
August 23, 1999

ADVICE 1399-E
(U 338-E)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ENERGY DIVISION

SUBJECT: Revision to Rule 20, Replacement of Overhead with
 Underground Electric Facilities

Southern California Edison Company (SCE) hereby submits for filing the following changes to its tariff schedules. The revised tariff sheets are listed on Attachment A and are attached hereto.

PURPOSE

This advice filing revises Rule 20, Replacement of Overhead with Underground Facilities, Section A.3. to include the option of funding the conversion of customers meter panels, excluding permit fees, in order to facilitate completion of undergrounding projects using the existing allocations of Rule 20A funds to the cities.

BACKGROUND

Representatives from the three major California Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs) met with Commissioner Conlon in mid 1998 to discuss ways to accelerate the program to replace overhead with electric facilities with underground electric facilities (program). After a detailed review of the program, the IOUs have determined that providing an option to include meter panel conversion costs as part of the total cost of an undergrounding project is the most feasible way to accelerate the program. Although the increase in overall undergrounding costs due to the meter panel conversion may reduce the total number of projects funded, overall fund allocations will not be increased at this time. However, it is believed the number of projects actually implemented will likely increase.

Meter panel conversion is a primary contributing factor to the delay in projects being completed because the affected customers are reluctant or unable to pay for their overhead meter panels to be converted to accept underground service. Under this option, the cities will be given the opportunity to fund the required meter panel conversions from their existing Rule 20A allocations. If all the cities in SCE's service territory elected this option, the total estimated additional cost would be approximately \$1.1 million above what the cities are currently using of their allocations, which is approximately 2.5% of this year's total allocations. However, the impact on existing Rule 20A allocations to convert meter panels from overhead to underground service could be lower depending on the number of cities that elect this option. Thus, this option will help to alleviate potential delays in undergrounding projects without increasing the existing annual Rule 20A allocations.

EFFECTIVE DATE

SCE requests that this advice filing become effective 40 days after the date filed which is October 2, 1999. A Commission resolution is required for the approval of this advice filing.

NOTICE

Anyone wishing to protest this advice filing may do so by sending a letter no later than 20 days after the date of this advice filing. Protests should be mailed to:

IMC Program Manager
Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 4002
San Francisco, California 94102
Facsimile: (415) 703-2200

Copies should also be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004 (same address above), and Donald A. Fellows, Manager of Revenue and Tariffs, Southern California Edison Company, 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, Rosemead, California 91770, Facsimile (626) 302-4829. There are no restrictions on who may file a protest, but the protest shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which it is based and shall be submitted expeditiously.

In accordance with Section III, Paragraph G, of General Order No. 96-A, SCE is mailing copies of this advice filing to the interested parties shown on the attached service list. Address change requests should be directed to Emelyn Lawler at (626) 302-3985.

Further, in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 491, notice to the public is hereby given by filing and keeping the advice filing open for public inspection at SCE's corporate headquarters.

Southern California Edison Company

Donald A. Fellows, Jr.

DAF:eml:1399e Rule20.doc
Enclosures

cc: Mark Ziering, Energy Division
GO 96-A Service List

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 26177-E	Rule 20	Revised 23022-E
Revised 26178-E	Table of Contents	Revised 25945-E
Revised 26179-E	Table of Contents	Revised 26167-E

Rule 20 Sheet 5 of 6
REPLACEMENT OF OVERHEAD WITH UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC FACILITIES
 (Continued)

A. (Continued)

3. The undergrounding extends for a minimum distance of one block or 600 feet, whichever is the lesser.

Upon request of the governing body, SCE will pay from the existing allocation of that entity for: (T)
(T)

- a. The installation of no more than 100 feet of each customer's underground electric service lateral occasioned by the undergrounding, and/or (T)
(T)
- b, The conversion of a customer's meter panel to accept underground service occasioned by the undergrounding, excluding permit fees. (N)
(N)

SCE or the governing body may establish a lesser allowance, or may otherwise limit the amount of money to be expended on a single customer's electric service, or the total amount to be expended on all electric service installations in a particular project. (C)

B. In circumstances other than those covered by A above, SCE will replace its existing overhead electric facilities with underground electric facilities along public streets and roads or other locations mutually agreed upon when requested by an applicant or applicants when all of the following conditions are met:

1. a. All property owners served from the overhead facilities to be removed first agree in writing to have the wiring changes made on their premises so that service may be furnished from the underground distribution system in accordance with SCE's rules and that SCE may discontinue its overhead service upon completion of the underground facilities, or
- b. Suitable legislation is in effect requiring such necessary wiring changes to be made and authorizing SCE to discontinue its overhead service.

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