

Savings Achieved by NAVFAC's Utility Rates and Studies Office

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command's Utility Rates and Studies Office (URASO) has the sole responsibility of representing the Department of the Navy in utility rate proceedings before 17 states and the Territory of Guam to ensure the Navy pays utility rates that are just and reasonable. Working in close coordination with three attorneys and expert consultants to carry out its assigned mission URASO:

- protects Navy and Marine Corps interests in establishing regulated and unregulated utility rates;
- provides technical support for representations before municipal, state, and federal utility regulatory authorities;
- participates fully in the proceedings and hearings of utility regulatory authorities as they affect utility providers to the Navy and Marine Corps;
- provides a coordinated approach to utility regulatory matters within NAVFACENCOM, the military departments, and other federal executive agencies; and
- performs relevant studies and provide assistance and advice to NAVFACEGCOM on all matters affecting utility rates.

By presenting testimonies, exhibits, cost studies, and briefs as evidence to support its position and rebut adversaries in the rate proceedings, the URASO has provided valuable cost avoidance to the Navy, as well as DOD. Operating with a budget of less than a million dollars annually, the URASO efforts have resulted in \$435 million in avoided costs over the last 22 years.

URASO is extremely active and works hard to ensure that utility rates charged to the Navy are just and that the Navy and Marine Corps interests are protected. The following is a list of rate cases that URASO is currently involved in or were completed in FY 2006.

Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, and San Diego Gas and Electric Companies Cost of Capital – Filed May 2005. Decision issued December 2005. Cost avoidance \$2.1 million.

San Diego Gas and Electric Rate Design Window – Filed February 2005. Decision issued December 2005. Cost avoidance \$5.6 million.

Hawaiian Electric Company General Rate case- Filed November 2004. Work is completed. Pending the Commission Decision.

Southern California Edison General Rate Case – Filed May 2005. Work is completed. Pending the Commission Decision.

Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric Nuclear Decommissioning - Filed November 15, 2005. Hearing Scheduled for May 2006.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company Rate Design- Filed March 2006. Hearing scheduled for November 2006.

Puget Sound Energy General Rate Cases – Filed February 2006. Hearing scheduled for September 2006.