

ORIGINALDecision No. 19686

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
Chichizola Estate Company for a cer-
tificate or order authorizing ap-
plicant to discontinue public ser-
vice and distribution of water at
Jackson Gate, Amador County, California.

Application No. 14386.

Wm. G. Snyder, by Ralph McGee,
for Applicant.

T.G. Negrich, for Protestants.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding, Chichizola Estate Company, a corporation, owning and operating a public utility water system at Jackson Gate, near Jackson, Amador County, asks for authority to discontinue the water service to its consumers. Applicant alleges in effect that, in order to continue the service, it will be necessary to expend several thousand dollars for the installation of new mains; that the system is being operated at a loss under the rates in effect; that to provide a proper return upon the investment in the water system would require an increase in rates greater than the consumers could afford to pay. Applicant further alleges that it is ready and willing to give the present system to the consumers without cost, provided it is permitted to discontinue its utility service.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held before Examiner Rowell at Jackson.

The water supply of this utility is purchased from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's ditch system and conveyed to a small regulating reservoir, from which it is distributed to about twenty-two consumers, all but one of which is metered. There is a total of 7,000 feet of mains on the system.

The rates in effect were established by the Commission in its Decision No. 12005, dated May 2, 1923, (23 C.R.C. 393), and are as follows:

Monthly Meter Rates:

0 to 2,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----\$0.10
Over 2,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet----- .05

Monthly Minimum Meter Rates:

For 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter-----\$2.00

Monthly Flat Rates:

Each dwelling or building, per month-----\$2.00

The question of the discontinuance of public utility service by this applicant was before the Commission in 1923, at which time such permission was refused. The evidence in this proceeding shows that this company has been supplying water continuously to its consumers for a period of forty years last past and that the consumers have no other source of water service available that can be procured at a reasonable cost. The present pipe lines have become almost entirely worn-out and require immediate replacement, and at the present time the company has already under construction a new and independent water system which it desires to devote solely to supplying its own private enterprises, although the system can also adequately furnish the needs of all its present consumers and many others in addition thereto who are willing and anxious to receive utility service.

