6 1	<u>RATE</u> 0.5870 2.0520 3.9280	<u>TOTAL</u> 17.61 12.31 3.93		
SEWER SERVICE CHARGE SEWER USAGE	(30 DAYS) 7	0.2250 0.3570	6.75 2.50		
REFUSE			\$24.11		
SERVICE PERIOD: 11/28/18 TO	12/28/18				
REFUSE SERVICE CHARGE	(30 DAYS)	0.8037	24.11		
ACCOUNT ACTIVITY					
PREVIOUS BILL PAYMENT RECEIVED - 12/11/18			\$141.07 \$-141.07		
BALANCE FORWARD			\$0.00		
NEW CHARGES (GAS, WATER, SE UTILITY USERS TAX = 5% (GAS,W		E)	\$135.52 \$5.09		
CURRENT CHARGES			\$140.61		



## Preparing for 2019 Winter Heating Season

 Energy Resources is exploring solutions to utilize the data collected and managed by the utility billing and smart meter systems to actively alert customers of predetermined increases over their average or historical monthly bills.

