

Decision No. 12927.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of the )  
CROWN WATER CO., )  
a corporation, for an order fixing the )  
rate of \$2.00 per month for water for )  
domestic use; also for permission to in- )  
stall water meters; also an order fix- )  
ing a meter rate of \$2.00 per 2000 gal- )  
lons and \$0.75 per 1000 gallons or frac- )  
tion thereof over and above the first )  
2000 gallons. )

Application No. 10194.

B. W. Haney for applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application Crown Water Company, a corporation, asks authority to install water meters, also for an order fixing a meter rate of \$2.00 per 2000 gallons, with excess use at the rate of 75 cents per 1000 gallons.

A public hearing in this matter was held before Examiner Williams at Redondo Beach, after all interested parties had been duly notified and given an opportunity to be present and be heard.

The evidence shows that in 1923 this company supplied water for domestic purposes to twelve consumers, and for irrigation use to the same number. Revenues for the year 1923 were \$703. In 1924 the number of domestic consumers remained the same, but water for irrigation purposes was sold regularly to only one

person, as Japanese gardeners who in former years used almost the entire amount of water sold for irrigation purposes have abandoned their gardens and discontinued the use of water. The evidence shows that the revenues for the year 1924 will approximate only \$260.

At the hearing a report was submitted by M. I. Reed, one of the Commission's hydraulic engineers, in which the estimated original cost of this system was shown as \$4,066, with a depreciation annuity computed by the sinking fund method of \$77. This report also showed that during the period from January first to June first, 1924, maintenance and operation expenses amounted to \$171, not including any charge for services of Mr. Haney, who operates the pump..

The records of the company show that the tank, which has a capacity of 10,000 gallons, is filled approximately twelve times each month. Water from the tank is used only for domestic purposes and the use of water per consumer has averaged 10,000 gallons per month, for which a flat rate charge of \$1.25 has been made. These figures indicate an excessive and wasteful use of water and that an unreasonably low rate is charged for the service. It is clearly evident that the metering of the system is the only way in which wasteful and extravagant use of water can be reduced, and the utility should proceed immediately to install meters upon all services.

Revenues from the sale of water to the few consumers supplied by the system will be small, and it is only by the exercise of the utmost economy that operating expenses can be provided for from the utility's income, and it will be practically impossible to earn any return upon the investment in the property.

At the hearing the applicant stated that rates regarded as reasonable by the Commission would be acceptable, and the

schedule set out in the following order is similar to the schedules of rates established by this Commission for utilities operating in the vicinity under like conditions.

## O R D E R

Crown Water Company, a corporation, having made application to this Commission for authority to install meters and for the establishment of meter rates, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted, and the Commission being now fully informed in the matter,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Crown Water Company, a corporation, be and the same is hereby authorized to file with this Commission within twenty (20) days of the date of this order, and thereafter charge, the following schedule of rates for water delivered to its consumers:

### METER RATES

#### Monthly Minimum Charges

For 5/8 inch meter . . . . .	\$1.50
For 3/4 " " . . . . .	2.50
For 1 " " . . . . .	4.00
For 1 1/2 " " . . . . .	7.00
For 2 " " . . . . .	12.00

Each of the foregoing monthly minimum charges will entitle the consumer to the quantity of water which that monthly minimum charge will purchase at the following "monthly meter rates".

#### Monthly Meter Rates

From 0 to 500 cubic feet, per 100 cu.ft..	\$0.30
From 500 to 3000 " " " 100 "	.25
Over 3000 " " " 100 "	.20

### MONTHLY FLAT RATES

For house of 5 rooms or less . . . . .	\$1.50
For each additional room above 5 . . . . .	.10
For each automobile. . . . .	.15



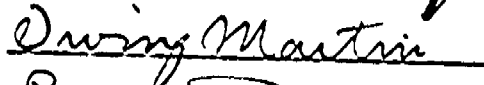
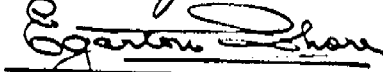

For each horse or cow. . . . .	\$0.15
For each goat. . . . .	.05
For 50 chickens or less. . . . .	.25
For each 50 chickens in excess of the first 50	.15
For 50 rabbits or less . . . . .	.25
For each 50 rabbits over the first 50. . . . .	.15
For sprinkling lawns, gardens or shrubbery, per 100 square feet . . . . .	.05

IRRIGATION RATE

Per hour run of pump at a capacity of 43 mi-  
ner's inches or .86 cubic feet per second \$2.50

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Crown Water Company, a corporation, be and the same is hereby directed to file with this Commission within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, rules and regulations to govern relations with its consumers, such rules and regulations to become effective upon their acceptance by the Commission.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1924.

  
  
  
  
  
 Commissioners.