

Decision No. 84062

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Investigation on the Commission's
Own Motion into the Adequacy and
Reliability of the Energy and Fuel
Requirements and Supply of the
Electric Public Utilities in the
State of California.

Case No. 9581

And Related Matters.

Case No. 9642
Case No. 9723
Case No. 9734
Case No. 9735

INTERIM OPINION MODIFYING DECISION

Decision No. 82139 dated November 13, 1973, an Interim Order in Case No. 9581, requires all respondent electric utilities to provide progress reports every 15 days with respect to the effectiveness of their usage reduction programs.

After a year's experience with such reports it appears that significant conservation results have been, and are being, achieved on a voluntary basis; however, the 10 percent conservation goal specified in Decisions Nos. 82139 and 82881 now needs to be related to the actual conservation and fuel supply experience of the utilities consistent with one year's passage of time. Also, the frequency and content of effectiveness reports are in need of a change to more effectively monitor results of continuing reduced growth in electric energy usage.

By including average use per customer figures for several years, by classes, in the data to be reported, the average per customer usage changes can be readily measured relative to any base.

Conservation programs first initiated in November 1973, and intensified in January 1974, have remained effective through the year 1974. Electric energy sales for the year 1974 were more than 11 percent below those forecast prior to instituting the programs. Energy sales for each of the major utilities were even less in 1974 than experienced in 1973 despite customer growth.

	1973 (Kwhrs in Millions)	1974
Pacific Gas and Electric Company	50,774	50,138
San Diego Gas & Electric Company	7,902	7,766
Southern California Edison Company	52,316	49,609

It is essential that conservation efforts continue. Earlier decisions in Case No. 9581 have required that electric utility tariff rules be established that provide for reduction of functional outdoor lighting of commercial areas by 50 percent, thermostat setting limits of 68°F for heating and 78°F for cooling of commercial or industrial premises, and elimination of indoor business lighting (except for minimum security and custodial purposes) during non-business hours.

The major utilities will be required to report on customer education advertising and monitoring methods to assure that necessary conservation efforts are continuing. Utilities will also be required to intensify efforts as necessary to assure adequate energy supplies during 1975.

It is no longer practicable to rely solely on the base period of 1973 and percent reductions from preconservation estimates to measure conservation effectiveness. Required effectiveness reports in 1975 will, therefore, require comparisons with both 1973 and 1974 levels of energy sales. Comparisons will also be required on a per-customer basis to analyze trends independently from customer growth.

The Commission finds that Ordering Paragraphs Nos. 1 and 2 of Decisions Nos. 82139 and 82881 should be modified.

INTERIM ORDER MODIFYING DECISION

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. All respondent electric utilities are to continue the operation of those phases of the conservation and curtailment plans filed with the Commission dealing with voluntary conservation and curtailment of the use of electricity, and to intensify efforts as necessary to assure adequate energy supplies in 1975. The objective is to maintain reductions in the use of electric energy consistent with fuel and energy availability in 1975.

2. Respondents Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company shall, within thirty days after the effective date hereof, file a report describing each utility's methods of informing its customers of the continuing need for and means of implementing electric energy conservation, together with an explanation of its programs for monitoring the operation of applicable tariff rules concerning commercial and industrial lighting and thermostat setting restrictions.

3. All respondent electric utilities are to provide progress reports monthly beginning with January 1975, due on the twentieth day of the following month, with respect to the effectiveness of their usage reduction programs. Data shall include, but not be limited to, comparisons with (a) prior actual requirements (b) prior adjusted (for weather) requirements, and (c) load on (1) a system basis by classes of service, and (2) sample load data with respect

to individual customers and customer groups. With respect to (a) and (b) data shall include average use per customer, by classes.

If any party wishes to protest this order they may do so by writing to the Commission. If a protest is received the order will be suspended and the matter set for hearing.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11th
day of FEBRUARY, 1975.

Vernon L. Johnson
President
William J. ...
...
Leonard Ross
Commissioners