

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. E-1068  
UTILITIES DIVISION  
DIVISION: Electric  
May 31, 1960

SUBJECT: Minimum Clearances of wires from signs,  
New Rule No. 39, General Order No. 95

WHEREAS: There is need to establish additional reasonable and safe clearances distance between conductors and signs; in the application of order's requirements, there is need to place all such new and existing requirements in a single tabulation, and

WHEREAS: Electric and communication utilities, other line operator, representative of the sign industry, interested cities, counties and the State Division of Industrial Safety have indicated agreement with attached Rule No. 39 and Table 2-A, and good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Rule 39 entitled "Minimum Clearance of Wires from Signs" attached hereto, be and it is hereby adopted, to be effective for new construction on and after July 1, 1960, as part of General Order No. 95.

The Secretary is directed to cause appropriate notice of the issuance of this order to be given to all operators of overhead electric supply and communication lines coming within jurisdiction of this Commission.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular session of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California, held on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May 1960, the following

Commissioners voting favorably thereon:

EVERETT C McKEAGE President  
PETER E. MITCHELL,  
MATTHEW J. DOOLEY  
C. LYN FOX  
THEODORE H. JENNER

### 39 Minimum Clearances of Wires from Signs

Clearance between any overhead line conductor and all signs, whether mounted on buildings, isolated structures or otherwise constructed shall not be less than the values given in Table 2-A at a temperature of 60° F. and no wind.

The clearances specified in Table 2-A shall in no case be reduced more than 10% because of temperature and loading as specified in Rule 43 . All clearances of more than 5 inches shall be applicable from the centerlines of conductors concerned. Lesser clearances shall be applicable from conductor surfaces.

**Minimum Clearances of Wires from Signs Mounted on Buildings and Isolated Structures <sup>A</sup>**

Case No.	Nature of Clearance Type of Sign	A Span Wires (Other than Trolley Span Wires) Overhead Guys and Messengers, Communication Cables and Communication Service Drops	B Communication Open Wire Conductors Supply Cables Treated as in Rule 57.8 and Supply Service Drops 0 - 750 Volts	C Supply Conductors, Supply Cables of 0 - 750 Volts and Trolley Span Wires	D Supply Conductors and Supply Cables, Above 750 <sup>B</sup>
1	Vertical clearance above all signs upon which men can walk	8 Feet	8 Feet	8 Feet	12 Feet
2	Vertical clearance above all signs upon which men cannot walk	2 Feet	2 Feet	3 Feet	8 Feet
3	Vertical clearance under signs which are illuminated	2 Feet <sup>C</sup>	2 Feet <sup>E</sup>	3 Feet	Prohibited <sup>F</sup>
4	Vertical clearance under signs which are non-illuminated	6 inches <sup>D</sup>	1 Foot	3 Feet	Prohibited <sup>F</sup>
5	Horizontal clearance from signs which are illuminated	3 Feet <sup>C</sup>	3 Feet <sup>E</sup>	3 Feet	6 Feet
6	Horizontal clearance from signs which are non-illuminated	6 inches <sup>D</sup>	1 Foot	3 Feet	6 Feet

- (a) These clearances do not apply to service drop conductors which are attached to signs for the purpose of serving such signs.
- (b) Nothing herein contained shall be construed as authorization of noncompliance with standards of the Industrial Safety Board of the California Division of Industrial Safety, including section 2603 of the Electrical Safety Orders, entitled "Provision for Preventing Accidents Due to Proximity of High-Voltage Lines", approved by that Board.
- (c) May be reduced to 6 inches provided illuminated sign is grounded.
- (d) May be reduced if adequate separation is provided by means of a suitable non-conducting separator.
- (e) May be reduced to 1 foot for communication open wire conductors only, provided illuminated sign is grounded
- (f) When conductors are at a level of 8 feet or more below the level of the lowest portion of the sign but not vertically under the sign, no horizontal clearance is required between the vertical planes through the conductor nearest the sign and the vertical projection of the extremities of the sign. Also note (b) above.