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APR 8 1992

Decision 92-04-017 April 8, 1992

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY,)
(U 338-E) for Authorization to)
Record in a Memorandum Account the)
Costs Associated With Its Hazardous)
Waste Management Program at the)
Visalia Pole Yard and the Operating)
Industries, Inc. Landfill in)
Accordance With Decision No. 87-12-066.)

ORIGINAL

Application 88-11-019
(Filed November 7, 1988)

ORDER CLOSING THE PROCEEDING

Background

On November 7, 1988, Edison filed Application (A.) 88-11-019 requesting approval to record in a memorandum account certain expenses associated with its Hazardous Waste Management Program (HazWaste Program) at the Visalia Pole Yard Site (Visalia Site) and the Operating Industries, Inc. Site (OII Site) in accordance with the procedure adopted in Edison's 1988 test year general rate case Decision (D.) 87-12-066.

D.87-12-066 adopted a procedure and guidelines for the funding of Edison's HazWaste Program costs. The decision required Edison to file an application for authorization to record in a memorandum account expenses for specific HazWaste Program projects. D.87-12-066 provided that the expenses recorded in the memorandum account could be recovered in rates in a subsequent Energy Cost Adjustment Clause or general rate case proceeding following a reasonableness review.

On December 21, 1988, the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) filed a protest to portions of Edison's application.

On January 20, 1989, Edison filed a motion requesting approval of its application subject to terms and conditions specified in DRA's protest to portions of Edison's application.

On March 22, 1989, the Commission issued its interim order (D.89-03-045) granting Edison's motion and authorized it to book up to \$1,995,200 of expense associated with its HazWaste Program at the two sites. The approval was consistent with the amounts recommended by DRA and consisted of \$1,534,500 for the Visalia site and \$476,700 for the OII site.

The interim order recognized that the Environmental Protection Agency had named Edison a potentially responsible party (PRP) at the OII site under the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (Superfund). Under the Superfund, waste generators remain potentially liable for cleanup and other costs associated with removal of hazardous waste even though waste generation may have occurred many years ago and despite the fact the waste may not have been considered hazardous at the time of disposal. Edison's estimated share of expenses for that phase of cleanup (Phase I) was expected to be the authorized amount of \$460,700 for the OII site.

On May 11, 1989 the Federal District Court for the Central District of California approved a consent decree which determined Edison's share of expenses at the OII site to be \$360,667.

On July 5, 1989, Edison filed a motion requesting a final order in A.88-11-019 authorizing Edison to book up to \$1,895,167 of costs associated with HazWaste Program at the two sites. The requested amount was comprised of \$1,534,500 approved for the Visalia site in D.89-03-045 and \$360,667, Edison's share of expenses at the OII site.

No response to Edison's motion was filed.

While no action was taken on Edison's motion, the issue raised in the motion was disposed off in D.91-12-076 in Edison's 1992 test year general rate case application (A.90-12-018)¹ and

1 Exhibit 10 (p. 11) in A.90-12-018.

as such rendered moot. Accordingly, we will make the interim order final and close the proceedings in A.88-11-019.

Finding of Fact

All issues raised in A.88-11-019 have been addressed.

Conclusion of Law

The proceeding in A.88-11-019 should be closed.

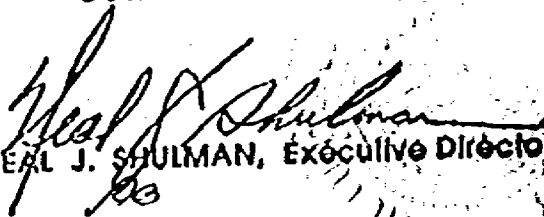
IT IS ORDERED that proceeding in Application 88-11-019 is closed.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated April 8, 1992, at San Francisco, California.

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
President
JOHN B. OHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY
Commissioners

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


NEAL J. SHULMAN, Executive Director