

Decision No. 21801

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Investigation  
upon the Commission's Own Motion  
into the rates, charges, classifica-  
tions, rules, regulations, practices  
and contracts of Modesto Gas Company.

Case No. 2748.

Frank A. Cressey, Jr., for Modesto Gas Company.

C. C. Brown, Gas Administrator, Railroad Commission.

DECOTO - COMMISSIONER.

O P I N I O N .

This proceeding, Case No. 2748, is an investigation, instituted upon the Commission's own motion into the rates, charges, classifications, rules, regulations, practices and contracts or any of them of Modesto Gas Company.

A public hearing was held before Commissioner Decoto upon this matter at 10:00 A. M., October 2, 1929, at Modesto, California.

Testimony introduced at the above mentioned hearing established the fact that Modesto Gas Company is now and, for many years past, has been serving to the consumers of its territory manufactured oil gas of 550 B. T. U. quality at rates established by the Commission.

Mr. Frank A. Cressey, Jr., President of Modesto Gas Company, stated that it is the desire of the utility to substitute, as soon as possible, the service of straight natural gas for the present service of 550 B. T. U. Oil gas, at the present volumetric rates and schedules under which service is now being rendered.

He further stated that all ordinary appliance adjustments would

be made by the utility at no expense to the consumers and that the service of straight natural gas, containing substantially twice the heat units per cubic foot as the manufactured gas would result in a material reduction in the consumer's monthly gas bills; that it was very probable that natural gas service would be started by February of 1930, provided a satisfactory contract covering the sale and purchase of wholesale natural gas could be agreed upon between Modesto Gas Company and Pacific Gas & Electric Company and approved by the Commission.

It appears that the gas schedules of Modesto Gas Company can be readily adopted to the service of straight natural gas, that the service of straight natural gas under such schedules will result in a substantial reduction in consumer's monthly gas bills, and that it is the intent and desire of Modesto Gas Company to render such service under the present schedules at the earliest possible time which at most will be but a few months hence.

In the light of these facts it seems desirable that this proceeding be dismissed.

I recommend the following form of order:

O R D E R

The Railroad Commission of the State of California having upon its own motion instituted an investigation, Case No. 2748, into the rates, charges, classifications, rules, regulations, practices and contracts of Modesto Gas Company, public hearing having been held, the matter being submitted and now ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Case No. 2748 be and the same is dismissed, subject to the following conditions and not otherwise:

1. That Modesto Gas Company shall as soon as possible file with the Commission for its acceptance and

approval copies of all natural gas purchase contracts under which it intends to purchase natural gas.

2. That Modesto Gas Company exert every effort to institute, at the earliest possible date, an adequate and satisfactory service of straight natural gas to its consumers.

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

The foregoing opinion and order are hereby approved, and ordered filed, as the opinion and order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1929.

Frank Loutin  
Chas. E. Sawyer  
Ernest W. Smith  
Leon C. Whiteley  
W. J. Lane  
Commissioners.