

Decision No. 20294

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

J.L. James, et al.,
Complainants,

vs.

California Water Service Company,
a corporation,
Defendant.

ORIGINAL

Case No. 2583.

McCutchen, Olney, Mannon & Greene,
by Allan P. Matthew, for Defendant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding, J.L. James and five hundred and twenty-two other consumers of California Water Service Company at Oroville, Butte County, ask the Commission to reduce the rates charged for water, alleging that the existing rates are exorbitant.

The company, in its answer, alleges in effect that the complaint arose as a result of the recent action of the company in placing the system on a metered basis instead of the former flat rate method which had heretofore been the practice; that, after a great many consumers had protested against the meter charges, the company voluntarily offered all water users the option of having their water service billed either at flat rates or under the metered schedule, and that said offer has resulted in many consumers electing to take service on the flat rate basis. The answer further alleges that the company believes that it has removed and satisfied the cause of complaint and asks that the matter be dismissed.

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

But one consumer appeared at the hearing and this consumer stated that he had no objection whatever to the rates as now charged by the utility. Testimony presented by representatives of the utility shows that an earnest effort has been made to provide an opportunity for the consumers to select a rate which would eliminate further cause of complaint and these said representatives stated that, in their opinion, the former dissatisfaction had been entirely removed and that the present optional rates have met with the approval of the complainants herein. In view of the fact that the matters complained of in this proceeding have been satisfied by defendant company, the case therefore will be dismissed.

O R D E R

Complaint having been filed as entitled above, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted and the Commission being now fully advised in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above entitled proceeding be and the same is hereby dismissed without prejudice.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13th
day of December, 1922.

Leon A. Cull
Chairman
Frank W. ...
Paul S. ...
M. A. ...
Commissioners.