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Decision No. 17993



BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of COAST COUNTIES GAS AND ELECTRIC COM- PANY, a corporation, for an order of the Railroad Commission authorizing said company to issue and sell 3500 shares of its first preferred capital stock at not less than 94 percent of the par value thereof.

Application No. 13491

Leo H. Susman, for applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

## OPINION

Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company asks permission to issue and sell, at not less than 94 percent of par value,\$350,000. of its first preferred six percent stock for the purpose of financing the cost of additions and betterments to its electric and gas plants and systems.

In a former application, No. 13307, filed with the Commission on November 8, 1926, the company reported that up to September 30, 1926, it had expended \$817,747.62 in making additions and betterments to its properties, no part of which had been obtained from the sale of bonds, stock or other securities, but, according to the testimony of W.W.Kamm, applicant's secretary, from surplus earnings and moneys represented by its reserve for depreciation. By Decision No. 17706, dated November 3, 1926, the Commission authorized the company to issue and sell \$500,000. of preferred stock to reimburse its treasury and reserves and to fi-

nance permanently in part the reported expenditures of \$817,747.62 and to pay in part for construction expenditures to be made subsequent to September 30, 1926.

The company now reports that it has sold all of the \$500,000 of stock authorized by Decision No. 17706 and that in addition subscriptions were received for approximately \$350,000. of stock in excess of the amount authorized. Applicant has therefore filled this petition at this time for permission to issue \$350,000. of additional stock. It reports, in support of its request, that up to December 31, 1926 it had expended for additions and betterments the sum of \$573,866.35 which has not been paid or provided through the issue of securities. The amount is determined as follows:

Applicant reports that it has incurred a cost of about two dollars per share to sell the 5000 shares of stock authorized by Decision No. 17706.

The testimony herein indicates that the proceeds to be received from the sale of the \$350,000.00 of stock will be used chiefly to pay 1927 construction costs. These costs were described in a tentative budget filed in Application No. 13307, but have since been revised, and as revised, have been submitted in

this proceeding as Exhibit "I". Summarized, the estimated expenditures are as follows:

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT:	
New consumers \$215,000.	
Santa Cruz substation 27.900.	
Aptos substation 5.700.	
Hollister substation 12,400.	
Pacheco substation 11.500.	
Gilroy substation 32,800.	
Morgan Hill substation 17.800.	
Coyote substation 19,800.	
San Juan substation 4,600.	
Watsonville-Betabel line 24,000.	
Coyote-Morgan Hill Line 25,000.	
Warehouses and garages 18,000.	
Miscellaneous and contingencies 77,950.	·
Total electric department	\$492,450.
GAS DEPAREMENT:	
New consumers 50,000.	
Pittsburg Gas Works 17,000.	
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Gilroy gas works 3,000.	
Santa Cruz-Watsonville line 145,600.	
Miscellaneous and contingencies 64,500.	341.600.
Total gas department	54T* 000 €
GENERAL:	
Gilroy office building 20.000.	
Transportation equipment 9,800.	
Total general	29,800.
Total	#06% 050
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The company asks permission to use an amount not exceeding four percent of the par value of stock sold to pay stock selling expenses and commissions. Such an allowance we believe is excessive. The order herein will allow the expenditure of not more than two percent for said purposes.

## ORDER

Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company having applied to the Railroad Commission for pormission to issue stock, a public hearing having been held before Examiner Fankhauser and the Railroad Commission being of the opinion that the money, property or labor to be procured or paid for through such issue is reasonably required for the purposes specified herein and that the expenditures for such purposes are not in whole or in part reasonably chargeable to operating expense or to income,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company be, and it hereby is, authorized to issue and sell on or before December 31, 1927, at not less than 94 percent of par value, \$350,000.00 of its first preferred capital stock.

The authority herein granted is subject to the following conditions:-

- (1) Of the proceeds to be received from the sale of the stock herein authorized, applicant may use an amount not exceeding two percent of the par value of stock sold to pay commissions and expenses incident to the sale of the stock, and may use the remaining proceeds, and such portion of the two percent not needed to pay commissions and expenses incident to the sale of the stock, to reimburse its reserves and treasury and to finance permanently construction expenditures made prior to December 31, 1926, and to pay in part for construction expenditures, referred to in Exhibit "I". to be made during 1927, provided that only such construction expenditures as are properly chargeable to fixed capital accounts under the Uniform Systems of Accounts prescribed by this Commission, may be financed through the use of such proceeds.
  - (2) Applicant shall keep such record of the issue and sale of the stock herein authorized and of the disposition of the proceeds as will enable it to file, on or before the 25th day of each month a verified report, as

required by the Reilroad Commission's General Order No. 24, which order, insofar as applicable, is made a part of this order.

(3) The authority herein granted will become effective upon the date hereof.

DATED at San Francisco, California, this \_\_\_\_\_day of February, 1927.

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Commissioners.