

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 92179 SEP 3 - 1980

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON)
COMPANY and PACIFIC GAS AND)
ELECTRIC COMPANY for a Certificate)
that present and future public)
convenience and necessity require)
or will require the participation)
by Applicants and others in the)
construction and operation of six)
new coal fired steam electric)
generating units, to be known as)
Units 1, 2, 3 and 4, at a site)
in Nevada known as the Harry)
Allen Generation Station, and as)
Units 1 and 2 at a site in Utah)
known as the Warner Valley)
Generating Station, together with)
other appurtenances to be used in)
connection with said generating)
stations.)

Application No. 59308
(Filed November 30, 1979)

(Appearances are listed in Decision No. 91968.)

ORDER DENYING MOTION TO DISMISS

On May 19, 1980 the Commission staff filed its "Motion to Dismiss Without Prejudice". The staff alleges that the application is incomplete and, therefore, does not comply with Rule 18(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which provides that applications filed under Section 1001 of the Public Utilities Code must contain:

- "(a) A full description of the proposed construction or extension and the manner in which the same will be constructed."

The staff's allegation is based upon the fact that the application does not describe Southern California Edison Company's (Edison) proposed Serrano substation and the 500 kV transmission lines which will bring power from Edison's existing Mira Loma and Lugo substations to the Serrano substation. The staff contends that the Serrano substation and the 500 kV transmission lines connected therewith are an integral part of the Harry Allen Warner Valley Energy System (AWVES). There is no dispute that the transmission lines which will interconnect the existing Mira Loma and Lugo substations of Edison and the proposed Serrano substation will require a certificate of public convenience and necessity under General Order No. 131-B.

In applicants' response in opposition to the staff's motion, applicants allege the following:

1. The Serrano transmission lines are not physically or geographically a part of AWVES, nor are their operating dates the same. The Vincent and Lugo substations are the points of entry of AWVES' power into the Edison system, not Mira Loma where the Serrano transmission lines will commence. The first of the two proposed Mira Loma to Serrano transmission lines will have been constructed and will be in operation for approximately one year prior to the time the first line from AWVES is connected to the Edison system at Vincent.
2. The Serrano substation and connecting transmission lines were Edison-planned additions prior to the time that Edison was aware of AWVES, further both lines are planned additions to Edison's system whether or not AWVES is approved by the Commission.

The allegations of the applicants are borne out by the testimony of witness Barrett in response to questions by staff counsel as follows:

"Q Can you indicate to me the purpose of those two 500 kilovolt transmission lines going between Lugo-Serrano and Mira Loma and Serrano?

"A The purpose of those lines is to provide interconnection with the system of the development of a new 500 kv substation at Serrano and the development of additional transformer capacity in that area to provide a means of transporting power off the 500 system to the 230 kv system which overlays the Edison service territory and transmits power to our customers.

"Q Were the Harry Allen-Warner Valley Energy System to not be constructed, would those two transmission lines be built?

"A I believe they would, yes." (Tr. 1118 and 1119.)

While the testimony discloses that the Serrano transmission lines will distribute the AWVES' power, it also discloses that the Serrano lines will be necessary if AWVES is not constructed.

Edison assures us that it has no intention to use certification of AWVES, should the Commission approve it, as a basis for approval of a certificate of the Serrano transmission lines.

Since Edison alleges that at least one of the Serrano transmission lines is to be in operation approximately one year prior to the time the first line from AWVES is connected to Edison's system, we expect Edison to file an application for certification of the lines in the very near future. When the application is filed, we expect to rely on Edison's assurance to us here that it has no intention to use certification of AWVES as a basis for approval of a certificate of the Serrano transmission lines.

After careful consideration of the evidence concerning Serrano we find that the Serrano transmission lines are not a part of the AWVES project but rather a separate project that will either stand or fall on its own merits.

The Commission concludes that the motion to dismiss without prejudice filed by the staff on May 19, 1980 should be denied.

IT IS ORDERED that the motion to dismiss without prejudice is denied.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated SEP 3- 1980, at San Francisco, California.

John E. Bryan
President
James P. Stinson
Richard D. Howell
Clare J. DeWitt
Donald W. Smith
Commissioners