

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 22907

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

G.M. WILSON, as Mayor of the City of Hanford, County of Kings, State of California, and OSCAR F. ABBOTT, F.J. BOWDEN, J.V. BOWMAN, HUGO BUCKNER, J.S. BURRIS, E.R. BERGEZ, R.H. CHAUNCEY, C.C. CROW, BERNARD COE, O.E. CHRISTENSEN, C.E. DENHAM, J.J. DAWSON, OTTO R. GRIEBI, MRS. A.M. O'BRIEN, SAM H. HIRD, O.M. LACEY, BESSIE MCCORD, J.E. COOPER, O.A. RATHBUN, JOHN H. SMITH, H.F. SHOEMAKER, WILLIAM TARR, O.V. TODD, T.L. TAYLOR, and STANLEY E. REINHARD,

Complainants,

vs.

Case No. 2573.

HANFORD WATER COMPANY, a corporation,

Defendant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

This proceeding was brought by Mayor G.M. Wilson and twenty-five other residents of Hanford, Kings County, against the Hanford Water Company, a corporation, and alleges in effect that the company has increased the charges for water service to approximately four hundred of its consumers without the authority of the Railroad Commission. It was further alleged that the increased charges for water service would produce a greater net return than the company was entitled to earn. The Commission was asked to require the company to charge for water service as it had in the past and to refund to the consumers all

of the excessive charges collected.

At an informal conference between representatives of the city, the company and of the Railroad Commission, it was decided to have the Commission's engineers make an investigation of the company's affairs and submit to the city and the company a report setting out the results of operation, together with a rate schedule that would eliminate unfair discrimination and eliminate further controversy over the rates and at the same time produce a reasonable return on the company's investment. During the interval the company agreed to return to the basis of charging in effect prior to the filing of the complaint herein.

The investigation showed that the Hanford Water Company recently had been acquired by the California Water Service Company, a corporation. As a result of a survey of the consumers' premises made by the new owners, it was found that many of the water users were not paying the full charges actually provided by the effective rate schedule, while other users were. In order to avoid this discrimination, the company billed all consumers in accordance with the effective schedule of rates, computing the bills, however, on the basis of the new survey of the premises. This action resulted in a considerable increase in revenue to the company by reason of the fact that more consumers had to pay increased charges than those who received a reduction. This situation resulted in the complaint herein being filed with the Commission.

The investigation of the Commission's engineers covered five years' operations of the company and the report thereon pro-

posed two rate schedules, either of which would eliminate former unreasonable discrimination between water users. The company and the representatives of the city and complainants accepted one of the above mentioned schedules of rates which is set out in the following Order and asked that, upon establishment of this schedule by this Commission, this proceeding be dismissed without a hearing.

In view of the agreement of the company and the representatives of the consumers upon a rate schedule, it has not seemed necessary to go into matters of valuation and rate of return that would be taken up in a complete rate case.

O R D E R

Complaint having been made as entitled above and the matters complained of having been satisfied by agreement by and between the various interested parties; now, therefore

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

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY, a corporation, be and it is hereby directed to file with this Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, the following schedule of rates for all water delivered to consumers in Hanford, Kings County, subsequent to September 30, 1930:

MONTHLY FLAT RATES

For every dwelling house, tenement, flat or apartment house, of five rooms or less-----	\$1.00	
For each additional room-----	.15	
For toilets or bathtubs in private residence, each----	.25	
For public bathtubs, used in bathing establishments, boarding houses and barber shops, each-----	1.50	
For public toilets or urinals-----	1.50	
For restaurants or eating houses-----	1.50	to \$5.00
For small stores and warehouses-----	1.00	
For larger stores-----	1.50	to 3.00
For rooms on second and third floors, as offices, each	.50	
For photograph galleries-----	2.50	to 4.00
For bakeries, for each 25 barrels used-----	1.50	
For drug stores without soda fountain-----	2.50	to 3.00
For drug stores with soda fountain-----	3.00	to 5.00
For blacksmith shops-----	1.00	to 3.00
For livery, feed and sales stables, including water for washing vehicles, for each horse-----	.25	
For private stable, including water for washing vehicles, for each horse or cow-----	.25	
For building and plastering, for each barrel of lime-----	.10	
For water used by bricklayers to make mortar and dampen bricks, for each 1,000 bricks-----	.10	
For barber shops, one chair-----	1.00	
For each additional chair-----	.50	
For pool rooms-----	1.00	to 4.00
For public garages and service stations-----	1.00	to 6.00
For churches, each-----	1.00	
For public halls or lodge rooms-----	1.00	to 3.00
For irrigation of lawns, gardens and grounds, to be charged only during the irrigation season from May 1 to November 1, per square yard-----	.006	
If paid each month in the year, per square yard---	.003	
For irrigation of 50 square yards or less for a 6-months' period, minimum charge-----	.30	
If paid each month of the year-----	.15	
For Chinese wash-house-----	3.00	to 10.00
For laundries-----	5.00	to 10.00
For use of hose in front of stores and shops, for washing windows and sprinkling sidewalks-----	.50	to 1.00

City of Hanford furnishes free water for fire-fighting and fire drills.

Hanford Grammar School, per pupil per year based on average attendance-----	.10
Hanford Union High School, for water used for High School building, lawn sprinkling and agricultural department-----	22.00 per month
Kings County Court House, water used for Court House building, county jail and lawn sprinkling-----	30.00 per month

All other uses to be paid for at measured rates.

METER RATES

Minimum Monthly Charges:

5/8-inch meter-----	\$1.00
3/4-inch meter-----	1.50
1-inch meter-----	2.50
1 1/2-inch meter-----	4.50
2-inch meter-----	7.00
3-inch meter-----	12.50
4-inch meter-----	20.00

Each of the foregoing "Minimum Monthly Charges" will entitle the consumer to the quantity of water which that minimum monthly charge will purchase at the following "Monthly Quantity Rates:"

Monthly Quantity Rates:

0 to 2,500 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	\$0.125
2,500 to 5,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.15
5,000 to 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.09
Over 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.06

City of Hanford, for street sprinkling purposes---\$.05 per 1,000 gallons.

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 26th day of September, 1930.

Clarence  
Wm. J. Coe  
Thos. J. Latta  
Leon White  
M. A. Cur  
 Commissioners.