

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 85849

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Joint Application
of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY and
PACIFIC LIGHTING SERVICE COMPANY for
Authorization to Revise Rates from
Time to Time as Necessary to Reflect
Expenditures and Revenues Associated
with Gas Exploration and Development
Activities.

Application No. 53625

ORDER EXTENDING TIME

In Decision No. 81898, dated September 25, 1973, applicants were authorized to establish a Gas Exploration and Development (GEDA) procedure that included the provision that the authority to commit funds to new or revised projects should be limited to a period of not more than three years.

On March 2, 1976, the Commission instituted its order of investigation, Case No. 10056, into the exploration and development programs of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and Southern California Gas Company. This matter is tentatively scheduled for hearing on September 20, 1976, and it would be unrealistic to assume that a decision would be issued prior to the termination of the three-year period mentioned above.

Applicants filed Application No. 56471 on May 7, 1976, for authorization to continue the GEDA procedure for an additional three-year period and moved for an expeditious hearing schedule to permit continuation of their efforts to secure additional gas supplies for southern California.

We intend to fully consider the exploration and development programs of the California utilities, including applicants in Case No. 10056 and this application. Under the circumstances it is

appropriate to continue the GEDA procedure in effect until April 15, 1977.

The Commission finds that (1) an extension of time until April 15, 1977, to commit funds to new or revised projects under the GEDA procedure is reasonable and in the public interest; and (2) that a public hearing is not necessary for the granting of this extension of time, therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that:

Paragraph 10 of the Findings of Fact in Decision No. 81898 is modified as follows:

10. The authority to commit funds to new or revised projects should be limited to a period beginning on the effective date of Decision No. 81898 and ending on April 15, 1977.

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

Dated at San Francisco California, this 18th
day of MAY, 1976.

I dissent:

Sted Hol, Commissioner

William J. Lyons Jr. President
William L. Stassen
I. Ross
Robert Bateman Commissioners