



REVIEW COMMITTEE



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**CASE CLOSED
FILED & LOGGED**

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO
LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W
P.O. BOX 4790
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
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R.W. STALCUP, SECRETARY

MARGARET A. SHORT, CHAIRMAN

- DECISION
- LETTER DECISION
- PRE-REVIEW REFERRAL

**Kern Division Grievance No. BAK-93-10
PRC 1853**

Subject of the Grievance:

The case concerns the installation of solid state recording devices and cellular phones by Metermen and whether this work should be performed by Telecommunications Technicians.

Facts of the Case:

Sr. Meterman in Bakersfield installed Quad 4 units which are "all-in-one" boxes containing a meter, a storage device, and transmitting equipment device for the measurement of electric usage for the purpose of billing and revenue collection. The information can be transmitted electronically over telephone lines or manually read. The Sr. Metermen also installed the telephones used to transmit the metering information.

This is the most technologically advanced recording device for demand and time-of-use meters having evolved from the magnetic tapes method of recording usage. Westinghouse stopped making the magnetic tape recorders previously used and company planned to phase them out by the end of 1994.

Discussion:

The Union opined that the Quad 4 was a "remote transmitting unit" (RTU) and as such should have been installed by a Telecommunications Technician. A review of the Telecom Tech job definition refers to the "installation of telephone switchboards and other terminal equipment, telephone line carriers, remote signal, and remote control equipment, band telemetering equipment."

The job definition of the Sr. Meterman states in part: "engaged in all types of meter setting..."

Company opined that the equipment in question is differentiated by the type of information/data involved. Historically, the work involving metering devices and revenue has fallen under jurisdiction of the Meter Department and the recording devices used for load management have fallen under the jurisdiction of the Telecommunications Department.

Decision:

The Pre-Review Committee agreed that the installation of the solid state recording devices by the Metermen was appropriate based on the long standing functional division between the Meter and Telecommunications departments as stated by the Company.

However, the installation of the telephones should have been assigned to a Telecommunications Tech. At the LIC the company offered an equity settlement without prejudice of 15.15 hours of straight time pay to be divided among the affected Telecommunications Techs. The Pre-Review Committee concurs with this offer.

This case is closed on the basis of the foregoing and the adjustment provided herein.



Margaret A. Short, Chairman
Review Committee

9/18/95

Date



Roger W. Stalcup, Secretary
Review Committee

9/18/95

Date