

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 29, 2002

Advice Letter: 1610-E-A

Akbar Jazayeri
Director of Revenue and Tariffs
Southern California Edison Company
P O Box 800
Rosemead, CA 91770

SEP 06 2002
REVENUE & TARIFFS DEPT.

Reference: Revised Rule 20, Section B, Replacement of Overhead with Underground Electric Facilities

Dear Mr. Jazayeri:

Advice Letter 1610-E-A is effective May 15, 2002. A copy of the advice letter is included herewith for your records.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Long".

Douglas Long
Energy Division

Filed: 8/8/02

Effective: 5/15/02

August 8, 2002

ADVICE 1610-EA
(U 338-E)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ENERGY DIVISION

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

In compliance with Resolution E-3757, as modified by Decision (D.)02-06-027, 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, Section B (Rule 20B), Replacement of Overhead with Underground Electric Facilities, in compliance with Resolution E-3757 as modified by D.02-06-027. SCE is adding language to the Rule 20B tariff to clarify that the costs of removing the overhead poles, lines, and facilities are the responsibility of the utility.

BACKGROUND

On April 30, 2001, as directed by the Commission in D.01-03-051 (the "Barratt American Decision"), SCE filed Advice 1539-E to add language to Rule 20B clarifying that customers who request and receive undergrounding of overhead electric service facilities under Rule 20B are responsible for paying the resulting overhead facilities removal costs which include, but are not limited to, the cost of removal of poles, wires, transformers, switches, etc., and receive as a ratepayer-funded credit only an amount equal to the cost of an equivalent overhead electric system, as provided in the plain language of Rule 20B.¹

¹ Pacific Gas & Electric Company and San Diego Gas & Electric Company also filed advice letters adding similar clarifying language.

On March 6, 2002, the Commission issued Resolution E-3757 which, among other things: (1) denied the utilities'² clarification of Rule 20B undergrounding projects that applicants pay for removal of poles and facilities; and (2) ordered the utilities to charge pole removal costs to their "underground conversion program budgeted allocations."

As a result of Resolution E-3757, SCE filed, on April 5, 2002, Advice 1610-E in compliance with Ordering Paragraph 2 of Resolution E-3757, which revised the applicable sections of Rule 20, Section A and B, indicating that the costs for removal of the overhead poles, lines, and facilities related to undergrounding under Section B would be paid from SCE's budget for conversions performed pursuant to Rule 20, Section A, reducing the city's or county's allocation figure by like amount.

On June 6, 2002, the Commission, in D.02-06-027, ordered the modification of Resolution E-3757, and denied rehearing of the resolution as requested by Los Angeles County.

In compliance with D.02-06-027, Ordering Paragraph 1, this advice filing revises the applicable part of Rule 20B, to indicate that the cost for removal of the overhead poles, lines, and facilities related to undergrounding under Section B shall be the responsibility of SCE, will be paid by SCE, and shall not reduce the Rule 20, Section A allocations.

No cost information is required for this advice filing.

This advice filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service or conflict with any other schedule or rule.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Consistent with Advice 1610-E, this advice filing will become effective on May 15, 2002.

NOTICE

Anyone wishing to protest this advice filing may do so by letter via U.S. Mail, facsimile, or electronically, any of which must be received by the Energy Division and SCE no later than 20 days after the date of this advice filing. Protests should be mailed to:

² The utilities are SCE, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric Company.

IMC Program Manager
Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission
c/o Jerry Royer
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 4002
San Francisco, California 94102
Facsimile: (415) 703-2200
E-mail: jjr@cpuc.ca.gov

Copies should also be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004 (same address above).

In addition, protests and all other correspondence regarding this advice letter should also be sent by letter and transmitted via facsimile or electronically to the attention of:

Akbar Jazayeri
Director of Revenue and Tariffs
Southern California Edison Company
c/o Emelyn Lawler
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, Rm. 303
Rosemead, California 91770
Facsimile: (626) 302-4829
E-mail: Emelyn.Lawler@sce.com

Bruce Foster
Vice President of Regulatory Operations
Southern California Edison Company
c/o Karyn.Gansecki
601 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 2040
San Francisco, California 94102
Facsimile: (415) 673-1116
E-mail: Karyn.Gansecki@sce.com

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 and R.00-01-005. Address change requests to the attached GO 96-A Service List should be directed to Emelyn Lawler at (626) 302-3985 or by electronic mail at Emelyn.Lawler@sce.com. For changes to the R.00-01-005 Service List, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or by electronic mail at ven@cpuc.ca.gov.

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. To view other SCE advice letters filed with the Commission, log on to SCE's web site at <http://www.sce.com/> and choose Regulatory Info Center/Advice Letters.

For questions, please contact Lisa Ornelas at (626) 302-3981 or by electronic mail at Lisa.Ornelas@sce.com.

Southern California Edison Company

Akbar Jazayeri

AJ:lo
Enclosures

Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.	Title of Sheet	Cancelling Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.
Revised 31093-E	Rule 20	Revised 24718-E
Revised 31095-E	Table of Contents	Revised 29963-E

Rule 20 Sheet 6
REPLACEMENT OF OVERHEAD WITH UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC FACILITIES

(Continued)

B. (Continued)

2. The applicant has:

- a. Furnished and installed the pads and vaults for transformers and associated equipment, conduits, ducts, boxes, pole bases and performed other work related to structures and substructures including breaking of pavement, trenching, backfilling, and repaving required in connection with the installation of the underground system, all in accordance with SCE's specifications, or, in lieu thereof, paid SCE to do so;
- b. Transferred ownership of such facilities, in good condition, to SCE; and
- c. Paid a nonrefundable sum equal to the excess, if any, of the estimated costs, including transformers, meters, and services, of completing the underground system and building a new equivalent overhead system. The cost of removal of the overhead poles, lines, and facilities are the responsibility of SCE and will be paid by SCE. Such payments shall not operate to reduce Rule 20.A allocations. (N)
|
(N)

3. The area to be undergrounded includes both sides of a street for at least one block or 600 feet, whichever is the lesser, and all existing overhead communication and electric distribution facilities within the area will be removed.

C. In circumstances other than those covered by A or B above, when mutually agreed upon by SCE and an applicant, overhead electric facilities may be replaced with underground electric facilities, provided the applicant requesting the change pays, in advance, a non-refundable sum equal to the estimated cost of the underground facilities less the estimated net salvage value and depreciation of the replaced overhead facilities. Underground services will be installed and maintained as provided in SCE's rules applicable thereto.

D. The term "underground electric system" means an electric system with all wires installed underground, except those wires in surface mounted equipment enclosures.

(To be inserted by utility)

Advice 1610-E-A
Decision 02-06-027

Issued by

John R. Fielder
Senior Vice President

(To be inserted by Cal. PUC)

Date Filed Aug 8, 2002
Effective May 15, 2002
Resolution E-3757



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sheet 1

Cal. P.U.C.
Sheet No.

TITLE PAGE 11431-E

TABLE OF CONTENTS - RATE SCHEDULES 31094-30563-30807-30808-30809-30810-E (T)

TABLE OF CONTENTS - LIST OF CONTRACTS AND DEVIATIONS 30811-E

TABLE OF CONTENTS - RULES 31095-E (T)

TABLE OF CONTENTS - BASELINE REGIONS 29521-E

TABLE OF CONTENTS - SAMPLE FORMS 29812-27354-25430-29117-30019-30020-29964-E

..... 27618-E

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT:

A. Territory Served 22909-E

B. Description of Service 22909-E

C. Procedure to Obtain Service 22909-E

D. Establishment of Credit and Deposits 22909-E

E. General 22909-24193-24194-E

F. Symbols 24194-E

G. Gross Revenue Sharing Mechanism 26584-26585-26586-26587-26588-26589-26590-E

..... 26591-26592-26593-27050-E

H. Baseline Service 11457-20329-11880-11881-11461-E

I. NOT IN USE.....

J. Employee-Related Balancing Account 30246-E

K. Nuclear Decommissioning Adjustment Mechanism 30247-30248-E

L. Performance-Based Ratemaking Exclusions Distribution Adjustment Mechanism

..... 30249-30250-E

M. Income Tax Component of Contributions 16039-24573-E

N. Memorandum Accounts 21344-30251-28740-30031-28276-27633-28277-30252-30253-E

..... 30254-30255-22369-28279-22371-27639-27640-22374-27641-27642-26595-27643-E

..... 27644-27645-27646-27647-27648-27649-27650-27651-27652-27653-27654-27655-E

..... 27656-27657-26596-26005-21960-22046-30256-22546-27658-23703-27465-29774-E

..... 29775-29776-29777-27663-27664-27665-27666-27667-27668-27669-26484-26485-E

..... 23212-28280-24197-29470-26486-29471-24199-29472-23221-23222-23223-24200-E

..... 26487-29473-23227-28281-28282-24244-24477-24812-22380-28283-22621-22622-E

..... 24272-27015-30257-27476-26007-26757-26996-26735-26314-27500-27424-27425-E

..... 27477-29778-28408-29789-29419-30032-E

O. California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE) Adjustment Clause

..... 30258-30259-30260-30261-30262-30263-E

P. Optional Pricing Adjustment Clause (OPAC) 20625-20626-24169-22165-20629-E

(Continued)

(To be inserted by utility)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sheet 8

(Continued)

RULES

<u>Rule No.</u>	<u>Title of Sheet</u>	<u>Cal. P.U.C. Sheet No.</u>
1	Definitions	27921-22913-27922-27739-27740-24681-24283-22919-22920-E22921-22922-27741-22924-22925-E
2	Description of Service	22926-22927-22928-25264-22930-22931-22932-E22933-22934-22935-22936-22937-22938-22939-22940-22941-E
3	Application for Service	22942-22943-E
4	Contracts	22944-22945-E
5	Special Information Required on Forms	27742-27743-27744-27745-E
6	Establishment and Re-establishment of Credit	22950-22951-E
7	Deposits	22952-22953-E
8	Notices	27746-27747-E
9	Rendering and Payment of Bills	29956-29957-29958-29959-E
10	Disputed Bills	27748-27749-E
11	Discontinuance and Restoration of Service	22964-22965-22966-22967-22968-E22969-22970-22971-22972-E
12	Rates and Optional Rates	27750-27751-E
13	Temporary Service	24683-E
14	Shortage of Supply and Interruption of Delivery	22976-26339-E
15	Distribution Line Extensions	24684-24685-24686-27141-27026-27027-27028-E24691-24692-27029-24694-27030-24696-27142-24698-24699-E
16	Service Extensions	24700-24701-27143-24703-24704-24705-27144-E24707-24708-24709-24710-24711-27031-24713-24714-24715-24716-24717-E
17	Adjustment of Bills and Meter Tests	19616-19617-19618-19619-19620-E
18	Supply to Separate Premises and Use by Others	23016-23017-E
20	Replacement of Overhead With Underground Electric Facilities	23018-23019-23020-23021-26177-31093-E (T)
21	Generating Facility Interconnections	27923-27924-29864-27926-E29865-27928-27929-27930-27931-27932-27933-27934-27935-27936-27937-27938-E27939-27940-27941-27942-27943-27944-27945-27946-27947-27948-27949-27950-E27951-27952-27953-27954-27955-27956-27957-27958-27959-27960-27961-27962-E27963-27964-27965-27966-27967-27968-27969-27970-27971-E
22	Direct Access	30000-24285-24286-24287-30001-24289-24290-30002-30003-24293-E24294-25943-25114-24297-25944-24299-25818-25819-25820-25821-25822-25823-E24306-24307-25824-25825-24310-24311-24312-24313-24314-24315-24316-24317-E24318-24319-24320-24852-24322-24853-24324-24325-24326-24327-24328-24329-E24330-24331-24332-24333-E

(Continued)

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