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Decision No. 90139 / MAR 27 1979

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY)
for a certificate of public)
convenience and necessity under)
General Order No. 131 for a 500-kv)
Transmission Line from Applicant's)
Gates Substation to Applicant's)
Gregg Substation.)

Application No. 56532
(Filed June 7, 1976)

(Electric)

ORDER DENYING REHEARING
OF DECISION NO. 89851

Pacific Gas and Electric Company has filed an application for rehearing of Decision No. 89851.

The Commission is of the opinion that the decision should be modified in order to further inform PG&E of the type of analysis necessary in preparing an adequate Environmental Impact Report in filing an application in the future. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that Mimeo Page 5 of Decision No. 89851 is modified by adding the following to the first paragraph under Section A:

Fundamentally, the EIR should contain a discussion of whether or not public convenience and necessity require this project. A bootstrap argument that Section 451 mandates that a public utility provide adequate service and that therefore this project is necessary will not be acceptable.

Section A on Mimeo Page 5 is further modified by adding the following thereto:

In short, the EIR must contain a discussion of various growth-predicting methodologies considered in projecting the need for the transmission line and provide a justification for the methodology ultimately adopted. Additionally, the EIR should specifically consider the full ramifications of a no-project alternative in terms of its impact on growth and conservation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mimeo Page 6 of Decision No. 89851 concerning the issue of route selection is modified by adding the following thereto:

A proper selection process should consider the feasibility of several possible routes with an in-depth assessment of environmental impacts and appropriate mitigation measures for each. Beneficial and adverse impacts within a proposed route should be weighed against each other, and then balanced against the impacts of another route, so that the route ultimately selected combines the most favorable benefits, least adverse impacts, and feasible mitigation measures of each route.

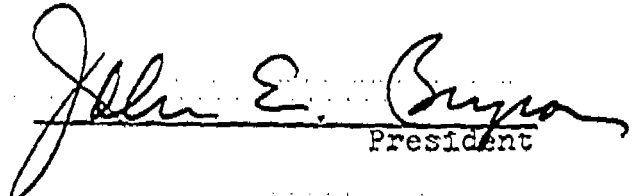
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mimeo Page 7 of Decision 89851 concerning the issue of growth inducing impact is modified by adding the following thereto:

In particular, Decision No. 89905, Appendix B, issued January 30, 1979, which amends Rule 17.1 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, sets out the specific criteria necessary for analyzing growth inducing impacts.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that rehearing of Decision No. 89851 as modified herein is denied.

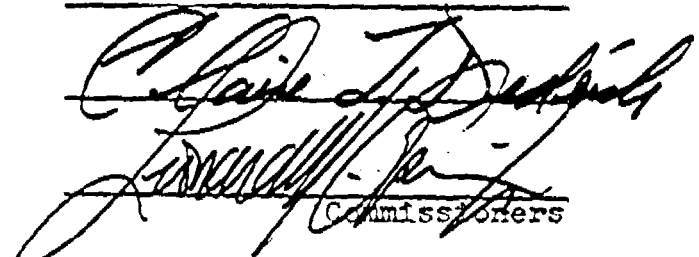
The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th day of MARCH, 1979.



President

Commissioner Vernon E. Sturgeon, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.



Commissioners

Commissioner Richard D. Gravello, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.