

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
UTILITIES SAFETY BRANCHRESOLUTION SU-31
Date: April 5, 1995R E S O L U T I O N

RESOLUTION SU-31, ORDER AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY DEVIATION FROM GENERAL ORDER NO. 95, RULE 38, TABLE 2, CASE 8, COLUMN C, TO ALLOW THE CITY OF ANAHEIM TO INSTALL A FIBER OPTIC CABLE WITHIN 12 INCHES OF ITS PRIVATE TELEPHONE CABLE.

SUMMARY

1. By letters of September 29 and December 7, 1994, The City of Anaheim Public Utilities Department (Anaheim) requests that the Commission authorize a temporary deviation from General Order No. 95 (G.O. 95), Rule 38, Table 2, Case No. 8; Column C, which requires a vertical separation of at least 12 inches between communications conductors supported on the same pole. The temporary deviation would allow Anaheim to install fiber optic cable within 12 inches of Anaheim's own private telephone cable on utility poles, until the installation of the fiber optic network is completed and the private telephone cable is removed. The deviation will not present a safety problem for the workers since all work on the telephone and fiber optic cables will be performed by Anaheim's qualified installation and maintenance personnel or contractors.
2. This Resolution approves Anaheim's request.

BACKGROUND

1. G.O. 95, Rule 38, Table 2, Case No. 8, Column C requires a vertical separation between communication conductors "on separate crossarms or other supports at different levels on the same pole" to be at least 12 inches.
2. G.O. 95, Rule 38, Table 2, Case No. 8, Column C is aimed at communication conductors owned by separate entities. The 12 inch separation requirement between two communication conductors is intended to provide working space for the maintenance workers and prevent chafing of the conductors. In this case, Anaheim owns both the telephone cable and the fiber optic cable that will be attached to the utility poles.

DISCUSSION

1. Anaheim owns a network of private telephone cable which is mainly installed on utility poles. The telephone cable's function is to relay communication signals related to remote monitoring and control of Anaheim's electrical substations and water facilities. Anaheim has undertaken a project to replace most of its private telephone cable with higher capacity fiber optic cable.

2. The fiber optic cable is an all-dielectric self-supporting (ADSS) cable which contain no conductive material and does not require supporting messengers. Therefore the cable is not capable of posing an electrical hazard, even in close proximity to electrical supply conductors.

3. Anaheim requests a temporary waiver to G.O. 95, Rule 38, Table 2, Case No. 8, Column C in certain locations where the specified clearances cannot be maintained without violating other rules of G.O. 95 which may result in a safety hazard. Anaheim plans to remove its private telephone cable after the installation of the fiber optic cable is completed and the fiber optic network is operational. The private telephone cable must remain in place and in service so that critical communication functions are not interrupted.

4. Anaheim will comply with all other rules of G. O. 95.

FINDINGS

1. The staff of the Utilities Safety Branch, Safety and Enforcement Division, has reviewed Anaheim's proposal and concurs with the request.

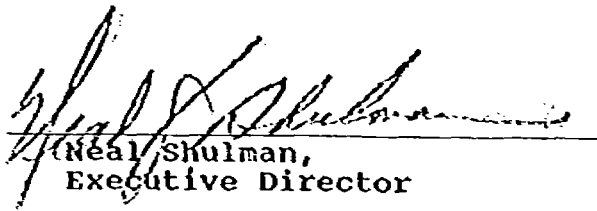
2. The deviation is temporary until Anaheim's fiber optic cable is installed and operational at which time its private telephone cable will be removed.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Anaheim may deviate from G.O. 95, Rule 38, Table 2, Case No. 8, Column C to install fiber optic cable within 12 inches of Anaheim's own private telephone cable until the private telephone cable is removed upon successful completion of said project.

2. This Resolution is effective today.

I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on April 5, 1995. The following Commissioners approved it:


Neal Shulman,
Executive Director

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
President
P. GREGORY CONLON
JESSIE F. KNIGHT