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ORIGINAL

Decision No. 82955

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of MILDRED E. EMMEI,  
Individual, for order waiving the  
requirement for underground utilities  
and permitting the installation of  
overhead utilities in TRACT 3677 in  
PINE COVE, IDYLLWILD, CALIFORNIA.

Application No. 54773  
(Filed April 1, 1974)

OPINION AND ORDER

Mildred E. Emmel requests an order waiving the underground-  
ing requirements for the installation of Southern California Edison  
Company residential lines (SoCal's Rule 15.1) and General Telephone  
Company of California's lines (General Telephone's Rule 34) to permit  
overhead installation in Tract 3677 in Pine Cove, Idyllwild, in  
Riverside County, California.

The application alleges the following, which we find to  
be true:

1. Tract 3677, approved in 1967, comprises 3.85 acres  
divided into 17 lots, each of which is approximately 75 feet by  
105 feet (Exhibit 3 on the application).
2. The installation of overhead utilities would be com-  
patible with similar installations in the adjacent properties.
3. The installation of poles for overhead utilities would  
not cause visibility pollution in this area because of the dense  
growth of trees.
4. Trenching for underground utilities would destroy num-  
erous trees as there is a considerable area which would require  
extensive blasting which would additionally destroy tree root

systems of nearby trees. This would deprive the residents of the enjoyment of these now beautiful trees.

5. The water system has been installed and trenching and tunnelling under the 4-inch water lines would cause further damage to trees.

6. The subdivision road (Wrightwood Drive) has been paved. It would be necessary to tear up quite a lot of the road pavement to trench across the road.

7. Underground utilities would be prohibitively expensive due to the extensive blasting, trenching, and digging under the existing water lines and cutting up and patching the road pavement.

8. No subdivisions or development of other property in the immediate vicinity is contemplated.

9. Southern California Edison Company has estimated that applicant would be required to pay an advance of \$2,603.85 plus providing the trench which will cost the applicant approximately \$2,500.

10. There will be no extra charges for installation of telephone facilities.

11. The Riverside County Board of Supervisors and the Riverside County Planning Commission granted waivers of the requirements for underground utilities per Article VIII, Section 8.29 of Ordinance No. 460 as amended through Ordinance No. 460.9, effective January 26, 1967, at their hearing dated September 5, 1967. A copy of the order is attached to the application (Exhibit A to original application).

We find with reasonable certainty that the project involved in this proceeding will not have a significant effect on the environment. A public hearing is not necessary. The application should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that Southern California Edison Company and General Telephone Company of California are authorized to deviate from the mandatory undergrounding provisions of their line extension rules in providing service to Tract 3677 in Pine Cove, Idyllwild, Riverside County, by using overhead lines in lieu of underground facilities.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California,  
this 5<sup>th</sup> day of JUNE, 1974.

Vernon L. Stinson  
President  
William Sproule Jr.  
Michael J. ...  
Paul ...  
Commissioners