

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY
AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION
Energy Branch

RESOLUTION E-3189
May 22, 1990

RESOLUTION E-3189. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY REQUEST TO REVISE STREET LIGHTING SCHEDULE TO PROVIDE FOR SERVICE AND BILLING OF AN OPTIONAL TIMED AUXILIARY POWER DEVICE FOR USE IN CUSTOMER-OWNED SEASONAL DECORATIONS.

ADVICE LETTER 865-E, FILED MARCH 16, 1990.

SUMMARY

1. By Advice Letter 865-E, filed March 19, 1990, Southern California Edison Company (Edison) requests authorization to amend Schedule LS-1, Lighting-Street and Highway, Utility-Owned System, to provide for service to and the billing of applicants for a Timed Auxiliary Power (TAP) device, which will be installed, owned and operated by Edison.
2. The TAP provides a controlled source of electrical energy for customer-owned holiday decorations installed at periodic intervals during the year by customers on Edison's ornamental street lighting poles.
3. This filing also establishes Form No. 14-386, Attachment Agreement For Illuminated Decorations On Ornamental Street Light Poles, which provides for conditions of service for customers using the TAP device.
4. This resolution grants Edison's request.

BACKGROUND

1. Edison has received requests from various government entities within its service territory to provide electric service at periodic intervals for local government-owned holiday decorations on Edison's ornamental street lighting poles. The installation of the TAP device on these poles will allow these government agencies to install lighted holiday decorations.
2. As a test, 879 TAP units were installed, at utility expense, for the 1989 Christmas holiday season. The 14 cities involved in in this program were not charged for this testing service, and the costs for this experiment had no effect on the utility's other customers. The associated operating and energy related expenses have been appropriately charged to Edison and have formed the basis of the calculations for determining the

actual charge for this service, if authorized by the Commission.

3. Requests for this service have come from the customers who participated in the 1989 test and from several other customers. A list of cities and agencies that participated in the 1989 test is shown in Attachment A to this Resolution.

NOTICE

1. Public notification of this filing was made by placing on the Commission's calendar of March 23, 1990 and by mailing copies of the advice letter to other utilities, governmental agencies, and all interested parties who had requested such notification.

2. To conserve mailing costs, workpapers and other attachments were not mailed to those listed above, but were available upon request.

PROTESTS

1. One protest was received in this matter and though it was filed late (more than 20 days) after the date of filing of the advice letter, the protest was noted and is addressed.

2. On April 9, 1990, a protest was received from the California City-County Street Light Association (CAL-SLA). The letter was dated April 5, 1990, but the protest was not received by the Commission until April 9, 1990.

3. CAL-SLA is an organization of cities and counties in the State of California which monitors and participates in public hearings for rate increases for street light customers. The basis for CAL-SLA's protest is that any effort to increase rates by Edison should come only in the context of a General Rate Case (GRC) as opposed to the Advice Letter format. CAL-SLA also believes that Edison's revenue could increase by more than \$150,000 annually (Edison's calculations) and that this matter should be addressed in public hearings before being allowed to become effective.

4. A response to CAL-SLA's protest is set forth in the Discussion.

DISCUSSION

1. Edison is willing to provide this TAP service when requested by customers because Edison believes that this service can be provided under conditions acceptable to its customers and will provide a benefit to Edison's other ratepayers.

2. Edison proposes to limit the availability of this service to those governmental entities who are customers of record for the ornamental street lighting pole and luminare upon which the TAP service installation is requested. Each applicant for service

would be required to pay an annual charge of \$11.00 for each TAP (including the 879 units previously installed, to the extent they are subsequently used). The revision to the rate schedule also provides for a charge of \$65.00 per event plus \$0.09 per TAP to cover the expense of billing as well as a charge for review and approval of attachment, hardware and connected load for each event.

3. The annual charge is based on an Added Facilities Charge of 1.7% of the total installed cost per month per device plus maintenance and replacement at an estimated 6% failure rate per year. The administrative costs are derived from the estimated number of man-hours required to perform the necessary functions. The derivation of these charges is shown in Attachment B to this Resolution.

4. Each site will be billed an Energy Charge based on estimated kilowatt hours (kWh). These kWh are derived from the maximum capacity of the installed load in watts times a time interval to be selected by the customer, times the number of days of the event. These calculations are shown in Attachment C to this Resolution.

5. Because of similarity in hours of operation, the Energy Charge rate is derived from Edison's Schedule LS-1, Midnight Service energy rate. Edison estimates that approximately 10,000 TAP units will be installed in time for the 1990 holiday season. A saturation level of 20,000 units is expected to be reached by the end of 1992. By Edison's estimates, if all 10,000 units are in place and operating for a period of 6 hours a night for 40 days during the 1990 holiday season, the maximum energy consumed would be 504,000 kWh, resulting in a total annual revenue of approximately \$152,569. At current rates, this would be in excess of \$300,000 by 1992.

6. The Commission Advisory and Compliance Division (CACD) has reviewed this filing, along with accompanying workpapers as well as the protest. The CACD recommends approval of the filing as submitted.

7. The protestant's assumption that this filing represents a rate increase is erroneous and the late protest should be denied. No rates have been changed and no street light customer, unless requesting this service, will be affected by this filing.

8. This filing represents service not previously offered and is restricted to those communities that are currently customers of record and who already have Edison's ornamental street lighting pole and luminare installed.

9. This service is strictly voluntary and is available by request only. The additional revenue of \$152,569 is attributed to additional service offered and not to a change in rates to customers. This filing will not adversely affect Edison's other

ratepayers and thus a public hearing on this matter is not necessary.

10. These additional revenues will be addressed in the next General Rate Case (GRC) proceeding and the capital costs of installing these TAP devices will become a part of Rate Base in order to establish revenue requirements.

11. Edison states, and CACD concurs, that this filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, nor conflict with any schedules or rules.

FINDINGS

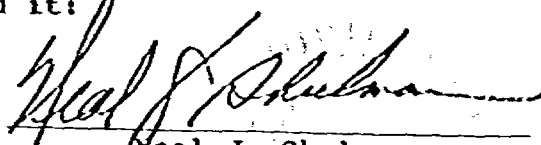
1. This filing will provide a service not previously offered, and such service can be provided under conditions acceptable to customers.
2. Edison has already received several requests for this service.
3. Edison has previously conducted a test of the TAP device during the 1989 holiday season, at no direct charge to its ratepayers.
4. Edison's derivation of the charge to be made for this service, as shown in Attachment B, is based on actual costs during this 1989 test period. The resulting charge is just and reasonable.
5. Edison will provide service at energy rates currently in effect and no rate increase will result from this filing.
6. The protest filed by CAL-SLA is both late and without merit and should be denied.
7. Sample Form No. 14-386, entitled Attachment Agreement For Illuminated Decorations On Ornamental Street Light Poles, should be accepted for filing to be used as the agreement for conditions of service for the TAP devices.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Southern California Edison Company is authorized under the provisions of Sections 454 and 532 of the Public Utilities Code to place Advice Letter 865-E and accompanying tariff sheets into effect in order to provide service to applicants for Timed Auxiliary Power devices.
2. The effective date of this filing shall be the date of this resolution, which constitutes more than 40 day statutory notice.
3. Advice letter 865-E and accompanying tariff sheets shall be marked to show that they were accepted for filing by Commission Resolution E-3189.
4. This resolution is effective today.

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on May 22, 1990. The following Commissioners approved it:

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. CHANIAN
PATRICIA M. ECKERT
Commissioners


Neal J. Shulman
Executive Director

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