

Decision 82 03 020 March 2, 1982

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application )  
of PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY )  
for an order modifying CPUC Resolution )  
E-1013 to make it consistent with )  
CPUC General Order No. 95, Rule 54.10. )  
(Electric )

Application 61052  
(Filed November 12, 1981)

O P I N I O N

By this application Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) seeks an order modifying Resolution (Res.) E-1013, issued February 9, 1959, to make Rule 54.9-F<sup>1/</sup> of that Res. consistent with Rule 54.10-F,<sup>2/</sup> General Order (GO) 95, Rules for Overhead Electric Line Construction.

PG&E requests that Res. E-1013, Rule 54.9-F be modified to read as follows:

Climbing Space in Rack Construction

- a. The climbing space in extended rack construction shall be maintained through the level of conductors supported in extended rack construction for a vertical distance of not less than 4 feet above and below such conductors. The position of the climbing space through the level of conductors in extended rack construction shall be related to climbing space for conductor levels above and below such rack construction in accordance with Rules 54.7-A, 54.10-F, 54.11-F, and 93. The depth of the climbing space shall be measured from the center line of the pole.

1/ Deviation from GO 95, rack construction rule authorized for PG&E's extended rack construction, 0-750 volts.

2/ Rule for multiconductor cable with bare neutral, 0-750 volts.

- b. Dimensions: The dimensions of the climbing space shall be 30 inches square and shall be provided on one side of the pole with the extremities of such width equidistant from the center line of pole. On poles on which transformers are pole-bolted in line with primary conductors, a 30-inch square climbing space shall be provided.
- c. With Conductors Dead-ended and on Corner Poles: On poles with the extended rack conductors deadended and on corner poles, a 30-inch climbing space shall be provided in one quadrant or on one side of the pole. Suitably protected vertical runs or risers and ground wires attached to the surface of poles, and guys, are allowed in climbing spaces provided that no more than one guy or one vertical riser, run, or ground wire is installed in any four-foot vertical section of climbing space. The terminals or terminal fittings of risers shall not be installed within climbing spaces.

Background

GO 95, Rule 54.9 specifies statewide rules for normal rack construction for low voltage conductors. It requires conductors to be a minimum of 2.5 inches out from the surface of the pole. It requires a climbing space with a 30-inch depth, and a width of 5 inches plus the pole diameter at the center line of the pole and 38 inches at the 30-inch depth dimension.

Res. E-1013 authorized PG&E to deviate from the GO 95, Rule 54.9 provisions for low voltage extended rack construction. The deviation requires that extended rack conductors have a minimum clearance of 15 inches from the center line of the pole. It requires a 30-inch square climbing space on one side or face of the pole, with the center line of the pole approximately midway on one side of the climbing space.

On January 2, 1962 Rule 54.10, Low Voltage Multiconductor Cable With Bare Neutral 0-750 Volts was added to GO 95. The climbing space provisions of Rule 54.10 require 30-inch square climbing space on one side of the pole, or in special cases, it may be in one quadrant of the pole.

Discussion

PG&E alleges that the proposal will reconcile the inconsistent climbing space requirements associated with conductors installed in extended rack configurations and multiconductor cable construction when both configurations are located on the same pole at approximately the same level.

Under Rule 54.9-F, Res. E-1013, a climbing space of 30 inches square must be provided on one side or face of the pole with the center line of the pole approximately midway on one side of the climbing space. Under GO 95, Rule 54.10-F, a 30-inch climbing space is also required on one side or in special cases it may be in one quadrant.

In many portions of PG&E's service area, both extended rack construction and multiconductor cable occur on the same pole at approximately the same level. In these instances, the discrepancy in climbing space requirements creates the need to modify poles to provide the required climbing spaces. PG&E states that this work and expense is unnecessary and could be avoided by making the climbing space requirement of Res. E-1013, Rule 54.9-F consistent with the climbing space requirement of Rule 54.10-F.

PG&E submitted the proposed modification to Res. E-1013 to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1245 representing PG&E's linemen and to The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company, joint pole owner with PG&E. No protests have been received.

The proposed modification will make the two rules similar, and will provide adequate climbing space and safety. The proposal is reasonable and with minor editing is adopted.

Findings of Fact

1. The proposal will make the climbing space requirement similar through low voltage extended rack construction and multi-conductor cable construction when located on the same pole.
2. The proposal will provide adequate climbing space and safety, and is reasonable.
3. A public hearing is not necessary.

Conclusion of Law

We conclude that Res. E-1013, Rule 54.9-F should be modified as set forth in the following order.

O R D E R

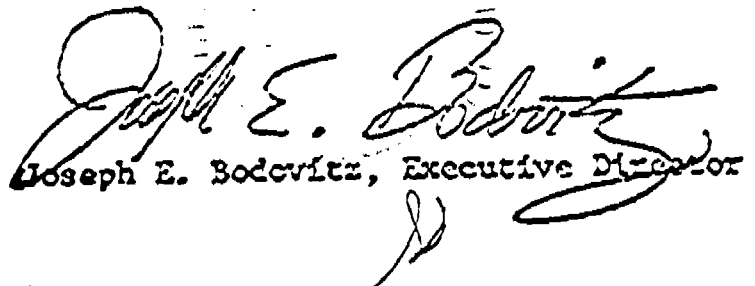
IT IS ORDERED that Resolution E-1013, Rule 54.9-F is modified to read as set forth in Appendix A attached to this order.

This order becomes effective 30 days from today.

Dated MAR 2 1982, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN E. BRYSON  
President  
RICHARD D. GRAVELLE  
LEONARD M. CRIMES, JR.  
VICTOR CALVO  
PRISCILLA C. GREW  
Commissioners

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

  
Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director

APPENDIX A

Modification To Resolution E-1013

Rule 54.9-F: Climbing Space in Rack Construction

- a. The climbing space in extended rack construction shall be maintained through the level of conductors supported in extended rack construction and for a vertical distance of not less than 4 feet above and below such conductors. The position of the climbing space through the level of conductors in extended rack construction shall be related to climbing space for conductor levels above and below such rack construction in accordance with Rules 54.7-A, 54.10-F, 54.11-F, and 93. The depth of the climbing space shall be measured from the center line of the pole.
- b. Dimensions: The dimensions of the climbing space shall be 30 inches square, and shall be provided on one side of the pole with the extremities of such width equidistant from the center line of pole. On poles on which transformers are pole-bolted in line with primary conductors, a 30-inch square climbing space shall be provided.
- c. With Conductors Dead-ended and on Corner Poles: On poles with the extended rack conductors dead-ended and on corner poles, a 30-inch climbing space shall be provided in one quadrant or on one side of the pole. Suitably protected vertical runs or risers and ground wires attached to the surface of poles, and guys, are allowed in climbing spaces provided that no more than one guy or one vertical riser, run, or ground wire is installed in any 4-foot vertical section of climbing space. The terminals or terminal fittings of risers or runs shall not be installed within climbing spaces.

( END OF APPENDIX A )