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FAIR California Statement on CPUC Decision Regarding PG&E Rate Case Hearing

San Francisco, CA—Sam Liccardo, Director of <u>FAIR California</u>, and former mayor of San Jose, issued the following statement in response to today's decision by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) which approved Commissioner John Reynold's Alternative Proposed Decision (APD) for PG&E's General Rate Case, increasing PG&E residential bills by an average of more than \$32 per month, and continuing those increases for another three years.

"The CPUC conducted its "public" hearing today in remote El Centro, hundreds of miles away from any of the millions of Californians struggling to pay skyrocketing PG&E bills. Regardless of the CPUC's decision, FAIR California will continue its fight in the months ahead until the CPUC addresses PG&E's lack of accountability to ratepayers who deserve safe, reliable, and affordable utility service" said Liccardo.

During today's CPUC hearing's public comment period, Liccardo spoke on behalf of the coalition, stating:

"I represent a coalition of organizations representing small businesses, workers, renters, and the many other Californians struggling under the weight of PG&E bills that have skyrocketed at three times the rate of inflation since 2020, while the company spends several million dollars weekly to bombard us with TV and internet commercials, and has compensated its CEO more than \$60 million in the last two years. Regardless of whether those expenditures come from shareholder or ratepayer funds, our ratepayers will pay more than \$3 billion in this General Rate Case for "return on capital" to bolster those shareholder funds. If the company wastes shareholder funds on useless TV commercials, then ratepayers should pay less for return on capital. We urge the CPUC to defer any rate increases until it has conducted a public reasonableness review of such PG&E's expenditures as advertising and public communications, executive pay, bonuses, lobbyists, and political contributions. I encourage the many other callers fed up with PG&E to join our coalition at FairCA.org."

About FAIR California

FAIR California is a coalition of organizations representing workers, small businesses, environmental advocates, consumers, renters, affordability advocates, and older adults. We share a common demand for greater accountability from large, for-profit electric and gas utilities amid rapidly rising energy bills that severely burden residents and small businesses throughout California.

To learn more about FAIR California and to join the movement, please visit FAIRCA.org.