

Decision No. 25821

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application)
of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY,)
a corporation, for an order author-)
izing the discontinuance of gas)
service through a certain pipe line)
located near the City of Tehachapi,)
Kern County, California.)

APPLICATION NO. 18679.

ORIGINAL

L. T. Rice, for Southern California Gas Company.
G. M. McEntire, Protestant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application, Southern California Gas Company, a corporation, asks for an order authorizing it to discontinue gas service through a certain pipe line located near the city of Tehachapi, Kern County.

A public hearing in this matter was held on March 29, 1933, at Los Angeles, before Examiner Kennedy, at which time the matter was submitted. G. M. McEntire, the only consumer now served on this line, protested the granting of the application, on the ground that it would be inconvenient to be without gas service.

It appears that applicant in April, 1928, extended its gas line facilities southerly from the city of Tehachapi approximately 14,000 feet for the purpose of furnishing surplus natural gas to the Union Lime Company, having entered into a three-year contract

with this consumer to supply gas for use in connection with the consumer's lime kiln. Service was first rendered to said consumer on May 3, 1928, but continued only until October of the same year, when the consumer shut down its plant and ceased operations. It also appears that five domestic consumers, four of whom were employees of said consumer, were likewise supplied with gas service from the same gas main extension. The record shows that with the exception of G. M. McEntire, the fifth consumer and the protestant herein, no service has been taken since January 31, 1931; that no demand has been made by the Union Lime Company for further service, nor from the Summit Lime Company, owner of the lime property and plant, although the latter company was notified of this application by the protestant, who, it appears, is taking care of said plant and property for the aforesaid Summit Lime Company.

Applicant testified that the area served by said extension is subject to severe storms and that the extension has already on two separate occasions suffered considerable damage, with resultant expense for repairs; that there are no prospects of further business development on said extension, and that a net financial loss of not less than \$612.98 per annum is now being experienced by reason of its operations in the serving of the one consumer, who protests withdrawal of the service primarily on the grounds of inconvenience. The record shows that substitute fuel in the form of oak wood is immediately available and that it can be procured without any expense save the effort in gathering it. In view of the remote possibility of developing additional business, thus assisting in the curtailment of annual loss or more nearly justifying the investment, it appears not unreasonable to grant the application. The order herein shall so provide.

O R D E R

Southern California Gas Company having applied to the Railroad Commission for authority to discontinue gas service through a certain pipe line located near the city of Tehachapi, Kern County, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been duly submitted and being now ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Southern California Gas Company be and it is hereby authorized, effective June 1, 1933, to discontinue gas service on that certain extension described more fully in the application herein; provided that said facilities are removed on or before July 1, 1933.

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 17th day of April, 1933.

C. L. Lennings
Leon Whiteley
W. H. Lee
W. B. Harris
W. H. Harris
COMMISSIONERS.