

DECISION NO. 3049

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Investigation on the Commission's own motion into the reasonableness and interpretation of the rules, regulations, practices and operations of Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation, Southern California Edison Company Ltd., Southern Sierras Power Company, San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Gas Company, and Southern Counties Gas Company, and more particularly as to Rules 17 and 24.

**ORIGINAL**

Case No. 3049

B. F. Woodward, for Southern California Edison Company, Ltd.

Paul Overton, for Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation.

Albert Cage, for Southern Sierras Power Company.

A. E. Holloway, for San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company.

LeRoy M. Edwards, for Southern Counties Gas Company.

L. S. Wing, for California Farm Bureau Federation.

T. A. Hunter and H. W. Howe, for certain intervening consumers.

F. B. Cole, for the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

COMMISSIONER, STEVENOT:

O P I N I O N

This is a proceeding in which this Commission, acting upon its own motion, has instituted an investigation into the reasonableness and interpretation of the rules, regulations and practices of the above named utilities respecting the consolidation or non-consolidation of separate meter readings for billing pur-

poses, and involving particularly Rules 17 and 24. This action was occasioned by the fact that a difference of interpretation and practice has been followed by these utilities in the application of the rules having to do with the combining of meter readings.

Public hearings were held in this matter in Los Angeles on May 28th and October 6th, 1931, and on the latter date the matter was submitted for decision.

During the course of the first hearing it appeared advisable that the utilities involved, form a Committee, including a representative of the Commission, to determine what changes, if any, should be made in the rules to bring about a uniform interpretation and practice. It also appeared desirable, in view of highly competitive conditions existing between the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation and the Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles, that a representative of the latter organization take part in the work of the Committee. Messrs. Lester S. Ready and Charles C. Snyder, while not authorized to make a formal appearance in behalf of the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, expressed through Mr. Ready their willingness to participate in the work of the Committee and a desire to co-operate with the Commission in every way possible.

Numerous conferences were held by this Committee and at the hearing on October 6th, 1931 its recommendations were presented to the Commission for consideration.

Analysis of the Committee's recommendations and examination of the record in this proceeding indicate that it is both desirable and practicable for the utilities involved herein to adopt a uniform rule respecting the combining of meter readings.

It is also evident from the record that a definition of the word Premises should be added to the rules. Owing, however, to the differently established practice of these utilities in connection with that part of Rule 24 covering the Resale of Electric Energy (or Gas) it appears reasonable to incorporate therein, provisions covering such respective practices.

Definition of the word Premises and revised Rules 17 and 24 are set forth in the order herein. While not applicable to facilities now existing of present consumers with respect to the combining of meter readings, these rules will, if made effective, obviate dissimilar practices in the future and should therefore be adopted.

I recommend the following form of order.

#### O R D E R

This proceeding having been instituted on the Commission's own motion to determine the reasonableness of certain rules and regulations, particularly Rules Nos. 17 and 24 of the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation, et al., the hearings having been held and the matters submitted and now ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The following Definition of Premises and Rule No. 17 entitled "Reading of Separate Meters not Combined" are hereby found to be a just and reasonable definition and rule and regulation to be established and adopted by the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation, Southern California Gas Company, Southern Counties Gas Company, Southern California Edison Company Ltd., Southern Sierras Power Company and San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company:

A.

DEFINITION OF PREMISES

The term "premises", as used herein, means all real property and apparatus employed in a single enterprise on an integral parcel of land undivided (excepting in the case of industrial, agricultural, oil field and resort enterprises and public or quasi-public institutions) by public highways or railways.

B.

RULE AND REGULATION

NO. 17

READINGS OF SEPARATE METERS NOT COMBINED

For the purpose of making charges each meter upon the consumer's premises will be considered separately and readings of two or more meters will not be combined except as follows:

- (a) Where combinations of meter readings are specifically provided for in rate schedules.
- (b) Where the maintenance of adequate service and/or where the Company's operating convenience shall require the installation of two or more meters upon the consumer's premises, instead of one meter.

(The application of Paragraph (b) shall be determined by the nature of the meter installation which would be made for new consumers enjoying a similar character of service).

2. The following Rule and Regulation No.24, entitled "Supply to Individual Premises and Resale of Electric Energy (or Gas)", is hereby found to be a just and reasonable rule and regulation, to be adopted by the Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation, Southern California Gas Company and Southern Counties Gas Company:

RULE AND REGULATION

NO. 24

SUPPLY TO INDIVIDUAL PREMISES AND RESALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY (OR GAS)

SUPPLY TO INDIVIDUAL PREMISES.

A separate meter installation is required for service to each premises irrespective of the identity of ownership or operation of several such premises; provided, however, that service may be rendered through one meter installation to two or more oil field premises operated by a single enterprise.

RESALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY (OR GAS).

Electric energy (or gas) supplied by the Company shall not be resold except to tenants of the premises directly supplied by the Company, and then only at rates not in excess of those prescribed in the Company's schedules for like service. The Company shall have the right to discontinue such service to any consumer violating this rule. This rule is not intended to apply to public utilities or municipalities purchasing energy under wholesale power schedules for resale purposes.

3. The following Rule and Regulation No. 24, entitled "Supply to Individual Premises and Resale of Electric Energy (or Gas)", as above, is hereby found to be a just and reasonable rule and regulation, to be adopted by Southern California Edison Company Ltd., Southern Sierras Power Company and San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company.

RULE AND REGULATION

NO. 24

SUPPLY TO INDIVIDUAL PREMISES AND RESALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY (OR GAS)

SUPPLY TO INDIVIDUAL PREMISES.

A separate meter installation is required for service to each premises irrespective of the identity of ownership or operation of several such premises; provided, however, that service may be rendered through one meter installation to two or more oil field premises operated as a single enterprise.

RESALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY (OR GAS).

No consumer shall resell any of the energy (or gas) received by him from the Company to any other person, firm or corporation on the consumer's premises or for use on any other premises, except that the owner or lessee of an apartment house, court group, or similar multiple dwelling may resell to the tenants therein, provided, that such energy (or gas) is resold at rates identical with the rates of the Company that would

apply in the event that energy (or gas) were supplied to the sub-consumer directly by the Company. In the event that such energy (or gas) is resold otherwise than as provided in this paragraph, the company shall have the right at its option, either to discontinue service to the consumer, or, to furnish electric energy (or gas) directly to the sub-consumer. This rule is not intended to apply to public utilities or municipalities purchasing energy under wholesale power schedules for resale purposes.

4. The above utilities are hereby directed to file and make effective on or before December 1, 1931 the definition and rules and regulations as above found just and reasonable for the respective utilities.

5. The effective date of this order is November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1931.

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 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1931.

Chas. J. ...  
Leon ...  
M. J. ...  
M. B. ...  
Fred G. ...  
Commissioners.