

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 82477

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of PACIFIC GAS AND
ELECTRIC COMPANY for authority
to revise its tariff for natural
gas service to offset increases
in expense caused by increases in
the price of natural gas from the
El Paso Natural Gas Company.
(Gas)

Application No. 52335

Petition for Further
Modification of Order
Contained in Decision
No. 78468

(Filed November 15, 1973)

O P I N I O N

By this petition Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) requests that its existing authorization to offset certain tracking increases in its cost of natural gas purchased from El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) be extended through December 31, 1974.

In Decision No. 78468 dated March 23, 1971 (Applications Nos. 52335 and 51686), the Commission authorized PG&E to track El Paso's tracking increase through December 31, 1971, to parallel authority granted to El Paso by the FPC in Docket No. RP71-13. In Decision No. 79383 dated November 23, 1971, the Commission modified Decision No. 78468 to extend tracking authorization to December 31, 1972, to parallel authorization granted by El Paso by the FPC in Docket No. RP71-13. In Decision No. 81332 dated May 1, 1973, the Commission authorized PG&E to extend its tracking authority to December 31, 1973, and to include gas cost revisions resulting from El Paso's PGA procedure which was established in accordance with FPC Orders Nos. 452 and 452-A issued April 14, 1972, and June 13, 1972, respectively, in FPC Docket No. R-406. This authorization matched that granted to El Paso by FPC order issued July 31, 1972, in FPC Dockets Nos. RP72-150 and 155, except that El Paso's FPC authorized purchased gas cost adjustment procedure has no termination date.

The Commission finds that the petition by PG&E to extend its existing authorization to offset and track increases in cost of natural gas purchased from El Paso Natural Gas Company resulting from El Paso's FPC authorized purchased gas cost adjustment procedure from December 31, 1973, through December 31, 1974, is reasonable. A public hearing is not necessary.

The increases in rates herein authorized will not increase petitioner's level of earnings but will merely offset increases in the cost of purchased gas.

O R D E R


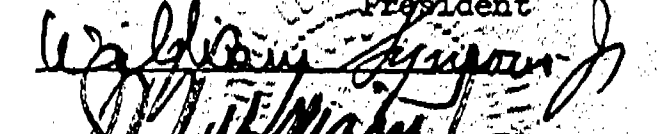


IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Paragraph 3c (a) of Decision No. 78468, as modified by Decisions Nos. 79383 and 81322, pertaining to adjustments in Pacific Gas and Electric Company's rates occasioned by rate changes filed by El Paso Natural Gas Company is modified to provide that the time for such adjustments is extended through December 31, 1974.

2. In all other respects, Decision No. 78468 remains in full force and effect.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13th day of FEBRUARY, 1974.


President



Commissioners