

Decision No. 92743 FEB 18 1981

ORIGINAL ID-26

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Investigation on the Commission's  
Own Motion into the Safety  
Appliances and Procedures of the  
San Francisco Bay Area Rapid  
Transit District.

Case No. 9867  
(Tunnel Phase)  
(Petition for Modification  
filed January 14, 1981)

SEVENTEENTH INTERIM OPINION AND ORDER

By a petition dated January 14, 1981, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) requests an extension of time to comply with Ordering Paragraph 3 of Decision No. 90144 dated April 4, 1979, as amended by Decision No. 92479 dated December 2, 1980. Those ordering paragraphs involved a time schedule and set a date by which BART was to submit to the Commission recommended actions and a proposed plan and timetable for reducing fire risks associated with materials used in floors, ceilings, and sidewall linings of BART cars; that submittal was required to be filed by January 15, 1981.

BART, in previous petitions and reports to the Commission, has described its evaluations of potential new materials for fire-hardening its vehicles by means of a series of fire tests. Tests have been performed at the University of California, Berkeley (UC). Full-scale fire tests of a fire-hardened transit vehicle were completed by McDonnell-Douglas Corporation (McDonnell) on December 18, 1980.

In support of its request BART cites two additional tests scheduled by UC for January 16 and January 23, 1981. BART believes the additional tests will provide valuable information on the fire

performance of a floor panel coating. A final report by UC would be available in mid-February 1981.

Further, BART claims data collected from McDonnell tests were expected to be received by BART on January 9, 1981, but computer problems delayed production of the data. BART expects the final report from McDonnell by February 23, 1981.

By memorandum dated January 22, 1981 the staff recommends the petition be granted. We agree that it should be granted.

It appears that for such a short extension of time a public hearing would serve no useful purpose. The order should be made effective the date hereof because the present compliance date was January 15, 1981.

Findings of Fact

1. Circumstances beyond BART's control have caused a delay in the fire-hardening program for BART's revenue cars.
2. A public hearing is not necessary.

Conclusion of Law

The extension of time requested by BART should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED that BART is granted an extension of time to March 2, 1981 to comply with Ordering Paragraph 3 of Decision No. 90144 as amended by Decision No. 92479.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated FEB 18 1981, at San Francisco, California.

Jul E. Bryan  
President  
Richard W. Powell  
James M. Dennis

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Commissioners