

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company
for Review and Recovery of Costs Recorded in
the Electric Restructuring Costs Account for 1999
and Forecast for 2000 and 2001. (U 39 E)

Application 00-07-013
(Filed July 11, 2000)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
GRANTING ORA MOTION FOR AUDIT**

On March 23, 2004, the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) filed and served a motion asking that Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) be directed to conduct an audit of costs recorded in the Electric Restructuring Costs Account (ERCA). In particular, ORA moves that applicant be required and directed

“...to act in accordance with its representations made to the Commission during the PHC [prehearing conference]. In other words, the Commission should direct PG&E to perform a financial and regulatory audit. Such an audit would be consistent with the common usage of this term in Commission proceedings.” (ORA Motion, page 3.)

ORA states that it is concerned by PG&E's “informal” construction of the term “audit.” PG&E fails to provide assurance, according to ORA, that applicant's “revised Application will utilize consistent review standards, either in the tasks undertaken or in the standard applied to analysis.” (ORA Motion at page 3.) Thus, “ORA requests this Commission to direct PG&E to conduct an

audit, as described above, of the costs recorded in ERCA.” (ORA Motion, page 4.)

No responses were filed. The motion is granted.¹

IT IS RULED that the March 23, 2004 motion of the Office of Ratepayer Advocates is granted.

Dated April 13, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ BURTON W. MATTSON
Burton W. Mattson
Administrative Law Judge

¹ By electronic mail message dated April 12, 2004, I notified parties that the motion was granted and a formal ruling would be served within a few days. Applicant responded by notifying me that it did not receive paper service of the ORA motion, and may seek an opportunity to respond. Applicant should review this ruling, and may then consider filing any necessary and appropriate pleading (e.g., motion for reconsideration of ruling, with argument in response to ORA’s motion, if necessary).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge’s Ruling Granting ORA Motion for Audit on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated April 13, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELIZABETH LEWIS
Elizabeth Lewis

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission’s policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at

A.00-07-013 BWM/hl2

(415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.