

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION E-2034

UTILITIES DIVISION

BRANCH: Energy Service & Safety

Date : April 3, 1985

R E S O L U T I O N

ORDER AUTHORIZING A DEVIATION FROM GENERAL ORDER NO. 95,
 RULE 77.3A, FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY'S TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

Santa Clara County's Transportation Agency (Santa Clara) by its letter Application dated December 26, 1984, requests approval to deviate from the construction requirements of General Order No. 95 within its planned Light Rail Transit (LRT) system in and about San Jose, California.

In accordance with Rule 15, G.O. 95, Santa Clara has applied for an exemption from the material specified by Rule 77.3A for the span wire supports in their trolley overhead line system (LRT). Specifically, Santa Clara requests authorization to substitute a treated and jacketed synthetic rope for the galvanized stranded steel cable required by the rule for trolley span wire supports. Its request for permission for the use of the above type of synthetic rope as an experimental installation is solely to prove its worth under actual operational conditions.

Santa Clara's Application indicates that:

- (a) The substitute product is of comparable strength and properties to the required steel cable;
- (b) The substitute rope is made up from Kevlar 49 impregnated polyamide plastic aramid fibers and is covered by a black polyethylene (nylon) carbon-impregnated jacket;
- (c) The substitution will be limited to about 10 percent of the planned LRT system, and placed in accordance with their provided location sketch;
- (d) The purpose of the deviation is to test the suitability of the substitute product under operating conditions, in an attempt to prove its "equal durability" as required by Rule 77.3A for any alternative material;
- (e) Use of the substitute product has advantages of material cost; ease of handling and installation; aesthetics; and simplicity, since non-conductive and thus without the need to sectionalize by insulators;
- (f) The LRT system is separate from other utility line systems, thus there are no other parties-of-interest whose concurrence would be required.

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IT IS ORDERED that:

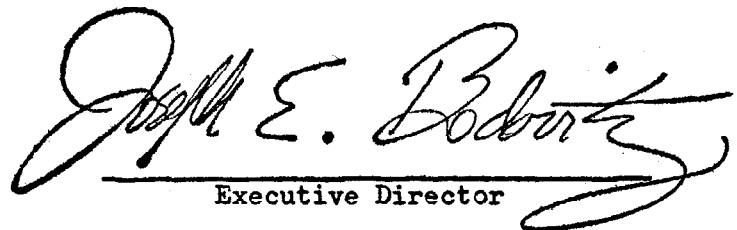
The Transportation Agency of Santa Clara County is authorized to deviate from the requirements of Rule 77.3A of General Order No. 95 for its Light Rail Transit system in and about San Jose, California as requested by its Application dated December 26, 1984.

This "experimental demonstration" be continually monitored with a report of findings to be provided the Commission staff quarterly including a final report of effectiveness and performance at the conclusion of three years.

Santa Clara agrees to replace the substitute trolley span wires entirely and immediately, if and when, in the opinion of the Commission staff, the experimental installations fail to meet the equivalent standards required by the Rules of G.O. 95.

As a condition of this ORDER, Santa Clara shall obtain concurrence for the substitute installation from any unions representing the pertinent operating and maintenance personnel.

I certify that this resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission at its regular meeting on April 3, 1985. The following Commissioner(s) approved it.


Executive Director

DONALD VIAL
President
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. GREW
WILLIAM T BAGLEY
FREDERICK R. DUDA
Commissioners