


**REVIEW COMMITTEE****PG and E**

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY  
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 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94106  
 (415) 781-4211, EXTENSION 1125

**IBEW** 

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  
 M.A. MEDEROS, SECRETARY

D.J. BERGMAN, CHAIRMAN

- DECISION  
 LETTER DECISION  
 PRE-REVIEW REFERRAL

Drum Division Grievance No. 15-45-79-5

P-RC 462

Alleged Safety Rule Violation When Troublemens  
 Were Required to Switch in Rain

June 23, 1980

MR. P. B. KNOX, Chairman  
 Drum Division  
 Joint Grievance Committee


The above-subject grievance has been discussed by the Pre-Review Committee prior to its docketing on the agenda of the Review Committee and is being returned pursuant to Section I B(2) of the Review Committee procedure, to the Joint Grievance Committee for settlement in accordance with the following:

The issue in dispute concerns the alleged safety violation when two Troublemens were required to switch in the rain on March 15, 1979, using hot sticks. General Construction crews were scheduled to reconductor a section of 12 kv line in Nevada District, and as a result, some 125 customers, including two doctor's offices who had to reschedule their patients, had been notified that the power would be off to permit the work to be performed. The two district Troublemens were assigned to open cutouts, using hot sticks at separate locations, to de-energize the line. On the day in question, it was raining, and one of the district Troublemens protested the assignment that morning inasmuch as, in his opinion, it was in violation of the Accident Prevention Rules. The Field Foreman opined that it was safe and ordered the Troublemens to do the switching, and the work was completed without incident the same day. It did rain through most of the day, but not as hard as in the morning.

The question in this case revolves around the interpretation of the Company's safety rules, primarily Rule No. 505(m), in that hot sticks will not be used in the rain unless in emergency situations, however, in no event will hot sticks be used if the amount of rain falling causes rivulets of water to flow down the hot sticks. In this case, the work was done without incident, even though the Troublemens involved testified that rivulets did form on their hot sticks, and considering the fact that the General Construction Joint Grievance Committee in Case No. 3-557-79-46, and the results of the Company-Union Health and Safety Committee Meeting on 11/27/79 (attached) resolved the issue, and the Pre-Review Committee agrees to close the case on the same basis.

This case is considered close, and the closure should be so noted in the minutes of your next Joint Grievance Committee meeting.

  
 D. J. BERGMAN, Chairman  
 Review Committee

  
 M. A. MEDEROS, Secretary  
 Review Committee

DJB:ml

cc: MBadella                      LVBrown                      NRFarley                      WKSnyder                      REMetzker  
       LCBeanland                    FCBuchholz                    CAMiller                      CPTaylor  
       IWBonbright                   RHCunningham                   JBStoutamore                   Division Personnel Managers