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Decision No. 81062

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY for a certificate that the present and future public convenience and necessity require or will require construction and operation by applicant of the Nos. 1 and 2 220-kv transmission lines from Kramer Substation to Lugo Substation.	Application No. 53575 (Filed September 8, 1972)

OPINION AND ORDER

By this application Southern California Edison Company (Edison) seeks an order of the Commission granting it a certificate pursuant to General Order No. 131 that the present and future public convenience and necessity will require the construction and operation of two 220-kv transmission lines from Kramer Substation to Lugo Substation in San Bernardino County.

As required by Section 6 of General Order No. 131, Edison gave proper notice of filing this application to the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, the San Bernardino County Planning Department, and the State Highway Engineer. In addition, notice was given to the general public by advertisement, not less than once a week, for two successive weeks in the local newspapers.

As required by Section 5 of General Order No. 131 Edison submitted the following data:

The Proposal

Edison proposes to construct and operate a 220-kv transmission facility by constructing 11 miles of new double circuit line between Edison's Lugo and Victor Substations

and by connecting this new construction to an existing 37 mile double circuit line between Edison's Victor and Kramer Substations, a total distance of approximately 48 miles. The new transmission facility will be of double circuit construction, consisting of circuits designated as the Nos. 1 and 2 Kramer-Lugo 220-kv lines, and will pass through the site of Edison's Victor Substation.

This application relates only to the 11 miles between the Victor and Lugo Substations where new line construction is required.

Necessity for Proposed Transmission Facility

The Nos. 1 and 2 Kramer-Lugo 220-kv lines are required for operation by January 1, 1975 to transmit a portion of the 472 MW output of the Coolwater Combined Cycle Unit No. 3 through Kramer Substation to the Edison system and will provide an economic and reliable connection of this generating resource to the Edison system. These transmission lines will be designed to carry the full generating output with one or two line-out contingencies without imposing overloads on the remaining lines in excess of acceptable emergency ratings.

The proposed transmission lines will also transmit power to Kramer and the 115-kv transmission system north of Victor during those times when the new Coolwater generating unit is shut down. Thus, the proposed Nos. 1 and 2 Kramer-Lugo 220-kv lines would be required for operation by June 1, 1976, irrespective of the additional Coolwater generation in order to provide electric service which is in accordance with Edison's standards of reliability to such areas as Edwards Air Force Base, Searles, Bishop, and Mammoth under one or two line-out contingency conditions.

The proposed transmission lines will provide an economic, efficient, and reliable means for the multi-purposes of reinforcing the Edison transmission system, serving the loads north of

Victor Substation, and providing a part of the transmission system for the output of Coolwater Combined Cycle Unit No. 3.

Location and Description of Proposed New Construction

A map of the proposed route, Exhibit B attached to the application, shows details of the right-of-way in the vicinity of settled areas, parks, recreation areas, scenic areas, and existing transmission lines within one mile of the proposed route.

The transmission lines will be constructed from Lugo Substation to Victor Substation on a right-of-way to be acquired adjacent and parallel to an existing Edison right-of-way containing three existing lattice steel tower transmission lines for the entire distance.

The route crosses unimproved desert for the entire distance passing in the vicinity of a few scattered home sites. The access roads which are used for the maintenance of the existing tower lines will be used for the construction and maintenance of the new lines.

The proposed route, along with the existing transmission facilities, passes through the proposed Oro Grande Wash Aquatic Recreation Area. The proposed transmission facility will not pass in the vicinity of any known historic sites or buildings, or archeological sites, and will not produce an unreasonable burden on natural resources or aesthetics of the area.

A description of the proposed transmission lines and the estimated cost are:

a.	Line Length (New Construction)	11 miles
b.	Type of Conductor	Aluminum conductor steel reinforced (ACSR)
c.	Size of Conductor	1033.5 MCM ACSR 54/7

d.	Conductor Configuration	One conductor per phase
e.	Capacity (thermal)	1,160 Amps
f.	Voltage	220-kv
g.	Structures	Double circuit, self-supporting, lattice steel, square-based towers
h.	Height of Structure	140 feet average
i.	Average Span Length	1,100 feet
j.	Estimated Construction Cost	$1,723,500

Route Selection

The route for the proposed transmission facility was selected because it parallels existing transmission lines between Lugo Substation and Victor Substation. Any alternate route would have created a new utility corridor and required a new road system for construction and maintenance of the new transmission facility, thus creating a greater environmental impact on the area. Structures on this route will be located and designed to be as compatible with the environment as is reasonably practicable. A sketch of a typical tower is provided in Exhibit C to the application. Accordingly, the location of these lines as proposed provides the most acceptable route from the standpoint of existing and planned development in the area and will produce less of an impact on the aesthetics of the area than any other practicable alternative.

Construction Schedule

The estimated schedule for construction of the lines is as follows:

	Start	Complete
Foundations	3/1/74	5/15/74
Tower Erection	6/1/74	10/1/74
Conductor Stringing	9/1/74	1/1/75
Operating Date	1/1/75	

Necessary Right-of-Way 99% Acquired as of August 1, 1972.

Governmental Agency Review

The effect of the proposed route and lines on community values and the environment was reviewed with the county of San Bernardino. The county was requested to provide a brief written position statement concerning the transmission lines and a copy thereof is attached to the application as Exhibit D. According to that exhibit, the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County at its meeting of June 20, 1972 indicated no opposition to the proposed transmission lines.

The State Department of Public Works offers no objection to the proposed lines subject, of course, to its standard requirement of securing encroachment permits from Division of Highways.

Notice of the proposed construction of these lines will be filed with the Federal Aviation Administration by Edison. Based on the applicable criteria of Part 77, Federal Aviation Regulations, Edison is informed that the proposed structures will not have a substantial adverse effect upon the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace and will not be a hazard to air navigation.

Staff Review

The Commission's staff has reviewed this application and recommends that the certificate sought be granted. Its file memorandum dated November 22, 1972, and the supplement thereto

dated January 5, 1973, to that effect are made a part of this record, as Exhibit 1. No request for a public hearing has been received by the Commission.

Findings

1. The construction, operation, and maintenance of the 220-kv transmission facility described in this application is reasonably required to meet area demands for present and future reliable and economic electric service.

2. The construction and operation of these lines will not produce an unreasonable burden on natural resources, aesthetics of the area in which the proposed facilities are to be located, public health and safety, air and water quality in the vicinity, or parks, recreational and scenic areas, or historic sites and buildings or archeological sites, or community values, nor will it otherwise have any undue influence on the environment.

3. Applicant's proposal is in the public interest; public convenience and necessity now require and will require the construction of the 220-kv transmission facility as described in this application; a public hearing is not necessary.

The Commission concludes that the certificate sought should be granted.

The certificate granted herein shall be subject to the following provision of law:

> The Commission shall have no power to authorize the capitalization of this certificate of public convenience and necessity or the right to own, operate or enjoy such certificate of public convenience and necessity in excess of the amount (exclusive of any tax or annual charge) actually paid to the State as the consideration for the issuance of such certificate of public convenience and necessity or right.

The action taken herein is for the issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity only and is not to be considered as indicative of amounts to be included in a future rate proceeding for the purpose of determining just and reasonable rates.

IT IS ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity is granted to Southern California Edison Company to construct and operate an 11 mile section of transmission line between Lugo and Victor Substations to form the proposed Nos. 1 and 2 Kramer-Lugo 220-kv transmission lines, together with related appurtenances, as described in the application.

The authorization herein granted shall expire if not exercised within three years from the date hereof.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 21st day of FEBRUARY 1973.

President

Commissioners