

Decision 84 04 051

APR 18 1984

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application  
of Southern California Edison  
Company for authority to increase  
rates charged by it for electric  
service.

Application 83-12-53  
(Filed December 29, 1983)

O P I N I O NException to the Rate Case Plan

On March 16, 1984, Applicant, Southern California Edison Company (Edison) filed a motion requesting an exception to the Rate Case Plan to allow Edison to make certain analyses of Operation and Maintenance (O&M) expenses for San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station Unit Nos. 2 and 3 (SONGS 2 and 3) requested by the Commission in Decision (D.) 84-02-090 and to present the results of those analyses to the Commission in this proceeding.

The Commission staff (staff) has no objection to making whatever accommodations are necessary to carry out the intent of D.84-02-090 on condition that Edison's proposal results in no new increase in revenue requirement and the refueling expense estimate be based on data compatible with Exhibit 15.

The staff's concern is noted. However, if the Commission is to consider these expenses for 1985 and 1986 in a meaningful way, Edison should not be foreclosed from introducing evidence that is necessary to develop a complete record for the Commission to arrive at an informed decision. Further, since D.84-01-090 states that 1985 O&M expenses for SONGS 2 and 3 will be considered in the general rate case proceeding, it is appropriate to make the necessary exceptions to the Rate Case Plan to accomplish the Commission's intent.

Accordingly, we conclude that the issue of 1985 O&M expenses, including refueling expense for Units 2 and 3, and an attrition allowance for 1986 should be fully explored in this proceeding. Edison will be allowed to update its exhibits and introduce new material on refueling expense, but it will have the burden of demonstrating that the new material is not in effect double counting the expenses set forth in Exhibit 15. Also, Edison's revised showing should not produce a new total revenue requirement which would exceed the original revenue requirement requested and noticed to its customers (Public Utilities Code § 454(a)).

Because of the need to analyze new recorded data, which will not be available until April or May 1984, this issue will be treated as a separate phase of the general rate case. Upon receipt of the data, Edison will notify all parties of its availability. All parties interested should request the data from Edison and submit data requests promptly. A prehearing conference will be scheduled and hearing set for early September 1984. There will be a separate briefing schedule.

#### Findings of Fact

1. There is a need to develop a complete record on SONGS 2 and 3 O&M expenses for 1985 and 1986.
2. New recorded data will not be available until April or May 1984, and an exception to the Rate Case Plan is necessary in order that the new data may be fully considered in this proceeding.

#### Conclusions of Law

1. There is sufficient basis for an exception to the Rate Case Plan. Applicant's motion should be granted.
2. Because of the need to schedule the general rate case proceeding without delay, the public agenda provisions of the Government Code should be waived and action taken on an emergency basis under Public Utilities Code § 306(b). This order should be made effective on the date of signature.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that Southern California Edison Company is granted an exception to the Rate Case Plan to update its exhibits and introduce new material on refueling expense related to SONGS 2 and 3 O&M expenses for 1985 and 1986.

This order is effective today.

Dated APR 18 1984, at San Francisco, California.

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.  
President

VICTOR CALVO

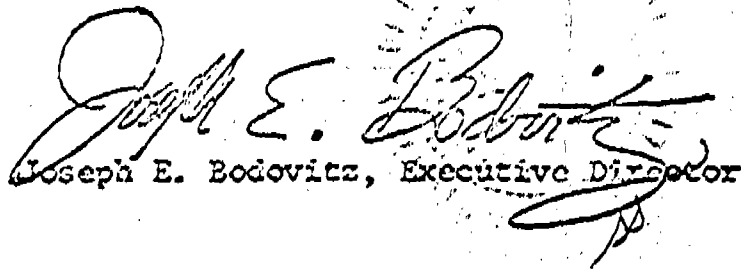
PRISCILLA C. GREW

DONALD VIAL

WILLIAM T. BAGLEY

Commissioners

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION  
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE  
COMMISSIONERS TODAY.

  
Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director