

Decision No. 23318

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
WILLIAM FRASER for a certificate of
public convenience and necessity
authorizing him to construct a plant
or system in the Town of Weott,
County of Humboldt, for the purpose
of selling water to the inhabitants
thereof and adjacent thereto.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 17011.

Eugene S. Selvage, for Applicant.
E.M. McKee, for Consumers' Committee.
W.J. Curry, in persona propria.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In the above entitled proceeding William Fraser asks that he be granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate a water works to serve residents living in and near the unincorporated Town of Weott, Humboldt County. It is alleged that there are approximately sixty homes in and about the Town of Weott which will require an adequate supply of water and that about thirty of the present inhabitants are now being supplied with water obtained from springs by one W.J. Curry who has informed applicant that he is willing and ready to transfer to him his water works and water properties.

A public hearing in the above entitled matter was held before Examiner Williams at Weott.

From the evidence it appears that applicant has developed

a well in the Town of Weott from which he intends to obtain his water supply. He also owns other properties from which additional water may be obtained from wells if necessary. Applicant proposes to expend approximately \$5,500 in the installation of storage tanks, pipe lines and the use and acquisition of the mains now used by Curry in supplying a few consumers who have purchased land from him. It appears that, instead of the forty water users as alleged in the application, Curry supplies only four consumers under temporary arrangements and for accommodation purposes, service to be continued until such time as an adequate supply of water may be obtained from other sources. It further appears that there are at the present about forty prospective consumers in the community, the majority of whom are now receiving water from various neighbors and from private and individual wells. The testimony indicates that for the past several years efforts have been made to have a comprehensive water system installed, capable of serving the entire community of Weott. An effort has been made by one E.M. McKee to organize a mutual water system. Both Mr. McKee and Mr. Curry have stated that they are in favor of the construction and operation by applicant of a public utility water system to supply the town and have no objections thereto.

It is clear from the record in this proceeding that the water service now being rendered by W.J. Curry is not public utility in character but is temporary only and for the purposes of accommodation and for this reason no authority from this Commission will be necessary for the acquisition by applicant of all or any part of the distribution mains now owned by said Curry. Unquestionably, there is an urgent need of a comprehensive water

system to supply this community and under the circumstances the authority to operate a public utility water system should be granted. Applicant has not as yet obtained from the county authorities any franchise, permit or consent to occupy or cross county roads, highways or alleys. An application for such franchise, permit or consent has been made and very probably will be obtained within the course of the next month or so. Applicant has stipulated at the hearing that neither he nor his assigns will ever claim for such franchise, permit or consent, if and when obtained, any value therefor in excess of the actual cost of acquiring the same. Under such circumstances, the Commission will issue a preliminary certificate of public convenience and necessity, effective only upon issuance of a supplemental order if and when the necessary authority is obtained from the Board of Supervisors of Humboldt County.

The schedule of rates which applicant has requested this Commission to authorize appears to be just and reasonable for the service to be rendered and compares favorably with other schedules in effect for similar service rendered by other public utilities operating in this general section of the State.

O R D E R

Application having been made to this Commission 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,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby declares that public convenience and necessity require

and will require that William Fraser construct and operate a water system in and in the vicinity of the Town of Weott, County of Humboldt, and

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that William Fraser be and he is hereby authorized and directed to file with this Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, the following schedule of rates to become effective only as authorized by further Order of this Commission.

FLAT RATES

Residences-----	\$1.50 per month
Hotels and commercial boarding houses-----	4.00 per month
Stores and shops-----	2.00 per month
Other commercial use, according to amount of water-----	\$1.50 to 4.00 per month

MEASURED RATES

Minimum Monthly Charges:

3/8 and 3/4-inch meter-----	\$1.50
1-inch meter-----	3.00
1 1/2-inch meter-----	5.00
2-inch meter-----	7.50
3-inch meter-----	12.00

Each of the foregoing "Minimum Monthly Charges" will entitle the consumer to the quantity of water which that minimum will purchase at the "Monthly Meter Rates" set out as follows:

Monthly Meter Rates:

From 0 to 1500 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet---	\$0.20
All over 1500 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet---	0.15

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that William Fraser be and he is hereby directed to file with this Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, rules and regulations governing relations with his consumers, such rules and regulations to become effective upon their acceptance for filing

by this Commission.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the authority herein granted shall become effective only upon the securing by William Fraser of the proper franchise, permit or consent from the County of Humboldt for the construction and operation of a water system in and in the vicinity of the Town of Weott and the filing with this Commission of a certified copy thereof and the issuance by this Commission of a Supplemental Order herein.

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 9.6th day of January, 1931.

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Commissioners.