

Decision No. 23375

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

L. Ph. Bolander and
W.E. Hite,

vs.

Tomales Bay Land Company

Case No. 2936.

ORIGINAL

L. Ph. Bolander, for himself.

Dreher and McClellan, by J. Ed. McClellan,
for defendant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this complaint brought by L. Ph. Bolander, a consumer on the Inverness Park water system of Tomales Bay Land Company, it is alleged that the defendant herein does not supply sufficient water, that the system is neglected and without supervision and that the water supply would be adequate if properly conserved and not permitted to run to waste. The Commission is asked to order defendant to make all necessary repairs and to issue an order requiring that the system be properly operated and maintained in the future.

In answer defendant enters a general denial to all the allegations in the complaint and alleges further that complainant Bolander has neglected and refused to pay his water bill and that the real cause of the shortage of water is the excessive waste thereof by the consumers.

A public hearing in this matter was held at San Francisco before Examiner Satterwhite.

W.E. Hite, one of the original complainants herein, advised the Commission by letter that he was now satisfied with the service rendered his premises and asked to have his name withdrawn.

This water system serves a subdivision known as Inverness Park, located along and above the shores of Tomales Bay in Marin County. It is owned by E.S. Granucci and operated under the fictitious firm name and style of Tomales Bay Land Company. The water is collected from two springs and delivered into a 30,000-gallon storage tank through a two-inch transmission main somewhat less than two miles in length. The service area comprises a tract approximately one hundred and fifty acres in extent. There are now forty-four consumers served, of which about one-third are permanent residents, the others occupying their homes and cottages usually only during the summer months and for week-ends and holidays throughout the remainder of the year.

The evidence shows that the distribution system consists of two main pipe lines supplying two distinct and separate service zones. The northern section is supplied by a two-inch main taking off directly from the storage tank, while the southern section of the subdivision is served only by a one-inch pipe connected with the above two-inch main at a point about one hundred feet below the tank. There are seventeen consumers wholly dependent for service upon this one-inch line which the testimony conclusively shows is entirely inadequate in size and improperly connected to the source of supply, with the result that there is no water available in a usable quantity for any of

the consumers in the southern zone when users are drawing on the two-inch line. This situation has forced complainant Bolander and his neighbors to carry their water in buckets practically throughout the entire summer season, creating not only a great inconvenience but also a serious menace to health from lack of proper sanitation. There is no valid excuse for the existence of such conditions and defendant will be required without delay to remedy this deplorable and inadequate service by the installation of a larger pipe line of an inside diameter of not less than two inches, extending from the storage tank to or near a point opposite the premises of lowest elevation now being supplied. This new line should be connected directly with the tank by a separate outlet connection or by a dual connection so installed as to permit either the north or south main to draw water upon equal terms and without excessive flow restriction. This entire installation shall be subject to the approval of this Commission and upon completion should provide a more satisfactory and adequate water service and eliminate the present causes of complaint.

O R D E R

Formal 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, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, E.S. Granucci, doing business under the fictitious firm name and style of Tomales Bay Land Company, shall file with this Commission, subject to its approval, plans for the

improvement of the water works supplying consumers in and in the vicinity of Inverness Park, Marin County, said improvement to provide for the installation in the southern section of the service area of a water main of not less than two inches internal diameter extending from the present storage tank to a point at or near the premises lowest in elevation in said section or to a point at or near the premises of the consumer farthest removed in distance from the storage tank, said main to replace the existing one-inch pipe line now supplying consumers in this section of Inverness Park and to be connected to the storage tank either by means of a separate and direct connection thereto or by such other method of connection as will be acceptable to this Commission; said improvements to be completed and in proper operating condition, in a manner acceptable to this Commission, on or before the fifteenth day of April, 1931.

The effective date of this Order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9th day of February, 1931.

C. J. Seaver
Leon Whitely
W. J. Lusk
W. B. Kinn
Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.