## PG&E's Progress on Residential Rate Reform

Q4 2016 Update

March 7, 2017





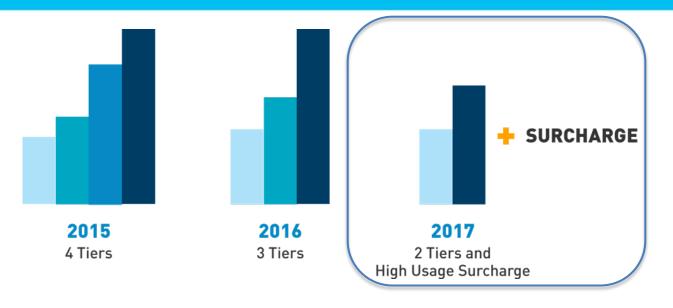
## Highlights of Q4 Activities

- High Usage Surcharge
- Rate Comparison Test-and-Learn
- Enhancements to Online Customer Experience ("Your Account")
- Marketing, Education, and Outreach Efforts
- Opt-In TOU Pilot
- Default TOU Pilot
- Appendix
  - Residential Rate Reform Expenditures
  - Opt-In TOU Rates
  - Opt-In TOU Pilot Data

## **High Usage Surcharge**



## High Usage Surcharge Outreach



Objective	<ul> <li>Drive awareness of surcharge</li> <li>Educate customers on ways to save</li> <li>Provide ample time for customers to take action</li> <li>Encourage sign-up to High Usage Alerts</li> </ul>
Target Audience	• ~250,000 customers (group 1)
Timing	December 2016
Tactics	<ul> <li>Direct mail</li> <li>Email</li> <li>Dedicated page on pge.com</li> </ul>
Key Results	<ul> <li>~5,000 website visits</li> <li>4,500 calls for more information</li> <li>20 customers mailed letters</li> </ul>



## High Usage Alert

Based on current energy usage this month, you might incur the surcharge for High Usage. PG&E can help.

Learn more at pge.com/highusage.







- Provides advance warning to give opportunity to act
- Alerts customers when their usage is forecast to exceed 400% of baseline
- December 31, 2016: 3,000 customer sign ups

## Rate Comparison Test-and-Learn



## Rate Comparison Test-and-Learn

	ON-BILL (PAPER) (Week of October 10)	EMAIL 1 (November 3)	EMAIL 2 (December 14)	TOTAL
	69,248	35,693	46,750	151,691
Rate Changes	439	450	558	1,448
		723		

#### **Objectives:**

- Increase awareness of rate choices, rate comparisons, TOU rates, and potential savings on different rate options
- Generate learnings on messaging and operations in preparation of 2017 deployment

7



## Rate Comparison Test-and-Learn — Paper



Account No: Service Agreement ID: Service Address:



**On-Bill (Paper) Mailer** 

Provided information about

Sent in equal proportion to

benefiters, neutrals, and

Provided annual

different rates.

various rate plans.

non-benefiters).

comparative costs on

#### You have a choice

PG&E is now offering two new Time-of-Use rate plans that encourage conservation when demand for electricity is the highest. Each rate plan gives you the opportunity to control your costs by managing how much and when you use electricity. Go to pge.com/ratemailler, analyze your household's electricity usage, compare rate options, and get even more savings tips. It's easy and free!

#### Understand your options

The rate comparison below is based on how and when you used electricity over the past year, using today's prices. These estimates can be lower if you can be flexible about when you use electricity. PG&E will be sending you an electric rate comparison approximately every six months with your monthly energy statement. As rate changes take effect over the next few years, and as your electricity usage changes, your best rate option may also change.

	Your Current Rate	NEW	NEW	
	Tiered Rate Plan (E1)	Time-of-Use 3-8pm (ETOU-A)	Time-of-Use 4-9pm (ETOU-B)	
	1 2 3 See your bill for your current tier	You do stay within Tier 1 (your baseline allowance) on the Tiered Rate Plan.	You use more electricity (you are usually in Tier 3 on the Tiered Rate Plan.)	
This plan may be right for you if	You can conserve electricity throughout the month.	You can be flexible about when you use electricity on weekdays.	You can be flexible about when you use electricity on weekdays.	
	You can lower usage.  You cannot shift your usage to lower priced Time-of-Use hours.	You can shift some of your electricity use to lower priced weekends.	You can shift some of your electricity use to lower priced weekends.	
We used your last year's usage to estimate bills. (Does not include gas.)	\$560/annual	\$540/annual	\$685/annual	

Due to timing differences, your on-line rate comparison may not reflect the same dollar values. Values only reflect past usage and assume no behavior change. Your future usage and bills may be different.

Learn more about how to manage your energy on these rate plan-





Your monthly Energy Statement begins on page 3.

081860000001 01 SP - 0.465-1 1 1 Արտվիկինեկներգի|Սելլեզ||Այլեզ Want to Learn More?

Log in: pge.com/ratemailer Call: 1-866-936-4743

#### Page 1 of 9 @Printed on recycled paper. Form #16422 8.13



## Rate Comparison Test-and-Learn — Emails

#### **Email 1**



#### You could be saving on a different rate plan.

Did you know you can choose your PG&E rate plan? We've done a personalized rate analysis of your energy usage over the last year and found that a new rate plan could help you save energy and money.











Tiered rate plan

**Energy shifts** 

Currently, you're on a Tiered rate plan, which means that as you use more electricity during your monthly bill period, you move to the next, higher-priced tier. Time-of-Use rates charge you based on when you use energy as well as how much you use. Switching to a Time-of-Use rate plan gives you more control over your energy statement by charging you less when demand for electricity is generally lower and the cost of energy is cheaper.

If you can be flexible with the way you use energy, a Time-of-Use rate plan may help you to save money.

Compare your rate plan options in just a few clicks. See which rate plan is right for you by looking at your options side-by-side.

**Compare Your Options** 

We're here to help. We offer a number of free tips and programs to help you reduce your energy use at no cost.

For help understanding your rate plan options or choosing a plan, visit pge.com/findmyrate, or call 1-866-936-4743.

#### **Email 1**

- Provided link to comparative annual bill impacts
- Some presented with comparative savings

#### **Email 2**

 Provided annual comparative financial impacts

#### Both

- Segmented by financial performance on a TOU rate
- Segmented into three types of messaging
- Provided information about various rate plans

#### **Email 2**



#### You could save money on a different rate plan.

Did you know you can choose your PG&E rate plan? We've done a personalized rate analysis of your energy usage over the last year and found that you could save \$<amount saved> per year if you switched from your Tiered rate plan to a Time-of-Use rate plan,\*

Your Personalized Rate Comparison







Your current <\$><A VALUE> <\$><B\_VALUE> <A\_Copy> per year\* <B\_Copy> per year\*

Time-of-Use rate plans charge you based on when you use

energy as well as how much you use. By shifting some of your energy use to the lower-cost times of day, you can save even more money.

Analyze your rate plan options in just a few clicks. Learn more about each rate plan to find out which one is right for you.

#### Analyze Your Options

We're here to help. We offer a number of free tips and programs to help you reduce your energy use at no cost.

For help understanding your rate plan options or choosing a plan, visit pge.com/findmyrate, or call 1-866-936-4743.

information is provided for illustrative purposes only and does not constitute a representation or recommenda by PG&E as to what rate is best for you. PG&E cannot guarantee the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of the estimated cost savings information. PG&E expressly disclaims any and all liability for any damages of any nature (including direct, indirect, incidental and consequential) arising in connection with the use of the estimated cost savings information.



## Rate Comparison Test-and-Learn Results

Communications recipients performed significantly higher
than controls in these areas

Paper bill

eBill

Rate plans are available that could help you save money

A choice of rate plans is available...

New Time-of-Use rate plans are available...

A personalized rate plan comparison is available...

Heard of Time-of-Use rate plan

Recall receiving rate plan comparison

How to manage your electric bill using rate plan currently on

Which of PG&E's rate plans would be best for your household

How your bill is or would be impacted by a Time-of-Use rate plan

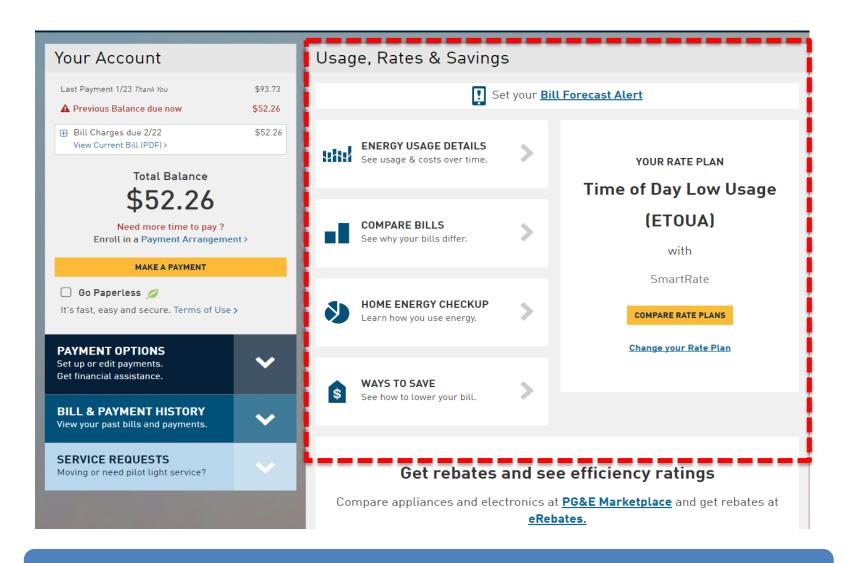
Communications succeeded in informing and educating residential customers

# Enhancements to Online Customer Experience "Your Account"



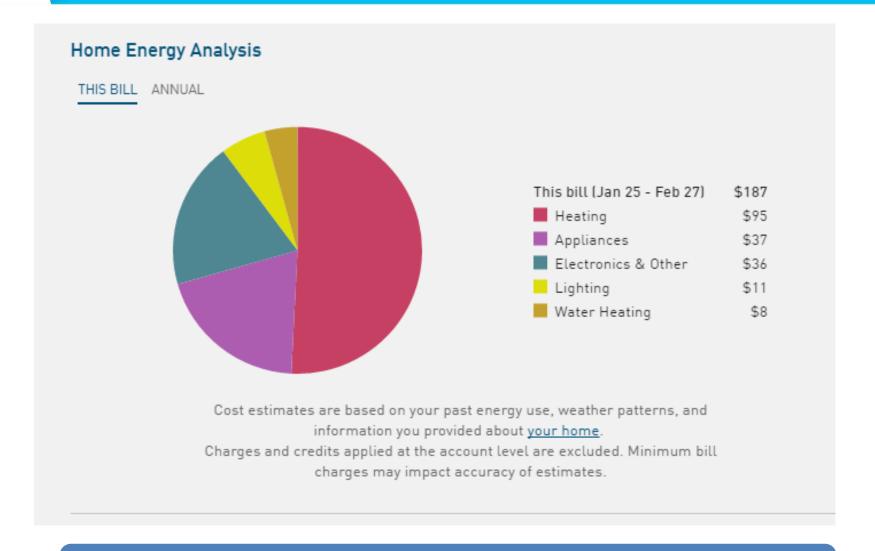
- Redesigned landing page with improved navigation
- Redesigned Home Energy Analysis displays monthly energy statement by cost drivers (e.g., appliances, heating, cooling, and lighting)
- Reorganized "Tips and Savings" to provide more relevant tips





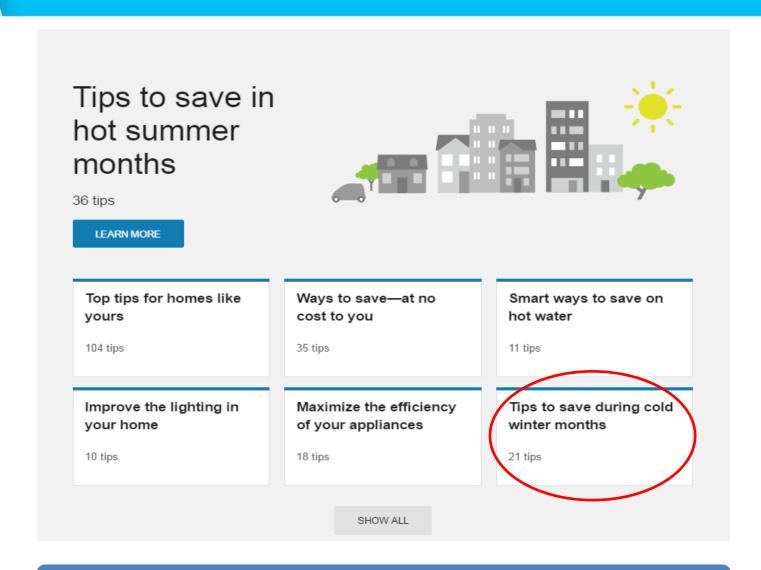
Redesigned landing page with clearly labeled energy management tools





Home Energy Analysis: displays energy statement by cost drivers





Tips organized by customer need



## Q1 2017 Enhancements to Your Account

- Electric Rate Plan comparison improvements
  - Enhanced rate comparisons, including NEM, Solar Choice, and SmartRate
  - New monthly side-by-side cost comparisons
- Rate analysis simulator
- Enhanced presentment of gas and electricity costs and usage
- Web design and navigation improvements

## Marketing, Education, and Outreach Efforts



## 2017-2019 Proposed ME&O Plan

2017

• **Test-and-learn:** Determine the most effective ways to engage with customers and test TOU acquisition

2018

 Optimize and scale outreach: Drive deeper engagement with rate options, tools, tips and programs to help customers prepare for default TOU

2019

 Default TOU Communications: Continue driving engagement with energy management tools and begin targeted communications

Objective: Generate awareness and understanding among customers regarding their plan options, choosing the right plan for them, and what they can do to better manage their energy use & bill.



## **Proposed ME&O Metrics**

	Metrics						
1	Customers are aware there are rate plar	ns that may help them					
	mitigate energy expenditures.						
2	Customers know where to go to get more	re information about					
	how to manage their energy use.						
3	Customers understand how energy use can impact bills.						
4	Customers understand the benefits of lowering their energy use.						
5	Customers are aware of the rebates, Energy Efficiency (EE)						
	programs, and tips offered by their utilit	y that can help them					
	manage their energy bill.						
6	Customers feel they were provided usef	ul information that					
	explains their bills.						
7	Customers are aware of TOU.	(Already in survey)					
8	Customers are aware of rate choices.	(Already in survey)					
9	Customer have an optimal experience.	(New)					

Proposed by PG&E to track awareness of TOU, rate options, and customer experience

#### ME&O Tracking Surveys

- Baseline survey completed March 2016
- "Proxy" results completed November 2016 via Rate Comparison Survey



## Umbrella Campaign

#### Summer 2016 campaign example

# California's energy rate structure is changing.





#### New messages tested in Q4

- "Energy is personal "

  rate plan options to suit individual needs
- "Leading the way" how rate options supports a cleaner, healthier environment

Objective	Experimental campaign to drive awareness of rate reform and electric rate plan options
Target Audience	Residential customers
Timing	• Launched in summer 2016 - campaign ran for a total of three weeks, from August 8, 2016 through September 1, 2016
Tactics	Radio (in-language for Spanish), Print (in-language for Chinese and Spanish), Digital/Search, Social Media
Key Campaign Learnings	<ul> <li>Customers interpreted "rate changes" as equating to rate or price increases</li> <li>PG&amp;E received negative customer postings on social media (159 negative comments [3%] of 4,868 comments)</li> <li>Customer written responses reinforced the negative feedback in social media channels, specifically, that the customer interpreted "rate changes" messaging as equating to rate or price increases.</li> </ul>
Q4 Actions	Tested new creative in customer voice panel research, results pending analysis.



## Winter Cold Campaign

Objective	Provide customers likely to see a winter bill increase with tips and tools
Target Audience	<ul> <li>General population: 996,000 customers</li> <li>Low income: 459,000 customers</li> </ul>
Timing	December 2016 – February 2017
Tactics	<ul> <li>Email, Direct mail, Digital and search, IVR, pge.com (in-language pages)</li> <li>Radio ads (in-language on select stations)</li> <li>Print ads (in-language on select newspapers)</li> </ul>
Key Results	Outreach focused on winter savings tips, but customers reacted mainly to receiving higher-than-expected bills

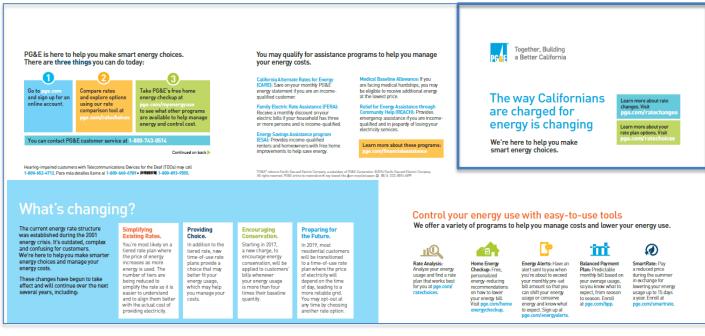
Sample letter and winter savings brochure







### Hard-to-Reach Customers



Tri-fold card available in multiple languages

Objective	Increase awareness of tips, tools and programs
Target Audience	CARE-enrolled and CARE-eligible customers
Timing	Throughout Q4 2016
Tactics	<ul> <li>Community based organizations held community events, community workshops, and door-to-door campaigns</li> <li>Rate change customer material in six languages</li> </ul>
October 2016 Results	<ul> <li>251 events</li> <li>109,290 total customers touched on rate awareness, energy resources, tips, and tools</li> </ul>



## **Integration Efforts**

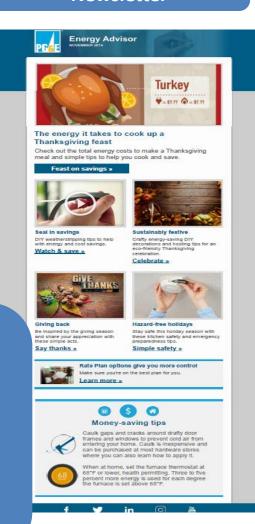
#### SmartRate Postcard



#### **Solar Choice Newsletter**



## Residential Digital Newsletter



#### Sample Integrated Messages

- "Rate Plan Choices give you more control. Are you on the right rate plan based on how you use energy?"
- "The Way Californians are charged for energy is changing. As these changes continue to take effect, you may see some differences in you energy statement. By lowering your energy use on SmartDays, you can better manage your bills."

## **Opt-In TOU Pilot**



## Opt-In TOU Pilot

Pilot Summary

(as of end of December 2016)



**Active Participants: 18,583** 

 Opt-outs:
 504 (2.4%)

 Ineligible:
 1,914 (9.1%)

 Total Unenrollment:
 2,418 (11.5%)

- Opt-outs continued to trend downward, greatest number was Aug 2016
- Ineligible numbers spiked in Sept Nov 2016 because of new CCAs



#### **Research Activities**

First Interim Report (to be filed March 31) to include:

- Bill and load impacts
- Quantitative surveys



#### Implementation Activities

- Processed incentives for Opt-In Pilot participants
- Unenrollment processing
- Bill protection credit payments

## **Default TOU Pilot**



### Default TOU Pilot Plan Filed in December

#### PG&E will stress test its systems...

 Default 250,000 customers (including MCE and SCP customers) onto a new TOU rate over a two-week period in March 2018

#### ...to develop learnings for full default

#### 1. Operational Readiness

 Optimize business processes, IT and billing systems, and customer service channels to support a smooth transition to default TOU

#### 2. ME&O Optimization

• Test customer segmentation, messaging, and tactics to increase customer awareness of rate options and engagement

## **Appendix**





## Residential Rate Reform Expenditures

		201	5 (Aug-Dec)	2	2016 Total	201	15-2016 Total
TOU Opt-in Pilot	ME&O	\$	399,163	\$	5,529,291	\$	5,928,454
	Π	\$	57,641	\$	906,847	\$	964,487
	Contact Center	\$	1	\$	44,940	\$	44,940
	Billing Ops	\$	1	\$	53,796	\$	53,796
	Consultant (Nexant)	\$	209,328	\$	834,495	\$	1,043,823
	Opt-In Pilot Total	\$	666,132	\$	7,369,368	\$	8,035,500
Non-Pilot	ME&O	\$	114,895	\$	7,331,782	\$	7,446,677
	Π	\$	901,664	\$	2,952,073	\$	3,853,737
	Contact Center	\$	911	\$	519,181	\$	520,092
	Billing Ops	\$	-	\$	71,701	\$	71,701
	Consultant	\$	-	\$	753,242	\$	753,242
	Non-Pilot Toal	\$	1,017,470	\$	11,627,978	\$	12,645,448
Total 2015-2016							
Expenditures (RROIR)		\$	1,683,602	\$	18,997,346	\$	20,680,948



## Opt-In TOU Rates



Total customers on TOU rates: 188, 210



## Opt-In TOU Pilot

## Active Participants (as of end of December 2016)

		С	R1	R2	R3		Total			
Climate Region	CARE/FERA	Current	Current	Current	Current	Current	Total Unenrolled	Unenrolled (%)		
Hot	N	1,166	1,101	568	559	3,394	379	10.05%		
	Υ	729	718	596	578	2,621	403	13.33%		
Hot	N	551	517			1,068	77	6.72%		
Targeted	Υ	1,350	1,307			2,657	264	9.04%		
Mild	N	523	515	499	501	2,038	337	14.19%		
	Υ	574	574	574	556	2,278	375	14.13%		
Cool	N	550	557	539	544	2,190	383	14.89%		
	Υ	586	579	583	589	2,337	200	7.88%		
Grand To	otal	6,029	5,868	3,359	3,327	18,583 2,418 11		11.51%		



## Opt-In TOU Pilot

## Unenrollment by Rate Plan (as of end of December 2016)

	С	R1	R2	R3	Total
Opt-out rate	0.40%	3.40%	3.30%	3.20%	2.40%
Ineligibility rate (including movers/stopped service and					
other inelligibilities)	8.60%	8.20%	9.90%	10.80%	9.10%
Total Unenrollment	9.00%	11.60%	13.20%	14.00%	11.50%

## Unenrollment by Month (as of end of December 2016)

Unenrollments		May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Opt-Outs		86	52	60	131	88	46	23	18	504
Ineligible	Moved/Stopped	93	105	140	159	153	165	124	133	1,072
	Other inelligibilities	28	68	18	36	277	210	187	18	842
	Total inelligibles	121	173	158	195	430	375	311	151	1,914
Total Unenrollment		207	225	218	326	518	421	334	169	2,418