

EXHIBIT A

Item 9 of FCC Form 442

The proposed use of the INMARSAT system is for an emergency communications circuit between the Southern California Edison (SCE) and the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). Specifically, our respective Energy Control Centers (ECC) and our Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) require the availability of instant communications to oversee the intertie within the power grid network for load/generation control.

The ECC's are facilities which contain the terminus of transmission, distribution and generation monitoring and control for the respective systems. SCE's ECC is located in Alhambra, California, with a smaller, but duplicate facility, located in Stanton California, as an Alternate Energy Control Center (AECC). In addition SCE has two EOC's, one located at the corporate headquarters in Rosemead, California and the other in Irvine, California. The equivalent PG&E facilities are located in San Francisco, California. The geographic distances between SCE's ECC and EOC facilities and PG&E's corresponding facilities in San Francisco range between 351 to 380 statute miles.

Our primary means of communications between respective ECC/EOC's is via private microwave systems that are interconnected in the San Joaquin Valley. This intertie is accomplished directly at 6 GHz with our KUU80 Breckenridge radio and PG&E's KCW68 Midway radio.

The secondary system of communications is through the public switched network. This system is available to both parties through their respective local telephone companies and the appropriate long line/trunk systems.

The vulnerability of these communications systems during disaster scenarios of local to wide area and minimal to catastrophic will vary with the nature of the disaster.

The primary system is a series chain of microwave radios that may be rendered inoperative with the loss of any one of the radio links within it. The secondary system of the public switched network is subject to a multiplicity of failures with the complexity of the systems involved.

The Federal Communications Commissions Report and Order on General Docket No. 87-505, National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Telecommunications Service Priority System (TSP) which will govern the restoration of the public switched network and will replace the current Restoration Priority (RP) system has been released. The TSP proposal classifies Power Utilities such as SCE and PG&E in the third category of four (next to last) essential NSEP services with a priority level of 3, 4, or 5 out of 5. Dependent on the nature of the disaster and it's extent, SCE or PG&E could see service restoration of the public switched network in a matter of minutes to the possibility of days. The second category (higher priority than Power Utilities) NSEP services are defined as services suffering adverse effects to loss of communications for a few minutes to one day.

SCE has past experience with the telephone company circuit shedding scheme in the October, 1987 earthquake in Whittier, California. While SCE suffered minimal damage to its system during the event, we lost the use of the public switched network at our Rosemead Corporate headquarters (only 4 miles from the Alhambra ECC facility) for 4 to 6 hours. This was classified as a local, limited disaster.

SCE and PG&E have extensively researched and explored other methods of communications that are applicable to the distance involved. A high Frequency (HF) system using frequencies in the 2 to 10 MHz spectrum was in place for several years with state of the art equipment and was found to be unreliable for our use. System outages of minutes to days occurred that could be attributed to the distance involved and to atmospheric conditions.

In order for SCE and PG&E to be able to restore power to essential NSEP services and others, we must be able to maintain communications. Depending upon the disaster scenario, loss of communications could directly or indirectly result in the loss of human lives. For these reasons, SCE has found the INMARSAT system to be the only viable system available that would fulfill our needs in time of emergency and or disaster.