

Thomas A. Besich

BS Electrical Engineering, UC Santa Barbara, June 1967

Several post graduate technical classes and seminars at various universities.

Was registered EE [1974] in California [by the more difficult California test, before the easier national test], but I let it lapse because I never used it.

1967 to 1992 Southern California Edison

- 1967-1981 in Electric System Planning, as Junior Engineer to Senior Engineer.
- 8 years studying EHV transmission systems of interconnected utilities in the Western US [loadflow and stability]—
- Western System Coordinating Council [now WECC] committees: Technical Studies Subcommittee; System Review Working Group [which did most of the work].
- Other inter-utility committees: ANPP [Palo Verde Nuclear] Transmission Planning Committee; SouthWest Area Transmission [SWAT] Planning Committee; Four Corners Transmission Committee; Navajo Transmission group.
- Determined transmission requirements for future generation projects and interconnected system design and operating ratings [Palo Verde, Four Corners, Navajo, Pacific Intertie AC & DC, Arizona-to-California, PGandE-to-Edison, Edison-to-SDG&E, etc].
- Major accomplishment: defeated Arizona utilities' parochial objectives for ANPP transmission and ensured maximum energy transfer capability from Arizona to California—a difference of 1000 MW.
- 1981 to December 1992 in Power Contracts and System Operation [two separate organizations]:
- 7 years [1981-1984, 1987-1991] negotiating and administrating [and defending before the CPUC] inter-utility and QF contracts as a Senior Engineer, Supervising Engineer, and Manager. Annual payments for the QF contracts totaled about \$2 Billion.
- Major accomplishments: saved tens of millions of dollars in contract administration. Corrected initial defects in many contracts [eg: wind generation power factor correction].
- 4 years [1985-1987, 1991-1992] planning daily operation, solving problems, and ensuring that future contracts didn't cause operating problems, as a Senior Engineer and as Manager of System Operating and Protection Engineering in System Operation division.
- Major accomplishments: avoided multiple problems in inter-utility contracts; initiated installation of Power System Stabilizers for nuclear plant that was operating in violation of WSCC standard.
- 1993 Minor consulting activities.

1993-1995: Hawaiian Electric as Director of Power Purchase Contracts [for Oahu, Maui, and the Big Island] and as Consultant.

Major accomplishment: Primary technical support and strategy developer [and witness] in binding arbitration overwhelming victory in dispute with international consortium QF [Japanese financial, European equipment, and East Coast American utility operator] on Oahu.

1995-1998 Retired, addressing family concerns.

1998 Testified [pro bono] in CPUC hearing involving utility administration of QF contracts [including affiliate contracts].

1999-2003 Various consulting, including technical advisor [depositions and discovery] in oil refinery litigation against utility for major damage in August 10, 1996 blackout. Remanded to trial court for readjudication.

1998-present semi-retired.

References upon request.