



REVIEW COMMITTEE

AUG 18 1989

IBEW


PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
215 MARKET STREET, ROOM 916
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94106
(415) 973-1125

**CASE CLOSED
LOGGED AND FILED**

RECEIVED AUG 10 1989

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF
ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO
LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W.
P.O. BOX 4790
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) 933-6060
R.W. STALCUP, SECRETARY

D.J. BERGMAN, CHAIRMAN

- DECISION
 LETTER DECISION
 PRE-REVIEW REFERRAL

REVIEW COMMITTEE DECISION

Shasta Division Grievance No. 13-250-86-12

Review Committee File No. 1671-88-13

Subject of the Grievance

This case involves contractor employees working for the City of Redding performing work on PG&E facilities. Allegedly, the contractor employees were: 1) notifying PG&E customers of outages, 2) opening and grounding tap lines, being issued and holding non-tests and 3) allegedly holding clearances. In addition, Union alleges a violation of Section 207.2 because of the reduction of PG&E employees in the Redding headquarters in the previous five years.

Facts of the Case

During the period of June 4, 1986 to August 4, 1986, contractor personnel were performing work for the City of Redding. Because of the proximity of City of Redding electric lines to PG&E electric lines, contractor personnel deenergized and reenergized PG&E tap lines by opening and closing jumpers approximately ten times and notified approximately 13 customers of outages three or four times. On approximately 19 occasions, contractor personnel requested and held non-tests which were issued by the Cottonwood operators. In addition, on four occasions, main lines had to be deenergized which requires a clearance. These clearances were held by a PG&E supervisor, and the switching was performed by PG&E employees.

Discussion

The Committee reviewed the Company's Policy for Contracting Engineering Estimating and Construction work issued in April 1985, a copy of which was transmitted to the Union. Item 4 on Page 2 concludes:

"A contractor shall not, however, hold a clearance or do switching on any part of the operating electric system or valving on the operating gas system."

The Committee also reviewed Company's Instructions for Obtaining Clearances to Work on Apparatus and Lines states, in part:

"A clearance or permission from the Switching Center to work on or adjacent to lines or equipment is normally required prior to performance of work on any electric generation, transmission, distribution or communication equipment including all electrical,

mechanical and hydraulic auxiliaries thereof. This includes work on or adjacent to energized equipment where a specific clearance is not required but involves the removal of the equipment from service. For equipment other than communications, the Switching Center concerned will make the final determination whether permission to work or a clearance is required."

Decision

The committee is in agreement that based on the above April 1985 instructions, it is currently inappropriate for non-PG&E workers to hold clearances on main lines and for other than a qualified person who is at the job site and in direct communication with the Switching Center to hold a non-test.

Further, based on the current Instructions for Obtaining a Clearance, the Committee agreed that qualified non-PG&E workers may deenergize overhead tap lines and notify customers of outages in those cases where the Switching Center concerned has determined that such tap lines may be taken out of service without being issued a clearance. The Committee is in agreement that in such cases, this procedure is not considered switching and/or holding a line clearance.

Since September 1, 1988, one Electric Crew Foreman position in Redding has been vacated. Currently, there is no Electric T&D work being contracted at Redding. Consistant with Letter Agreement 88-104, Company does not intend to fill an Electric T&D position at Redding. Inasmuch as Electric T&D work is being contracted elsewhere in the system, however, an Electric T&D position has been filled elsewhere. As the issue addressed in this decision arose prior to Letter Agreement 88-104, this case is closed without adjustment as it relates to the attrition issue.

Based on the foregoing understanding, this case is considered closed without prejudice to the positions of the parties as it may relate to future grievances and/or bargaining on the issues raised in this grievance and such closure should be so noted by the Local Investigating Committee.

FOR THE COMPANY:

Rod J. Maslowski
Ron A. Morris
Robert C. Taylor
David J. Bergman

By

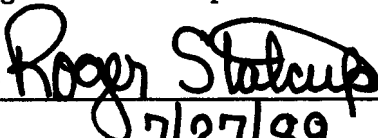


Date 2-2-89

FOR THE UNION:

Pete S. Nickeson
Fred H. Pedersen
Arlis L. Watson
Roger W. Stalcup

By



Date 7/27/89