

Decision No. 20221.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
 PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, a
 corporation, to withdraw and cancel
 electric rate schedules applicable
 to service in the Richmond Division
 of the Western States Gas and
 Electric Company of California and
 designated as Schedules A, B, C, D,
 E, F, G, H(a), H(b), J, and K, etc.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 14895.

C. P. Cutten, for Applicant.

Thos. M. Carlson, City Attorney for
City of Richmond.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding Pacific Gas and Electric Company asks the Railroad Commission to make its order granting applicant permission to withdraw and cancel electric rate schedules applicable to service in the Richmond Division of Western States Gas and Electric Company, and authorizing the substitution therefor of applicant's regularly filed schedules of electric rates generally applicable to electric service in the territory of its East Bay Division. Further, that applicant be allowed to retain certain electric rate schedules of Western States Gas and Electric Company designated as Schedules D, E, F, and H(a) as deviations from filed schedules to be applicable to those consumers who are now actually receiving service under these particular schedules of rates.

A public hearing in this matter was held in Richmond before Examiner Gannon on August 14, 1928, at which time

evidence was introduced and the matter submitted for decision. No one appeared at the hearing to protest the application.

The general effect of the proposed changes is a material reduction in the rates to a majority of consumers, particularly domestic and residential consumers. The reasons advanced for such a reduction are twofold, viz; the encouraging of a greater domestic use of electricity, and the desirability of having uniform schedules over the territory of the applicant. The schedules which it is proposed to retain as deviations would be available only to consumers now supplied under those schedules at the option of such consumers.

The territory involved in this application is, in so far as service conditions are concerned, in the same situation as the East Bay Division of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and the rate schedule should, so far as possible, conform to the rate schedule in effect in the East Bay Division.

The retention of certain rate schedules of Western States Gas and Electric Company, designated as Schedules D, E, F, and H(a), would unquestionably work a discrimination against other consumers served under regular schedules. The denial of those proposed deviations to new consumers in no way lessens the discrimination but rather makes such discrimination more acute.

We are, therefore, of the opinion that applicant's request to place schedules applying in its East Bay Division in effect should be granted but that its prayer to retain certain designated schedules of Western States Gas and Electric Company should be denied and the order will so provide.

While some slight increase in monthly bills of certain consumers will result from the proposed change, the consumers as a whole will benefit under the new schedules.

O R D E R

Pacific Gas and Electric Company having applied to

the Railroad Commission for authority to make effective certain electric rate schedules in the Richmond Division of Western States Gas and Electric Company, a public hearing having been held and the Commission being of the opinion that such authority should be granted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that

1. Effective October 1, 1928, Pacific Gas and Electric Company is authorized to make effective in Richmond Division of Western States Gas and Electric Company, the filed electric schedules applying in Pacific Gas and Electric Company's East Bay Division.

2. That portion of the application relating to the retention of certain electric rate schedules as deviations be and the same is hereby denied.

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 17th day of September, 1928.

Leon Cowhelly
Albany
Ernest G. ...
John ...
M. J. ...
 Commissioners.