

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RETURN TO ELECTRIC BRANCH
 TARIFF UNIT

RESOLUTION E-1962

UTILITIES DIVISION

BRANCH: Rate Design and Economics

DATE: March 2, 1983

R E S O L U T I O N

AUTHORIZATION FOR SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY
 (SPP) TO REVISE TARIFF RULES TO INCLUDE AN EQUAL
 PAYMENT PLAN

By Advice Letter 168-E, filed January 21, 1983, SPP requests authorization to revise its electric tariff rules as set forth on Cal. P.U.C. Sheets 993-E to 996-E, inclusive, to include an Equal Payment Plan (EPP). The facts are as follows:

1. The revision would add a section to Rule 9, Rendering and Payment of Bills, to provide for a California systemwide application of an EPP.
2. The EPP will be similar in content to the plans already on file with other major utility companies in California and approved by prior Commission actions.
3. The plan is designed to assist customers in mitigating the problem of high seasonal bills and is aimed primarily at customers with low or fixed income, but is available to all qualified customers.
4. The plan, which is optional, is open to all residential customers who have been a customer of record for 12 consecutive months and who have maintained a satisfactory payment record during that time.
5. The plan year begins in July of each year and runs through June of the following year. However, SPP will make the plan available to customers to join at any time of the year as soon as the computer system is set up to handle it.
6. Under this plan a customer's anticipated bill for the 12-month period immediately following entry into the plan will be apportioned equally over the length of the plan leaving one set amount due each month regardless of consumption.
7. The final payment month will be adjusted to take care of any debit or credit accrued due to actual consumption.
8. The plan will be subject to review periodically and after every rate revision, and will be adjusted accordingly when necessary in order to avoid a large credit or debit balance in the settlement month.
9. Notification of this plan will be made to all customers in the form of a bill insert. Copies of this advice letter filing have been mailed to other utilities and to all interested parties who have requested them.
10. This filing will not, on an annual basis, increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service or discriminate between customers of the same class.

11. This filing has been reviewed by the staff of the Rate Design and Economics Branch and approval is recommended.

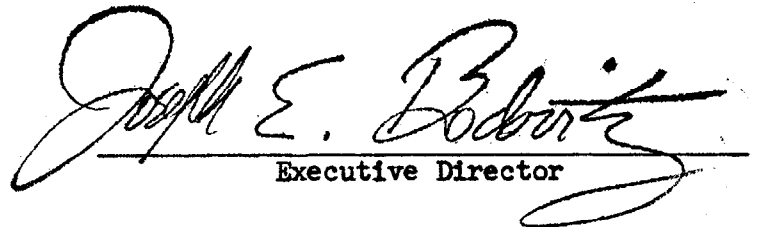
12. We find this filing to be just and reasonable and is responsive to the needs of the customers. It has been requested by several consumer groups and is similar in content with other such plans already approved and in use by other California utilities.

THEREFORE:

1. Under Public Utilities Code Section 532, Sierra Pacific Power Company shall place the above tariff sheets into effect today.
2. The above advice letter and tariff sheets shall be marked to show that they were approved for filing by Resolution E-1962. This resolution is effective today.

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular conference on March 2, 1983. The following Commissioners approved it:

LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
President
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. GREW
DONALD VIAL
Commissioners


Executive Director