

Decision No. 14782.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
E. N. ROBINSON
for a certificate of public necessity
and convenience to operate and main-
tain a water plant and system.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 10655.

Howard Robertson for applicant.

E. T. Robinson for Ocean Park Heights
Land and Water Company.

C. E. Vick for consumers.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In the above entitled application E. N. Robinson asks for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the operation of a public utility water system for domestic purposes in Tract No. 3901, Los Angeles County.

A public hearing was held in this matter before Examiner Williams at Los Angeles, after due notice thereof had been given so that all interested parties might appear and be heard.

This water system was installed to aid in the sale of lots in Tract No. 3901, Los Angeles County. Water is pumped from wells into a storage tank of 28,000 gallons capacity, from which it is distributed by gravity to the consumers.

The Ocean Park Heights Land and Water Company, a utility serving water in adjacent territory, objected to the granting of this application upon the ground that it holds a county

franchise covering the service to this tract. The evidence shows that this company does not now and at no time in the past has it ever furnished water to any part of Tract No. 3901. The evidence moreover shows that the water system now owned by applicant herein was installed and in operation prior to the date of the franchise owned by the Ocean Park Heights Land and Water Company and also prior to the dedication of the streets in said tract, making unnecessary the securing by applicant of a franchise from the county authorities. Ocean Park Heights Land and Water Company is not willing even now to serve this tract, except upon the consideration of a bonus in excess of \$7,000 paid to it, in addition to demanding as a gift the existing system now supplying the tract. Neither applicant nor his consumers are willing or able to accept the conditions proposed by this company for the acquisition of this system.

A number of the consumers complained of the quality of the water and service rendered, while others expressed themselves as being entirely satisfied. The testimony of the consumers indicates that the water is hard and has an offensive taste and odor, although the reports of the Los Angeles County Department of Health, submitted at the hearing, show that the water is entirely safe for domestic use from a sanitary standpoint. The consumers' testimony also shows that the service rendered is not entirely satisfactory, in that the pressure ranges from eight to ten pounds and that the pipe lines are in such condition as to need constant repairs.

Because of the many conflicting interests involved in this proceeding, several hearings were held and many postponements granted in order to permit the working out of a suitable plan for the solution of the water supply problems of this district which

would be acceptable to all. However these negotiations failed to produce any practicable results and it appears therefore that as no other supply is available within the economic means of applicant or of the consumers, public necessity demands that this application be granted. Applicant is urged to obtain, if possible, a more desirable water supply for domestic use, and at the earliest moment that finances will permit, the tank should be raised to a sufficient elevation to increase the pressure and insure adequate service to the consumers.

The proposed rate schedule submitted by applicant is not unreasonable considering all of the circumstances, and will be authorized in the following order.

O R D E R

Application having been made as entitled above, - a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been duly submitted and being now ready for decision,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require and will require that E. N. Robinson construct and operate a water system for the purpose of supplying water for domestic uses in Tract No. 3901, Los Angeles County; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that E. N. Robinson be and he is hereby authorized and directed to file with the Railroad Commission of the State of California, within twenty (20) days from the date of this order, the following schedule of rates to be charged for all service rendered subsequent to May 31, 1925:

MONTHLY FLAT RATES

For residence of five rooms or less.	\$1.50
For each additional room over five10
For each garage and one automobile25
For each additional automobile15

Meters may be installed upon any service at the option of either the utility or the consumer. If installed at the option of the utility, the entire cost shall be borne by the utility. If installed at the request of the consumer, the cost of meter and installation shall be advanced by the consumer to the utility, and the moneys so advanced shall be refunded to the depositor as credits on monthly bills for water furnished, at the rate of thirty (30) per cent. of the total amount of monthly bills.

[illegible]

800 cubic feet or less	\$1.50
All over 800 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet.08

H. K. Brundage
C. L. Sawyer
Egerton Chen