

Decision 21-03-010 March 4, 2021

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Investigation into implementation of Assembly Bill 970 regarding the identification of electric transmission and distribution constraints, actions to resolve those constraints, and related matters affecting the reliability of electric supply.

Investigation 00-11-001

**DECISION GRANTING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY
EXEMPTION FROM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF DECISION 06-09-003**

Summary

This decision exempts Southern California Edison Company from Decision (D.) 06-09-003's requirement to submit quarterly reports concerning its transmission projects, until or unless Southern California Edison Company's reporting requirements in its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Transmission Owner Tariff expire or are reduced in scope as compared to the Assembly Bill 970's quarterly reporting requirements under D.06-09-003.

This proceeding is closed.

1. Background

In September 2000, the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill (AB) 970 which, among other things, required this Commission to undertake certain actions to reduce or remove constraints on the electrical transmission and distribution

system to facilitate the development of generating resources. The Commission instituted this proceeding to implement AB 970 and, in Decision (D.) 06-09-003, ordered the utilities to submit quarterly reports concerning “all transmission projects starting from the time each is first presented as a transmission project in the periodic stakeholder meetings of the California Independent System Operator leading up to the Annual Transmission Expansion Plan for the utility, or successor planning document.”¹

By Letter Order issued on September 23, 2020, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved a settlement of Southern California Edison Company’s (SCE) formula rate case in FERC Docket No. ER19-1553. Section 3.15 of the settlement establishes a “Stakeholder Review Process” (SRP) to be included as Appendix XII to SCE’s Transmission Owner Tariff.

The SRP establishes a comprehensive procedure for SCE to provide a substantial amount of electric transmission projects information on a semi-annual basis, regarding both (1) forecasted capital expenditures for the current year and the next four years and (2) actual capital expenditures from the prior four years. The SRP Process also includes a detailed schedule of meetings for stakeholders to review the transmission information that has been provided, as well as procedures to request additional information regarding specific projects. The first semi-annual SRP information deliverable was produced by SCE on December 1, 2020.

¹ D.06-09-003, Ordering Paragraph 2.

The SRP provides that it shall terminate on December 31, 2023.² The SRP also provides that (1) SCE and stakeholders waive their rights to unilaterally exercise their rights to seek termination or amendment of the SRP prior to November 1, 2023, and (2) SCE shall initiate a process beginning December 1, 2022, through which SCE and stakeholders will engage in good faith efforts to discuss mutually agreeable changes to the SRP or a possible successor process after December 31, 2023.³

By petition filed December 22, 2020, SCE seeks modification of D.06-09-003 to exempt SCE from its AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements.

No protest or response to the petition was filed.

2. Discussion

SCE's reporting requirements under the SRP serve the same purpose and are broader in scope and more detailed than the AB 970 quarterly reports, making the AB 970 quarterly reports redundant and unnecessary. It is therefore reasonable to exempt SCE from the AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements of D.06-09-003, until and unless SCE's reporting requirements at FERC pursuant to the settlement in FERC Docket No. ER19-1553 expire or are reduced in scope as compared to the AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements under D.06-09-003. As a condition of this exemption, SCE shall serve the service list in this proceeding with the public version of the electric transmission projects information that SCE is required to provide on a semi-annual basis to stakeholders pursuant to the SRP.

² Appendix XII to SCE's Transmission Owner Tariff at Section. 7.1.

³ *Id.* at Sections 7.2 through 7.3.

3. Waiver of Comments

This is an uncontested matter in which the decision grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to § 311(g)(2) of the Public Utilities Code and Rule 14.6(c)(2), the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is waived.

4. Assignment of Proceeding

Clifford Rechtschaffen is the assigned Commissioner and Hallie Yacknin is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. SCE has entered into, and FERC has approved, a settlement of its transmission owner rate case before the FERC which establishes a Stakeholder Review Process set forth in SCE's Transmission Owner Tariff pursuant to which SCE will provide the Commission and other stakeholders with information regarding its transmission projects on a semi-annual basis.

2. The information that SCE is required to provide under the SRP is broader in scope and more detailed than that provided in the AB 970 quarterly reports required under D.06-09-003.

Conclusions of Law

1. It is reasonable to exempt SCE from the AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements of D.06-09-003, until and unless SCE's reporting requirements at FERC pursuant to the SRP expire or are reduced in scope as compared to the AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements under D.06-09-003.

2. As a condition of granting SCE exemption from the AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements of D.06-09-003, it is reasonable to require SCE to serve the service list in this proceeding with the public version of the electric transmission projects information that SCE is required to provide on a semi-annual basis to stakeholders pursuant to the SRP.

3. This proceeding should be closed.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Southern California Edison Company (SCE) is exempted from the Assembly Bill (AB) 970 quarterly reporting requirements of Decision (D.) 06-09-003 until and unless SCE's reporting requirements pursuant to the Stakeholder Review Process included in its Transmission Owner Tariff at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission expire or are reduced in scope as compared to the AB 970 quarterly reporting requirements under D.06-09-003.
2. Southern California Edison Company (SCE) shall serve all persons or entities listed on the service list for this proceeding with the public version of the electric transmission projects information that SCE is required to provide on a semi-annual basis to stakeholders pursuant to the Stakeholder Review Process at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, until and unless those reporting requirements expire or are reduced in scope as compared to the Assembly Bill 970 quarterly reporting requirements.
3. In the event Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) reporting requirements pursuant to the Stakeholder Review Process at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission expire or are reduced in scope as compared to the Assembly Bill 970 quarterly reporting requirements under Decision 06-09-003, SCE shall notify the Commission by Tier 1 Advice Letter.

4. Investigation 00-11-001 is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated March 4, 2021, at San Francisco, California

MARYBEL BATJER

President

MARTHA GUZMAN ACEVES

CLIFFORD RECHTSCHAFFEN

GENEVIEVE SHIROMA

DARCIE HOUCK

Commissioners