

April 5, 2002

Advice 2217-E

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Revision to Electric Rule 20 - Replacement of Overhead with Underground Electric Facilities, Compliance Filing

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) hereby submits for filing revisions to its electric Rule 20 - *Replacement of Overhead with Underground Electric Facilities*. The affected tariff sheets are listed on the enclosed Attachment I.¹

Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to comply with Resolution E-3757 to modify electric Rule 20-B.

Background

On March 6, 2002, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) issued Resolution E-3757. This resolution denied Advice 2134-E, which was filed to clarify Rule 20, Section B and the payment of costs associated with the removal of overhead facilities for underground facilities. However, the Commission also required that electric Rule 20 be modified to indicate that PG&E is responsible for payment of the removal of the overhead facilities and that the payment for removal will be made from the underground conversion allocation.

Tariff Modification - Allocation of Overhead Removal Costs

The resolution states that the removal of overhead facilities “will be paid by the utility from the underground conversion allocation.” PG&E will deduct overhead

¹ PG&E reserves all legal rights to challenge the decisions or statutes under which it has been required to make this advice filing, and nothing in this advice filing constitutes a waiver of such rights. Also, PG&E reserves any additional legal rights to challenge the requirement to make this advice filing by reason of its status as a debtor under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, and nothing in this advice filing constitutes a waiver of such rights.

facilities removal costs from PG&E's electric Rule 20 total annual allocated amount as described in electric Rule 20, Section A.2. The electric Rule 20, Section B costs for removal of overhead facilities will be tracked throughout the year and deducted from the next year's total allocated amount.

No cost information is required for this advice filing.

This filing will not increase any rate or charge, nor cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other schedule or rule.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by sending a letter by **April 25, 2002**, which is 20 days from the date of this filing. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be submitted expeditiously. Protests should be mailed to:

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

Copies should also be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4005 and Jerry Royer, Energy Division, at the address shown above. It is also requested that a copy of the protest be sent via postal mail and facsimile to Pacific Gas and Electric Company on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission at the address shown below.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Attention: Les Guliasi
Director, Regulatory Relations
77 Beale Street, Mailcode B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, California 94177
Facsimile: (415) 973-7226

Effective Date

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on, **March 6, 2002**, which is the effective date of Resolution E-3757.

Notice

In accordance with General Order 96-A, Section III, Paragraph G, a copy of this

advice letter is being sent electronically and via postal mailing to parties shown on the attached list and the parties on the service list for Rulemaking 00-01-005. Address change requests should be directed to Rose Abao at (415) 973-2218. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at:

http://www.pge.com/customer_services/business/tariffs/

Vice President - Regulatory Relations

Attachments

cc: Service List R. 00-01-005



RULE 20—REPLACEMENT OF OVERHEAD WITH UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC FACILITIES
(Continued)

B. In circumstances other than those covered by A above, PG&E 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 PG&E's rules and that PG&E 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 PG&E to discontinue its overhead service.
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 PG&E's specifications, or, in lieu thereof, paid PG&E to do so;
 - b. Transferred ownership of such facilities, in good condition, to PG&E; and
 - c. Paid a nonrefundable sum equal to the excess, if any, of the estimated costs, of completing the underground system and building a new equivalent overhead system.
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.
4. The cost to remove the existing overhead facilities shall be deducted from PG&E's total annual underground allocation amount described in Section A.2. of this rule.

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