

Decision No. 15383

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
Great Western Power Company of
California for a certificate of public
convenience and necessity for the
construction of a certain electric
transmission line and for the exer-
cise of certain franchises granted
by the Counties of San Joaquin, Stan-
islaus and Merced.

Application No. 11295.

Guy C. Earl and Chaffee E. Hall, by
Chaffee E. Hall, for Great Western Power
Company of California.
C. P. Catten for Pacific Gas and Electric
Company, as Lessee of Sierra and San
Francisco Power Co.
Chickering and Gregory, by W. C. Fox, for
Western States Gas and Electric Co.

DECOTO, COMMISSIONER:

O P I N I O N

In Application No. 11295, Great Western Power Company of California asks the Commission to make its order that public convenience and necessity require applicant to construct and operate a certain electric transmission line, and to exercise those rights and privileges under certain franchises granted by the Counties of San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced.

It appears that the transmission line in question will extend from applicant's Brighton substation in the County of Sacramento, in a southerly direction through the Counties of Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced, there to connect with the electric system of San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation. The line will be of steel tower construction, the initial installation being one circuit operating at 165,000 volts. Provision will be made for ultimate operation of two 220,000 volt circuits. The estimated cost of the initial installation is \$2,770,000.

The purpose of the line is to physically connect the systems of applicant and San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, both companies now being jointly controlled through stock ownership. Such inter-connection will make possible the interchange of blocks of power, resulting in better service conditions and certain economy of operation.

The franchises under which applicant desires to exercise its rights are as follows:

Ordinance No. 375 adopted by the Board of Supervisors, San Joaquin County, May 25, 1925. Ordinance No. 172 adopted by the Board of Supervisors, Merced County, June 1, 1925. Ordinance No. 133 adopted by the Board of Supervisors, Stanislaus County, June 8, 1925. Copies of these ordinances have been filed in this proceeding.

In general these ordinances grant the necessary rights and privileges for building and operating electric distribution systems for a period of 50 years. Applicant paid for each franchise the sum of \$100., there being also certain incidental costs of acquiring each franchise. Applicant will file with this Commission a resolution of its Board of Directors, duly and legally passed, to the effect that applicant, its successors, transferees and assigns, will never urge before this Commission or other regulatory body any value for these franchises in excess of actual cost of same to applicant. Provision will be made in the accompanying order to have the authority herein granted become effective upon supplemental order of the Commission, such supplemental order to issue upon the filing of said resolution with the Commission. Counsel for applicant stated that his company will exercise, under the franchises in question, only such rights and privileges as are necessary to construct and operate the proposed transmission line, and the accompanying order will so limit applicant's activity.

In granting the certificate of public convenience and

necessity requested the Commission does not undertake to pass upon the present expediency of the expenditures involved, but reserves this question for consideration in connection with future rate cases dealing with the utilities involved.

I hereby submit the following form of order:

ORDER

Great Western Power Company of California, having asked the Railroad Commission to make its order certifying that public convenience and necessity require the construction of an electric transmission line inter-connecting the systems of applicant and San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, and the exercise of those rights and privileges granted applicant under Ordinance No. 375 passed May 25, 1925, by the Board of Supervisors of San Joaquin County, Ordinance No. 172 passed June 1, 1925, by the Board of Supervisors of Merced County, and Ordinance No. 133 passed June 8, 1925, by the Board of Supervisors of Stanislaus County, public hearing having been held and good cause appearing;

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby declares that public convenience and necessity require, and will require the construction and operation of an electric transmission line inter-connecting the system of applicant and the system of San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, which proposed electric transmission line is more particularly described in Application No. 11295.

The Railroad Commission further declares that public convenience and necessity require, and will require, the exercise by Great Western Power Company of California, its successors and assigns of the rights and privileges conferred upon it by Ordinance No. 375 passed May 25, 1925, by the Board of Supervisors of San Joaquin County, Ordinance No. 172 passed June 1, 1925, by the Board of Supervisors of Merced County, and Ordinance No. 133 passed June 8,

1925, by the Board of Supervisors of Stanislaus County, insofar as the exercise of such rights and privileges are necessary to the construction and operation of an electric transmission line interconnecting the system of applicant and the system of San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation and for no other purpose.

The authority herein granted will become effective upon the supplemental order of this Commission.

The foregoing opinion and order are hereby approved and ordered filed as the opinion and order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 12th day of September, 1925.

O. Searcy

Leon Whitell

Commissioners.