

Decision No. 124

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BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFIC GAS and ELECTRIC COMPANY for a Certificate that the present or future public convenience and necessity require or will require the construction of two new hydro-electric plants, with reservoirs, dams, conduits ditches, flumes and appurtenances on and near Bear River, Placer County and the construction of an electrical transmission line from said plants through the counties of Placer, Nevada, Yuba, Sutter, Yolo and Solano to a point in Solano County opposite Crockett in Contra Costa County.

APPLICATION NO. 69.

Charles P. Cutten for applicant.

OPINION.

Thelen, Commissioner.

This application, as filed, asked for a certificate from this Commission that the present or future public convenience and necessity require or will require the construction of a line for the transmission of electricity from the two hydro-electric plants which applicant intends to construct on Bear River in Placer County, through the counties of Placer, Nevada, Yuba, Sutter, Yolo and Solano to applicant's North Tower station in Solano County opposite Crockett in Contra Costa County. Upon the hearing, applicant was permitted to amend its application so as to ask also for permission to construct the two new hydro-electric plants, with reservoirs, dams, conduits, ditches, flumes and appurtenances on Bear River, which were not covered by the application in its original form.

Applicant intends to construct on the South Yuba River a concrete dam 300 feet high, so as to impound some 3,500,000,000 cubic feet of water. This water will then be led through tunnels and open canals for a distance of some eight miles to a forebay or reservoir, whence the water will be conducted through a pipe line having a length of some 8000 feet with a vertical head of 1350 feet to the applicant's proposed power house on Bear River,

at a point northerly from Towle in Placer County. It is proposed at present to install four 10,000 kilowatt generators and at some time in the future to increase the output to about 100,000 kilowatts. From the power house the electrical energy will be conveyed through said transmission line to applicant's sub-station at Cordelia or at North Tower, the North Tower sub-station being the load center of applicant's system. 20,000 kilowatts will take the place of an equivalent amount of electrical energy which is now being purchased from Great Western Power Company under a contract which will expire in about one and one half years and the remaining 20,000 kilowatts of the first installation will be utilized to take care of applicant's growing business throughout northern and central California. The proposed transmission line will be double circuit steel tower construction, with about seven towers per mile. Applicant does not at present ask for permission to distribute from its proposed transmission line.

The cost of the first power house installation with a 40,000 kilowatt capacity and the transmission lines will be in the neighborhood of \$5,000,000. Applicant in 1911 arranged a general financial plan under which the work as to which application is now made, together with other work, will be financed. It will probably be necessary for applicant to apply to this Commission for permission to issue a portion of the stocks and bonds comprehended in said plan to secure a portion of the funds necessary to carry out the project now applied for.

Applicant has by itself or its predecessors in interest secured all the franchises necessary in connection with the subject matter of its application.

I find that public convenience and necessity will be subserved by the granting of the application and recommend that it be granted as prayed for as amended at the hearing. I submit herewith an order as follows:

O R D E R.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company having filed with this Commission its application for a certificate that public convenience and necessity require or will require the construction of two new

hydro-electric plants, with reservoirs, dams, conduits, ditches, flumes and appurtenances on and near Bear River, Placer County, and the construction of an electrical transmission line from said plants through the counties of Placer, Nevada, Yuba, Sutter, Yolo and Solano, to a point in Solano County opposite Crockett in Contra Costa County, and notice of the hearing of said application having been published as required by this Commission, and a public hearing having been held on said application, and the Commission finding as a fact that the present and future public convenience and necessity require or will require such construction,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that said application for such construction be and the same is hereby granted.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 3rd day of July, 1912.



W. Gordon
Max Thelen

Edwin O. Edgerton
Commissioners.