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## City Gas and Electric Utility Billing Performance Audit Finds Need For Improvement

## Audit Committee Chair Georgette Gómez Urges Action On Changes

SAN DIEGO – The Audit Committee will hear a report from the City Auditor's Office regarding the Performance Audit on the City's Gas and Electric Utility Billing.

## The audit states, "The City needs to develop a comprehensive control environment for managing gas and electric utility charging" and "additional coordination to appropriately manage and review street light electricity bills for accuracy."

The City of San Diego has budgeted approximately \$51 million for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 for gas and electric expenditures and is slated to budget around \$46 million in the upcoming 2018 FY. The City has close to 3,500 accounts with San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E).

The City Auditor found that the City does not have sufficient internal controls over gas and electric utility account management, nor the ability to evaluate the accuracy of such billing.

## Councilmember Gómez said, "It is troubling that we, historically, have not had an internal process to ensure that the City is getting the best rate from SDG&E, and monitor the accuracy of our bills. I am confident that since City management agreed to implement the Auditor's recommendations, staff will work to ensure we have stringent controls and ensure we get the best rates for our energy expenditures in the future."

The report will go before the full City Council for acceptance and implementation of the Auditor's finding after the Audit Committee hearing tomorrow at 9 a.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact Roberto C. Torres at (619) 533-4774 or <u>robertot@sandiego.gov</u>.

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The City of San Diego Ninth Council District includes the communities of Alvarado Estates, City Heights, College Area, College View Estates, El Cerrito, Kensington, Mountain View, Mt. Hope, Rolando, Southcrest, and Talmadge.