

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 14005-

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
SAWTELLE WATER COMPANY)	Application No. 10297.
for leave to abandon service.)	

Goudge, Robinson & Hughes, by S. B. Robinson, for applicant.

Milton Bryan, for City of Los Angeles.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In the above entitled proceeding Sawtelle Water Company, a corporation, asks authority to discontinue service of water to its consumers in and in the vicinity of Sawtelle and to discontinue its business as a public utility.

The application alleges in effect that the territory heretofore served has become a part of the City of Los Angeles, which has constructed the mains of its municipal water system so as to parallel applicant's distribution pipes, and is at present serving the majority of the consumers who were formerly supplied by Sawtelle Water Company. It is further alleged that the City is in a position to render service immediately to all of applicant's remaining consumers and that under conditions as they now exist the utility business can only be conducted at a loss.

A public hearing in this matter was held before Examiner Williams at Los Angeles, after all interested parties had been duly notified and given an opportunity to be present and be heard. No one appeared to protest the granting of the application.

The testimony shows that in the last three and one half months 82 per cent. of applicant's consumers have been connected to the municipal water system of the City of Los Angeles and are receiving water supply from that source. The testimony also shows that the expense connected with supplying the remaining 257 consumers on applicant's system far exceeds the revenues received from the sale of water.

Mr. George B. Reed, of the Water Department of the City of Los Angeles, testified that the City had installed service pipes to the curb lines and was ready and willing to take over applicant's remaining consumers upon application for service and the deposit by each applicant of \$15 to cover the cost of meter installation. It was further stated by the witness that the work of installing meters upon these services could be completed if necessary within three days.

It is plainly evident that this utility cannot continue its operations except at a loss, and it is also apparent that a good and ample supply of water is available to consumers from the municipal system. The application will be granted provided that the utility refund to consumers any deposits which may have been made to cover the cost of pipe extensions or other facilities. Reasonable notice to all consumers will also be required so that water service may be continued without interruption.

O R D E R

Sawtelle Water Company, a corporation supplying water

as a public utility in and in the vicinity of the territory known as Sawtelle, having made application for authority to discontinue service to its consumers and to be relieved from public utility obligations, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted, and the Commission being now fully informed therein,

It Is Hereby Found as a Fact that public convenience and necessity do not require the continued operation of the plant of the Sawtelle Water Company in and in the vicinity of Sawtelle.

Basing the order upon the foregoing finding of fact and upon the statements of fact contained in the preceding opinion,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Sawtelle Water Company, a corporation, be and it is hereby authorized to discontinue the service of water to consumers in and in the vicinity of the territory known as Sawtelle, in the City of Los Angeles, on September 30, 1924, and thereafter to be relieved of its public utility obligations, provided that within ten (10) days from the date of this order applicant shall notify each and every consumer in writing of its intention to discontinue water service on September 30, 1924, and that within twenty (20) days from the date of this order applicant file with this Commission a certified statement to the effect that all consumers have been duly notified as directed, and that all amounts deposited with the utility by the consumers to cover the cost of pipe extensions have been refunded to the depositors.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 30th day of August, 1924.

C. Seaver

Irving Martin

Egerton Shore

J. T. Whittley

Commissioners.