

REVIEW COMMITTEE



PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY LABOR RELATIONS DEPARTMENT MAIL CODE N2Z P.O. BOX 770000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94177 (415) 973-6725

JOHN MOFFAT, CHAIRMAN

- DECISION
- LETTER DECISION
- PRE-REVIEW REFERRAL

RECEIVED by LU 1245 April 1, 2009

CASE CLOSED FILED & LOGGED

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W. P.O. BOX 2547 VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94696 (707) 452-2700

BOB CHOATE, SECRETARY

Review Committee No. 18528 Energy Delivery – Electric T&D - Salinas

Melanie Curry Company Member Local investigating Committee

Bill Brill
Union Member
Local Investigating Committee

Grievance Issue:

This grievance concerns the termination of a Troubleman for a violation of USP 1.

Facts of the Case:

The Grievant was hired on July 3, 1972 and was terminated on July 25, 2008.

The Grievant was terminated for violation of USP 1. The Grievant had no active discipline at the time of the discharge.

The Grievant was arrested on May 11, 2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol. At the time of the arrest the Grievant was working overtime. The Grievant admitted to purchasing and drinking alcohol while on shift. The Grievant's blood alcohol was .25 or three times the legal limit.

The Grievant subsequent to the arrest and prior to the completion of the investigation entered into a 28 day residential recovery program. The Grievant completed the program and continues to participate in an aftercare program.

Discussion:

The Company argued based on the facts in this case that the employee clearly violated USP 1 and put himself, the Company and the public at great risk, with a blood alcohol level of three times the legal limit. The alcohol policy was updated in 2006 and employees were put on notice that they could be terminated. The discharge was for just cause.

The Union argued that discipline is appropriate in this case but not discharge given his many years of service, the Grievant's completion of a recovery program and that the Company has not always discharged for use of alcohol on the job. The Union further argued that many times the Company has allowed employees to return after completion of a rehabilitation program.

Decision:

The parties agree that the termination was for just and sufficient cause and this case is closed. The parties also agree that the employee is not eligible for rehire but he may work for contractors that may perform work on Company facilities.

For the Company:

John Moffat Gayle Hamilton Dave Morris Malia Wolf

Date: 3/3//09

For the Union:

Bob Choate
William R. Bouzek
Louis Mennel
Russ Rylee
Karen Russel

Date: 3/3//00

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