



# Edison SmartConnect<sup>™</sup>

**Open Innovation & IP**  
**September, 2008**

# SCE's Approach

## *Promote Open Standards & Open Innovation thru Open Source*

- **SCE has sought patents as a protective measure**
  - To preserve SCE's own ability to use our \$1.7 billion SmartConnect system (and to allow others to use their AMI/Smart Meter systems), SCE has taken the precautionary step of filing a patent application for the 2005/6 AMI Use Cases with the U.S. Patent Office.
  - If a SmartGrid Open Source Repository was available the need for patent protection would diminish as it would be possible to clearly establish an invention in the public domain.
- **What does SCE's U.S. patent application cover?**
  - SCE's business methods patent application with the U.S. Patent Office is for the use of the business processes described in the SCE AMI use cases within the United States. The patent covers the ways that SCE expects to use its smart meter system to enable its customers to make smarter energy choices. As is typical, the patent application does claim broad business uses for an advanced metering system. The patent process will determine whether or not SCE has developed new uses for an advanced metering system that satisfy the requirements for a patent.
- **What does SCE's U.S. patent application *NOT* cover?**
  - The patent does *not* cover the design of the underlying AMI technology. The U.S. patent does not cover international uses of advanced metering technologies.

# SCE Promotes Open Innovation

- **What does SCE's non-exclusive world-wide royalty-free license cover?**
  - SCE's license agreement is a non-exclusive, world-wide, royalty-free license for others to use our copyrighted AMI use cases and, if a U.S. patent is granted, for the royalty-free use of the processes covered by the patent. The final license agreement will apply retroactively.
  - SCE has received and continues to seek industry comments on the draft license agreement by September 24, 2008, in order to post the final license agreement on October 1, 2008 on our website at [www.sce.com/usecases](http://www.sce.com/usecases).
- **Does the SCE's draft license constrain further development of AMI?**
  - No, the SCE's proposed license does not constrain development of new or different uses of an AMI system or AMI technologies. The non-exclusive royalty-free license is written so that the SCE AMI Use Cases can be used by others in developing either proprietary or open source derivative works since there is no requirement that the derivative works be made available on an open source basis.
- **SCE Continues to Share Its Developments with Industry**
  - SCE recently shared its PEV Use Cases (no patent sought) with EPRI & SAE to facilitate development of the PEV



## Next Steps

- Seeking Feedback on Draft License Agreement by Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Received thoughtful comments from utilities and others – Thank you!
- Incorporate any changes & post to SCE website by Oct 1<sup>st</sup>
  - SCE intends to have a single standard version of the license
- Work with EPRI, UtilityAMI, IEEE & others to establish industry SmartGrid Open Source Repository in Q4 2008
- SCE will not seek patent protection on its 100 new SmartGrid Use Cases (under development incl recent PEV cases) and instead publish to the Repository

**For more information: [www.sce.com/usecases](http://www.sce.com/usecases)**