

Decision No. 86258

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of SIERRA PACIFIC	)	
POWER COMPANY to issue 1,000,000	)	Application No. 56650
shares of common stock, \$3.75	)	(Filed July 28, 1976)
par value.	)	

O P I N I O N

Sierra Pacific Power Company seeks authority to issue and sell not exceeding 1,000,000 shares of its \$3.75 par value common stock.

Applicant is a Nevada corporation engaged in public utility electric operations in the State of California and in public utility electric, gas and water operations in the State of Nevada. For the year 1975, the company reports total operating revenues of \$98,070,541 of which \$13,081,631, or 13%, were derived from California operations.

In order to obtain funds to reimburse its treasury for unreimbursed construction expenditures, the company proposes to issue and sell 1,000,000 shares of its common stock under contract with underwriters. The price would be at least 95% of the price of the last sale of applicant's common stock on the New York Stock Exchange preceding the time when the price to the underwriters is determined.

Applicant's capitalization ratios at June 30, 1976, and as adjusted to give effect to (a) \$10,000,000 of bonds exempted by Decision No. 85936, dated June 8, 1976, in Application No. 56504, and (b) the proposed issuance of 1,000,000 shares of common stock assuming net proceeds of \$11,500,000, are summarized from Appendix C, attached to the application, as follows:

	<u>June 30, 1976</u>	<u>Pro Forma</u>
Long-term debt	52.5%	52.0%
Preferred stock	15.5	14.3
Common stock equity	<u>32.0</u>	<u>33.7</u>
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

After consideration the Commission finds that:

1. The proposed stock issue is for a proper purpose.
2. Applicant has need for external funds for the purpose set forth herein.
3. The money, property or labor to be procured or paid for by the issue of the stock herein authorized is reasonably required for the purpose specified herein, which purpose is not, in whole or in part, reasonably chargeable to operating expenses or to income.
4. There is no known opposition and there is no reason to delay granting the relief requested.

On the basis of the foregoing findings we conclude that the application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary. In issuing our order herein, we place applicant and its shareholders on notice that we do not regard the number of shares outstanding, the total par value of the shares nor the dividends paid as measuring the return it should be allowed to earn on its investment in plant, and that the authorization herein granted is not to be construed as a finding of the value of the company's stock or properties nor as indicative of amounts to be included in proceedings for the determination of just and reasonable rates.

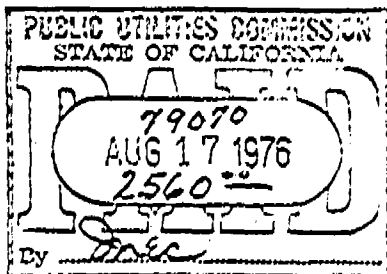
Applicant is hereby placed on further notice that, if the Commission should believe the negotiated price or underwriters' compensation pertaining to the proposed stock issue would result in excessive effective costs, it would take into consideration in rate proceedings only that which it deems reasonable.

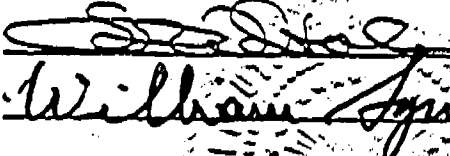

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Sierra Pacific Power Company, on or after the effective date hereof and on or before October 31, 1976, may issue and sell not exceeding 1,000,000 shares of its \$3.75 par value common stock at a price to be determined in the manner set forth in the application.
2. Sierra Pacific Power Company shall apply the net proceeds from the sale of the stock herein authorized to the purpose specified in the application.
3. Promptly after Sierra Pacific Power Company ascertains the underwriting commission and price to be paid to it for the common stock herein authorized, the company shall notify the Commission of each in writing.
4. As soon as available, Sierra Pacific Power Company shall file with the Commission three copies of its final prospectus pertaining to the common stock herein authorized.
5. Within one month after issuing and selling the stock herein authorized, Sierra Pacific Power Company shall file with the Commission a statement, in lieu of a report under General Order No. 24-B, disclosing the purpose to which the stock proceeds were applied.
6. This order shall become effective when Sierra Pacific Power Company has paid the fee computed in accordance with Section 1904.2 of the Public Utilities Code, which fee is \$2,560.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17<sup>th</sup> day  
of AUGUST, 1976.



  
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President  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioners

- 3 - Commissioner Vernon L. Sturgeon, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.