

Decision No. 11773.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of )  
SAN JOAQUIN LIGHT AND POWER CORPORATION )  
for an order authorizing it to discon- )  
tinue the furnishing of water in the )  
City of Madera and vicinity and for the )  
sale of the property devoted thereto. )

Application No. 8582.

Murray Bourne, attorney for applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, which owns and operates a public utility water plant furnishing water for domestic and general uses in the City of Madera, Madera County, makes application to the Railroad Commission as entitled above, for authority to discontinue the service of water to its consumers in that community. A public hearing was held in this matter before Examiner Satterwhite at Madera on February 27, 1923, of which all interested parties were notified and given an opportunity to appear and be heard. No protestants appeared at the hearing, nor were any objections to the granting of this application filed.

Applicant's water plant at Madera consists of two groups of wells with pumping equipment for each, a 25,000 gallon wooden regulating tank and approximately 19,500 lineal feet of pipe distributing mains.

The evidence shows that applicant's water business had gradually decreased during past years by reason of the competition of the water works owned and operated by the City of Madera.

whose pipe distribution system in general parallels that of applicant. During the year 1922 applicant served only 19 consumers, and the financial statement filed at the hearing shows that for the past four years the revenues from water sales were insufficient to meet even the maintenance and operation expenses, with no allowance for a depreciation annuity or interest return on the investment.

The superintendent of the municipal water works testified that the City is able and willing at once to assume service of water to all of applicant's consumers who may apply for same.

At the hearing the application herein was amended to include the request that the applicant be authorized to cease operating its Madera water plant as a public utility and thereafter to sell or otherwise dispose of its water supply property in Madera which had been devoted to the service of its consumers.

After careful consideration of all the evidence in this proceeding we conclude that the present consumers of applicant's Madera water plant can conveniently receive adequate service and supply of water from the municipal plant operated by the City of Madera and covering the same territory as that served by applicant.

#### O R D E R

San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation having made application to the Railroad Commission as entitled above, a public hearing having been held, and the matter having been submitted,

It Is Hereby Found as a Fact that public convenience and necessity do not require that San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation continue to operate as a public utility its water plant in the City of Madera.

And basing its order on the foregoing finding of fact and on the other statements of fact contained in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Railroad Commission of the State

of California that San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation be and it is hereby authorized to discontinue service of water from the system owned by it and serving water to certain consumers in the City of Madera and to cease its operations as a public utility water corporation in said city, provided that applicant files with this Commission a certified statement to the effect that each and every consumer attached to its system has been given thirty (30) days' written notice of applicant's intention to discontinue water service and also that all consumers have been advised that they at once make application to the City of Madera for service from the municipal water works or otherwise arrange for water service; and further, that when service has been discontinued to all consumers and they have been provided with another satisfactory water supply, a certified statement to that effect be also filed.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation be and it is hereby authorized to sell or otherwise dispose of the property used in the conduct of its public utility water operations in the city of Madera when and after such time as it has complied with all the conditions of this order as above specified.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1923.

C. Seary

Dwight Martin

J. T. Whittier  
Commissioners.