

ORIGINAL

Decision 93545 SEP 15 1981

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT)	
COMPANY under Section 454 of the)	
Public Utilities Code of the State)	Application 60560
of California for authority to)	(Filed May 18, 1981)
increase rates for electric service.)	

RULING ON REQUEST FOR FINDING OF ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPENSATION

On August 28, 1981 Toward Utility Rate Normalization (TURN) filed a petition in this application for a Commission order finding TURN eligible for PURPA compensation under Article 18.5 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules). TURN offered information as required by Rule 76.03, paragraphs (a) through (c).

As provided for by Rule 76.04, the Commission's staff (staff) and applicant, Pacific Power & Light Company (Pacific), filed respectively a statement and comments on TURN's request.

Rule 76.05 requires the Commission, at its first regularly scheduled conference after the staff statement has been filed, to issue a ruling on whether or not the consumer (TURN) has shown significant financial hardship, and on certain other matters which in this case do not apply.

Two questions are before us then at this time, whether TURN has shown financial hardship and whether TURN has met the threshold test to become eligible for compensation.

Discussion

In its statement the staff maintains it will take positions different from TURN on some issues, and is unable to state if its position on other issues will be different from TURN's because TURN's request does not indicate its position on those issues.

Pacific, in addition to preserving its right to file additional comments at an appropriate time, commented on the need for TURN's participation and the level of TURN's estimated expenses. However, neither of those matters is relevant to this ruling on eligibility.

By its filing of August 28, 1981 TURN is convincing that, but for the ability to receive compensation under the Commission's rules, participation in this proceeding would be a significant financial hardship for TURN, and we so rule. We also rule that TURN is eligible for compensation; whether compensation will be paid, and if it is, the amount, will be determined as provided by Rules 76.06 and 76.07.

Dated SEP 15 1981, at San Francisco, California.

John E. Byron President
Richard D. ...
Thomas W. ...
...
... Commissioners