

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY
AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION
Service and Safety Branch

RESOLUTION E-3130
FEBRUARY 24, 1989.

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION E-3130, ORDER AUTHORIZING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY, PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY, PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT COMPANY, AND SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY TO EACH ESTABLISH AN INTEREST-BEARING MEMORANDUM ACCOUNT TO RECORD FUTURE DIRECT PAYMENTS TO THE COMMISSION, FOR DEPOSIT IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS STUDY FUND, AS SUCH PAYMENTS ARE REQUIRED BY SB 2519 AND ASSESSED BY THE COMMISSION.

SUMMARY

1. By the authority and according to the terms of Senate Bill 2519, Chapter 1551, September 30, 1989, the Commission is required to collect funds from Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas & Electric, San Diego Gas & Electric, Pacific Power & Light, and Sierra Pacific Companies, and deposit them in the Department of Health Services Electromagnetic Fields Study Fund.
2. This Resolution authorizes the establishment of respective memorandum accounts in which each utility may record the amounts collected from it for deposit in the Study Fund.

BACKGROUND

1. On September 29, 1988 the Governor signed SB 2519 (Chapter 1551, September 30, 1988) into law. SB 2519 directs the Commission and the Department of Health Services to jointly conduct a study of any cancer or other health effects which may be related to exposure to electric and magnetic fields produced by electric utility facilities.
2. In order to fund said study, SB 2519 directs the Commission to calculate a fee to be paid by every privately and publicly owned electric utility in this state with operating revenues over \$25,000,000 per year, in the proportion that each utility's total

distribution of its electricity to its customers bears to the total distribution of electricity statewide, in a sufficient amount that the total amount so calculated does not exceed \$2,000,000.

3. SB 2519 directs the Commission to collect the fees calculated for payment by the affected privately-owned utilities, and for the Energy Commission to collect the fees calculated for payment by the affected publicly-owned utilities.

DISCUSSION

1. Utilities affected by SB 2519, consistent with their obligation to provide reliable service with due regard for public safety, are being required by the people of California to fund research into the possible health effects associated with exposure to electric and magnetic fields from electric utility facilities. CACD therefore believes that it is appropriate that each of the affected utilities be allowed to establish a memorandum account dedicated solely to SB 2519-mandated payments.

2. CACD suggests that recovery of the costs imposed directly by SB 2519 be addressed in a utility's next ECAC proceeding.

FINDINGS

1. SB 2519 (Chapter 1551, September 30, 1988) directs the Commission to calculate a fee on every private and public utility in the state with annual operating revenues over \$25,000,000.

2. SB 2519 directs the Commission to collect the fees so calculated from private utilities.

3. Each of the utilities regulated by the Commission and obligated under SB 2519 to make payments to the Electromagnetic Fields Study Fund should be permitted to establish a memorandum account dedicated solely to such payments.

4. Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, San Diego Gas and Electric, Pacific Power and Light, and Sierra Pacific Companies each meet the terms under which an electric utility is required to make payments under SB 2519.

5. The respective SB 2519-mandated costs to Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, San Diego Gas and Electric, Pacific Power and Light, and Sierra Pacific Companies should be addressed in each utility's next ECAC proceeding and also should be subject to reasonableness review.

February 24, 1989

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that,

1. Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, San Diego Gas and Electric, Pacific Power and Light, and Sierra Pacific Companies are each authorized to establish an interest-bearing memorandum account for the purpose of recording costs directly imposed by SB 2519, Chapter 1551, September 30, 1988.
2. Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, San Diego Gas and Electric, Pacific Power and Light, and Sierra Pacific Companies shall each file, in accordance with General Order 156, Section 3.5, a revised Preliminary Statement describing the memorandum account as specified in Ordering Paragraph 1 of this Resolution.
3. Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas and Electric, San Diego Gas and Electric, Pacific Power and Light, and Sierra Pacific Companies shall each submit a filing with its next ECAC proceeding identifying all costs recorded in the memorandum account as specified in Ordering Paragraph 1 of this Resolution. These costs are subject to Reasonableness Review.
4. This Resolution is effective today.

I certify that Resolution E-3130 was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting of February 24, 1989. The following Commissioners approved it:

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. OHANIAN
Commissioners



Executive Director

Commissioner Frederick R. Duda,
being necessarily absent, did not
participate.