

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMISSION ADVISORY & COMPLIANCE DIVISION
ENERGY BRANCHRESOLUTION NO. G-2800
JULY 8, 1988R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION G-2800 CP NATIONAL CORPORATION IS AUTHORIZED TO REVISE ITS RULES ON INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY FOR JOINT SERVICE AND CUSTOMER DEPOSITS; BY ADVICE LETTER C-252-G, FILED MAY 18, 1988.

SUMMARY

CP National (CPN) has filed this Advice Letter (AL) to revise Rules No. 3, 7 and 11 to expand individual liability for joint service and to clarify that customer deposits will not be used to avoid termination of service for non-payment of monthly charges.

BACKGROUND

1. In Decision (D.) 85-09-060, the Commission expressed its intent to ensure that electric and gas utilities are not subject to the fraudulent scheme of "name switching". A name switcher is a customer who runs up a large bill and then, rather than paying the bill, reapplies for service under a different name hoping to be treated as a new customer with an unblemished credit history.
2. In D.85-09-060, the Commission advised Southern California Edison Company (SCE) to include in its tariffs a provision under which all adults living at the same residence would be responsible for back bills issued in another person's name. Thus, when a utility institutes service to a household of unrelated adults, each of the customers served jointly would be responsible for bills incurred for service to the household.

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3. The Energy Tariff Committee, whose members consist of representatives from gas and electric utilities and CPUC staff, have discussed alternative language for revision to Rule 3, regarding the name switching problem. The Committee approved proposals by Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison Company (SCE) and Southern California Gas Company (SCG) to incorporate tariff language changes in Rule 3, Individual Liability for Joint Service, and other rules where required.

DISCUSSION

1. CPN's revised Rules 3, 7 and 11 are similar to PG&E and SCE's authorized tariff language.
2. This filing to change tariff wording is consistent with Commission recommendations to SCE in D.85-09-060.
3. This filing will not increase any other existing rate or charge, conflict with other schedules or rules, or cause the withdrawal of service.
4. In accordance with General Order 96-A, Section III, Paragraph G, CPN has mailed copies of this AL and related tariff sheets to other utilities and interested parties.
5. No protests have been received.

FINDINGS

1. The Commission Advisory and Compliance Division has reviewed this AL and believes it is in conformance with D.85-09-060.
2. We find that the conditions as proposed by this change in wording of CPN's; Rule 3 - Application for Service, Rule 7 - Deposits and Rule 11 - Discontinuance and Restoration of Service, are just and reasonable.

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THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that:

1. CP National Corporation is authorized under General Order 96-A to file revisions to its tariffs to reflect the changes authorized.
2. Advice Letter C-252-G, and accompanying tariff sheets shall be marked to show that there were authorized by Resolution G-2800 and become effective on and after July 8, 1988.
3. This Resolution shall be effective today.

I certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on July 8, 1988. The following Commissioners approved it:

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



Executive Director

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