

Decision No. 87783 AUG 30 1977

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Earl L. Morris for overhead electric service to his mobile home at 48230 State Highway 74, Riverside County, California

Application No. 57447  
(Filed July 13, 1977)

O P I N I O N

Applicant Earl L. Morris seeks authority to deviate from the mandatory undergrounding requirements of Southern California Edison Company's (Edison) Rule No. 15.1. The deviation is necessary because the applicant's lot is located on a scenic highway. He requests permission for Edison to provide overhead electric service to his lot.

The mobile home is located on a 3.75-acre lot at 48230 State Highway 74, Riverside County, approximately 9 miles east of the City of Hemet. The lot is intersected by Scenic Highway 74, and the mobile home is located on the northern portion. The lot is in heavily wooded, steep terrain. There exists only one such other lot in this area and it is already being served by Edison.

There is an existing 12 KV line on the south side along the highway and a telephone line on the north side. These lines are on poles located on both sides of the highway.

Applicant states that undergrounding of wires in this zone would be prohibitive in cost since overhead service can be provided without setting any additional poles. Therefore the cost of undergrounding is more than three times the cost of providing overhead service.

Since service can be provided by running one span of secondary conductor across the highway, this will not have any significant negative visual impact in that particular area.

The state Scenic Highway coordinator concurs in this, and endorses a deviation from the requirements of paragraph 1 of the order implementing Section 320 of the Public Utilities Code.

The Riverside County Planning Department realizes that there are extenuating circumstances that justify an overhead service and that permission could be given for an overhead service.

The District Manager of Edison states that in view of the existing circumstances and the high cost of undergrounding the service, the deviation requested does not appear to be unreasonable. Edison does not object to providing overhead service subject to a deviation from the mandatory undergrounding requirement being authorized.

No deviation is required for telephone service.

Applicant requests that this application be processed on an ex parte basis, for the reason that it does not involve matters which would necessitate a public hearing and any delays in the processing hereof increases the hardship to applicant.

#### Findings and Conclusions

1. A significant number of poles and overhead lines exist on both sides of the scenic highway adjacent to applicant's lot.
2. Granting applicant's request will result in the addition of one span of secondary conductor across the highway. The visual effect of this addition is minimal considering the existing overhead lines and poles.
3. The cost of undergrounding electric service is estimated to be more than three times the cost of providing overhead service.
4. The Riverside County Planning Department has no objection to installing overhead lines across Scenic Highway 74 at this location.
5. The state Scenic Highway coordinator of the State Department of Transportation has no objection to an overhead line.

6. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

7. Edison should be authorized to deviate from the mandatory undergrounding requirement of their Rule 15.1 so as to provide overhead electric service to the Earl L. Morris mobile home on 48230 State Highway 74, County of Riverside, California.

8. A public hearing is not required.

The Commission concludes that the application should be granted as provided in the order which follows.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Edison is authorized to deviate from the mandatory undergrounding requirement of its electric line extension (Rule 15.1) of its tariff so as to provide overhead electric service to the Earl L. Morris mobile home at 48230 State Highway 74 in the County of Riverside, Section 18, Township 5 South, Range 2 East.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

San Francisco  
Dated at \_\_\_\_\_, California, this 30<sup>th</sup> day  
of AUGUST, 1977.

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President  
*William J. ...*  
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*...*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Richard D. ...*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioners

-3- Commissioner Robert Batinovich, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Claire T. Dedrick, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.