

Decision No. 16453.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of
FARMERS IRRIGATION COMPANY
for an order and certificate author-
izing it to exercise franchises.

Application No. 12565.

Farrard & Slosson, by Leonard B. Slosson,
for applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Farmers Irrigation Company, a corporation, applicant in the above entitled proceeding, is engaged in the public utility business of supplying water for irrigation purposes in and about the City of Santa Paula, in Ventura County. This company asks the Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to extend its irrigation service in certain territory heretofore under franchise to the Limoneira Company, whose rights applicant proposes to acquire by purchase under the terms of an agreement already entered into by and between the above mentioned parties.

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

From the evidence it appears that at the time of the

filing of the application herein there was pending before the Commission for decision Application No. 12469, filed by said Farmers Irrigation Company, in which authority was requested to issue stock and certain promissory notes for the purpose of paying for additional property, refunding indebtedness and financing the cost of additions and improvements to the system. The property which it was desired to acquire in this proceeding consisted of certain pipe lines and franchises owned and controlled by the Limoneira Company. The request of the irrigation company was granted by the Commission in Decision No. 16005, dated February 15, 1926, which decision however forbade the Farmers Irrigation Company to make any charges for service rendered to consumers on the lines to be acquired from the Limoneira Company until such time as a certificate of public convenience and necessity had been obtained from the Commission. The testimony presented in the instant case shows that applicant has now acquired the pipe lines and franchises as authorized in the above mentioned decision No. 16006, and therefore is at this time in a position to request, and has so requested, that it be granted a final certificate to operate as a public utility in the territory embraced in the original application, notwithstanding the prayer in the application herein for an order preliminary to the issuance of such certificate.

The pipe lines and properties acquired from the Limoneira Company will enable the applicant to render a more dependable water service to its present consumers, as well as provide a means of extending its irrigation service to accommodate a large area in great need of water for irrigation purposes. Applicant will operate these newly acquired properties in conjunction with and as a part of its existing system, and therefore should be authorized to charge the same rates for service rendered as

heretofore established for this company.

There is no other public utility water system supplying water in this territory, and as no one opposed the granting of this application it appears that the request should be approved.

O R D E R

Farmers Irrigation Company, a corporation, having made application as entitled above for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to extend its public utility service to include certain territory in which it has now acquired the county franchise rights to so operate, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted, and the Commission being now fully informed thereon,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require and will require that Farmers Irrigation Company, a corporation, operate a water system to supply water for irrigation and other purposes to consumers located in the territory authorized by franchises originally granted to the Limoneira Company by Ordinances Numbers 221 and 223, passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura on the 24th day of November, 1922, and on the 7th day of August, 1923, respectively, true and certified copies of said ordinances being attached to and made a part of the application herein.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the Farmers Irrigation Company, a corporation, be and it is hereby authorized to charge for all service rendered in the territory for which certificate is granted herein, the same schedule of rates now in

effect on its present system.

The authority herein granted shall become effective
on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9th day
of April, 1926.

H. R. Bunnidge
C. H. H. H.
E. H. H. H.

Commissioners.