

Decision No. _____

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Decision No. 3552

In the matter of the application
of George H. Hall for a certifi-
cate of public convenience and
necessity.

} Application No. 2229.

S. C. Young, for applicant

Curtis Hillyer, for Plumas Light
and Power Company, Protestant.

BY THE COMMISSION.

O P I N I O N

This is an application of George H. Hall for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate an electric light and power system in the town of Taylorsville, Plumas County, and vicinity, under a franchise granted by the Board of Supervisors of said county.

Taylorsville is an unincorporated town of approximately 250 inhabitants, located in what is known as the Indian Valley. At the present time it is without electric energy for lighting and power purposes. Considerable testimony was presented at the hearing to show that a demand exists for such service.

Mr. Hall, the applicant herein, is the owner of a small sawmill in the town of Taylorsville. He proposes to construct a hydroelectric plant in connection with the saw-

mill, using the waters of Indian Creek which are to be diverted from the creek bed by a temporary dam to be reconstructed each year by an irrigation company which holds a right to the water below the proposed power site. The water is to be led through an old millrace some 3,000 feet.

An investigation was made by one of the Commission's engineers who reports that the maximum static head which can be obtained in this manner is ten feet. He further reports that in view of the prospective development of this section it is doubtful whether the energy thus generated will be sufficient to adequately serve the community.

Plumas Light and Power Company appeared at the hearing to protest against the granting of this application. This company has its headquarters at Greenville, Plumas County. It purchases power under contract from Great Western Power Company, serving the towns of Greenville and Crescent Mills and the United States Indian School. It now proposes to build a two-mile transmission line from Taylorsville to connect with the line of Great Western Power Company.

Plumas Light and Power Company alleges that it has long considered this territory as part of its legitimate field of operation and that only unforeseen difficulties in obtaining the necessary funds have prevented it from constructing its line into the town of Taylorsville.

Plumas Light and Power Company asks that the application be denied on the ground that it can furnish a more economical and satisfactory service than the applicant herein.

It appears that the present application is an effort on the part of the citizens of Taylorsville to secure electric energy after repeated promises of Plumas Light and Power Company to enter this territory remained unfulfilled. This territory is clearly entitled to electric energy and it is desirable that the same be supplied at the earliest possible moment. This section has undergone considerable growth during the last two years and its further development is being retarded by lack of proper power and lighting facilities.

In passing upon this application the Commission's primary interest is to see that this territory is supplied with electric energy at the earliest possible moment, and that the service rendered is of the most efficient and economical character.

As heretofore stated, considerable doubt exists as to the ability of applicant to furnish satisfactory service under the plan herein proposed. On the other hand, it appears that Plumas Light and Power Company is getting its affairs in shape so as to be able within the near future to complete its construction program. Recently the Commission has authorized the company to issue \$15,000 face value of notes. Of the proceeds, more than \$8,000 is to be used to build extensions which include the Taylorsville line and to make necessary improvements.

While commending the spirit displayed by Mr. Hall and his fellow citizens, we are of the opinion that final action on this application should be held in abeyance and Plumas Light and Power Company given a reasonable time to construct its Taylorsville line. We know of no reason why this line should not be constructed within ninety days from the date

of this order. If at the expiration of said ninety days Plumas Light and Power Company has not completed its Taylorsville line, the Commission will at the request of the applicant herein give this application further consideration.

We herewith submit the following form of order:

O R D E R

George H. Hall having applied to this Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate an electric distributing system in Taylorsville, Plumas County, and vicinity, under a franchise granted by the Board of Supervisors of said county, on the ninth day of March, 1916,

And a hearing having been held and it appearing to this Commission that for the reasons set forth in the foregoing opinion that final action on this application should be held in abeyance for ninety days from and after the date of this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that further consideration on application of George H. Hall for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate an electric power plant and distributing system in Taylorsville, Plumas County, and vicinity be held in abeyance for ninety days from and after the date of this order.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31st day of July, 1916.

Max Theiler
Alex. J. Gordon
Edwin O. Edgerton
Frank R. Quinn

Commissioners.