

Decision No. 18504

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of  
FRANK MERKLE and FRANK MERKLE, Jr.,  
for permission to operate as a  
public utility as a water company  
to sell water for domestic purposes  
under the fictitious name of  
"Gloria Gardens Water Company."

**ORIGINAL**

Application No. 13567.

Frank Merkle, Jr., for applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In the above entitled application Frank Merkle and Frank Merkle, Jr., doing business under the fictitious name of Gloria Gardens Water Company, asks authority to operate a public utility water system to serve water to Tracts No. 5501 and No. 8898, in Los Angeles County.

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

The evidence shows this water system was installed to aid in the sale of lots in Tracts No. 5501 and No. 8898 comprising a total of approximately 106 acres subdivided into 286 lots of various sizes. The water supply is obtained from a well equipped with a deep well turbine pump connected automatically with a 2,000-gallon pressure tank which delivers water through the distribution mains at a working pressure varying from 16 to 38 pounds. It is claimed that the well will produce 60 miner's inches of water which with the present equipment furnishes an adequate water supply to the

eighty consumers now connected to the system, and will provide service for a substantial increase of demand. The pipe lines are of two and three-inch second-hand casing reconditioned and dipped.

The system was installed before the streets and alleys were dedicated to the public and a county franchise was therefore not required to install the pipe lines.

Applicant was the original owner of the subdivided land and still holds property valued at \$30,000. The evidence indicates that he is financially able to operate the water system and make any repairs or improvements necessary.

The rates requested by applicant, except for metered service, have been in effect for some time. Said rates are reasonable under the present operating conditions and compare favorably with the rates charged by other utilities operating in the general vicinity under similar circumstances.

#### O R D E R

Frank Merkle and Frank Merkle, Jr., doing business under the fictitious name and style of Gloria Gardens Water Company, having made application to this Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate a public utility water system to supply water to consumers in Los Angeles County, a public hearing having been held thereon, and the matter having been submitted and the Commission being now fully advised in the premises,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require and will require that Frank Merkle and Frank Merkle, Jr., doing business under the fictitious name and style of Gloria Gardens Water Company, construct and operate a water system for the purpose of supplying water for domestic purposes in Tracts No. 5510 and No. 8898, in Los Angeles County.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that said Frank Morkle and Frank Merkle, Jr., be and they are hereby authorized and directed to file with the Railroad Commission of the State of California within thirty (30) days of the date of this order the following schedule of rates to be charged for all service rendered subsequent to July 1, 1927.

MONTHLY FLAT RATE

For each house on one lot-----	\$ 1.00
For dairy barns-----	2.00
Additional for each head of stock-----	.15
School-----	3.00

METER RATE  
MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGES

5/8 inch meter-----	\$ 1.25
3/4 " "-----	1.75
1 " "-----	2.50
1 1/2 " "-----	3.50
2 " "-----	5.00

Each of the foregoing monthly minimum charges will entitle the consumers to the amount of water which that monthly minimum charge will purchase at the "Monthly Meter Rates" set out below:

MONTHLY METER RATES

0 to 500 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	\$ .25
500 to 1,500 " " " " " "-----	.20
1,500 to 5,000 " " " " " "-----	.15
5,000 to 10,000 " " " " " "-----	.12
All over 10,000 " " " " " "-----	.10

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 money so advanced shall be refunded to the depositor as credits on monthly bills for water furnished at the rate of thirty per cent of the total amount of such monthly bill.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Frank Merkle and Frank Merkle, Jr., be and they are hereby directed to file with the Rail-

road Commission within thirty (30) days from the date of this order rules and regulations governing the distribution of water to its consumers, said rules and regulations to become effective upon their acceptance for filing by this Commission.

For all other purposes the effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of

June, 1927.

Emmerson  
H. B. Sandage  
Chas. H. ...  
Lion ...  
Thos. ...  
Commissioners