

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 81101

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRANSPORTATION COMPANY
for an order authorizing deviation from
Rule 15-2 of the Public Utilities
Commission of the State of California
regarding installation of underground
electric lines within industrial
development in the City of Kaiser,
County of San Bernardino, State of
California.

Application No. 53585
(Filed September 14, 1972)

William E. Still, Attorney at Law, for applicant.
James A. Trecartin, Attorney at Law, for
Southern California Edison Company, interested
party.
James J. Cherry, Attorney at Law, for the
Commission staff.

OPINION AND ORDER

Applicant Southern Pacific Transportation Company seeks a deviation from the mandatory undergrounding provisions of the line extension rule of Southern California Edison Company (SCE) in serving certain industrial property.

Public hearing was held before Examiner Catey at San Bernardino on January 11, 1973. Applicant presented testimony by its industrial agent responsible for development of the property and by a customer service analyst of SCE. The matter was submitted on January 11, 1973.

A review of the record leads to the following findings.

Findings

1. The tariffs of SCE require extensions of distribution lines in industrial subdivisions to be installed underground unless a deviation from that requirement is authorized by the Commission.

2. Applicant is a developer of an industrial subdivision of about 100 acres, in a heavy-industry zone near Kaiser, San Bernardino County.

3. Hearing notice was sent to various officials of San Bernardino County, the hearing was held at the county seat so that the county could present its position on the requested deviation if it so desired, but no appearance was made on behalf of the county.

4. There are no residences nor shopping centers within several miles in any direction from applicant's land.

5. Existing heavy industries on nearby premises include such features as exposed storage yards for fabricated steel products, open corrugated iron sheds, outdoor cranes and hoists, and overhead power lines.

6. Applicant's property is surrounded on three sides by overhead electric transmission lines on steel towers, an additional similar line is planned on the fourth side, and overhead electric distribution lines on poles serve all of the nearby users and extend along the existing street frontage of the subdivision.

7. Because of the indeterminate future load, underground facilities installed before street paving is completed would have to be designed to accommodate the maximum possible connected load, whereas, overhead distribution lines could be designed for the probable connected load and be readily modified if the demand requires.

8. Under the circumstances described in the foregoing finding, underground distribution facilities would be about three times the cost of alternative overhead lines.

9. In this instance there would be no significant aesthetic disadvantages to the public in extending power lines in applicant's industrial subdivision overhead rather than underground, hence the applicability of the mandatory undergrounding provisions of SCE's tariffs would be unjust.

The Commission concludes that the relief requested by applicant should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that Southern California Edison Company is authorized and directed to deviate from the mandatory undergrounding provisions of its line extension rules to the extent of providing an overhead line extension or extensions in applicant's industrial property of approximately 100 acres located east of Etiwanda Avenue, near Kaiser, San Bernardino County, as delineated on the map attached to the application.

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

Dated at Los Angeles, California, this 6th day of MARCH, 1973.

Vernon L. Sturgeon
President

William Symons, Jr.

[Signature]
Commissioners

Commissioner J. P. Vukasin, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Thomas Moran, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.