

LEM

Decision No. 14787

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the matter of the application of Stuart Darling to sell certain gas distributing system at Summerland, California, to the Southern Counties Gas Company of California.

Application No. 10640

ORIGINAL

Stuart Darling, applicant,
in propria persona.

Le Roy M. Edwards, for
Southern Counties Gas Company
of California.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Applicant Stuart Darling asks permission to sell, for the sum of \$1,625.00, his gas distributing system at Summerland to the Southern Counties Gas Company of California.

He is now, and has been for a number of years past, supplying natural gas to some 30 to 50 consumers in Summerland, Santa Barbara County. The gas supplied through his distribution system is obtained from one gas well at Summerland. The gas served by him has a heat content of 461 B.T.U. He desires permission to sell his gas distributing system for the reason that the amount of gas available from his well is not sufficient to render at all times adequate service to his consumers and furthermore, for the reason that he desires to devote his entire time to his private business. The Southern Counties Gas Company of California, which has agreed to purchase the plant, has extended a pipe line from Ventura to Santa Barbara which passes through the Town of Summerland. It is of record that the company is in a position to render adequate and modern gas service to the people of such town, including those now

served by Stuart Darling. The gas which the Southern Counties Gas Company of California will sell has a heat content of approximately 1150 B.T.U.

Upon request of applicant Stuart Darling, an appraisal of his distribution system was made by Mr. C. C. Brown, Gas Engineer of the Commission, as of January 15th, 1925, a copy of which is attached to the application marked "Exhibit A". This appraisal, including distribution mains, gas services and gas meters, shows a present day physical value of \$1603.24. As stated above, Southern Counties Gas Company of California has agreed to pay \$1625. in cash for the gas distributing system owned by Stuart Darling.

At the hearing had on March 21st, 1925, before Examiner Williams, no one appeared to protest the granting of this application. It is apparent that the gas consumers of Summerland will be benefited by more adequate service, a superior quality of gas and a rate reduction of approximately 30%, when consideration is given to the relative heating values of the gas now sold by Stuart Darling and that which will be sold by the Southern Counties Gas Company of California.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled application, the matter having been submitted, and the Commission being of the opinion that this application should be granted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicant Stuart Darling be, and he is hereby, authorized to sell, on or before June 30th, 1925, his gas distributing system and business, consisting of the properties set forth in applicants' Exhibit "A", to Southern Counties Gas Company of California, for the sum of \$1,625., and said Southern Counties Gas Company of California be, and it is hereby, authorized to purchase such properties.

The authority herein granted is subject to the following conditions:

1. Southern Counties Gas Company of California shall file within thirty days after it acquires said properties, a certified copy of the deed, bill of sale, or other instrument under which it acquires title to such properties.
2. The authority herein granted will become effective upon the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14th day of April, 1925.

H. K. Brown
C. L. Seaver
Egerton Shore
George D. Squires
Ernest DeWitt

Commissioners.