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Decision 91-02-008 February 6, 1991

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
the Deaf and Disabled)
Telecommunications Program)
Administrative Committee's petition)
for modification of Resolution)
T-14078.)

ORIGINAL

Application 90-12-029
(Filed December 11, 1990)

O P I N I O N

This decision grants a petition for modification filed on December 11, 1990 by the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program Administrative Committee (DDTPAC). The petition seeks modification of Resolution T-14078 so that the rules adopted by the resolution are internally consistent and will promote more efficient administration of the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program (Program).

Resolution T-14078, issued June 6, 1990, approved a process by which DDTPAC will approve program expenses. The adopted rules include a section on reporting requirements and a section on the approval process. Item 3 of the reporting requirements section states:

"The utilities will provide meaningful and detailed explanation for all variances in the SB 60, 597, and 244 Expense Reports which are equal to or greater than 10% over the monthly budgeted amount".

Item 8 of the approval process section states in pertinent part:

"For each line item which is over the monthly budget amount by 5% or more the committee must specifically approval this overage in its minutes".

Under these rules, DDTPAC would require detailed justification for expenses which vary from monthly budgeted amounts

by 10% or more. Review and approval is required for those that are 5% or more over budget. DDTPAC states that without explanations for items falling between the 5% and 10% variances, it has no basis upon which to approve the items. It also states the 5% limit requires an unwarranted amount of DDTPAC meeting time, especially considering that the DDTPAC monitors total utility and program expenses very closely. For these reasons, it recommends that the first sentence of Item 8 be revised to provide for a variance limit of 10%.

DDTPAC's request is reasonable and would improve operation of the program's administration. Accordingly, Item 8 of the rules adopted in T-14078 regarding the approval process will be revised as follows:

"The committee will review all line items which are over the monthly budget amount by 10% or more (See Item 3 under Reporting Requirements) and record its findings in its minutes".

Findings of Fact

1. Resolution T-14078 adopted rules for DDTPAC's expense approval process.

2. Item 3 of the Reporting Requirements section is inconsistent with Item 8 of the Approval Process Section. The inconsistency requires the DDTPAC to review certain expenses without corresponding justification.

3. It is reasonable to require DDTPAC to review and approve those expenses which are 10% or more over the monthly budgeted amounts.

Conclusion of Law

The Commission should grant DDTPAC's petition to modify T-14078 so that Item 8 requires review of monthly expenses which are over the monthly budget amount by 10% or more rather than 5% or more.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that Resolution T-14078 is modified so that Item 8 of the rules regarding the approval process is revised as follows:

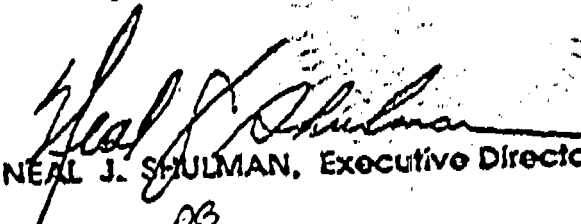
"The committee will review all line items which are over the monthly budget amount by 10% or more (See Item 3 under Reporting Requirements) and record its findings in its minutes".

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated February 6, 1991, at San Francisco, California.

PATRICIA M. ECKERT
President
G. MITCHELL WILK
JOHN B. OHANIAN
Commissioners

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


NEAL J. SHULMAN, Executive Director
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