

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application
of WESTERN STATES GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY for an order extending time
for compliance with Chapter 499, Laws
of 1911, as amended by Chapter 600,
Laws of 1915.

Application No. 2203.

Decision No. 3669-

Chickering & Gregory, by Allen L. Chickering, for
Western States Gas and Electric Company.
J. Morgenthauer and William Rhys for Electrical Workers.

THELEN and DEVLIN, Commissioners.

O P I N I O N .

This is a petition for an extension of time within which to comply with the provisions of Chapter 499, Laws of 1911, as amended by Chapter 600, Laws of 1915; referring to the construction, reconstruction, maintenance and use of electric poles, wires, cables and appliances.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held in San Francisco on July 13, 1916.

For a statement of the law governing proceedings of this character and of the principles guiding the Railroad Commission in its decisions therein, reference is hereby made to the decision this day rendered in Application No. 2222, Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation, et al.

Petitioner owns and operates electric properties in and adjacent to Stockton, Richmond and Eureka.

Mr. Samuel Kahn, Vice-President of Western States Gas and Electric Company, testified that in the Stockton Division, reconstruction work must be done in the matter of clearances on the transmission lines and possibly some lowering of telephone lines, ^{and} that on the low tension lines the work has been almost completed, except that in the City of Stockton certain cross-arms must be painted and certain clearances made. He testified that

the work on the low tension lines will cost approximately \$6,500.00 and the work on the high tension lines approximately \$10,000.00. Petitioner has complied with the statute in all its new construction work and in its entire reconstruction, including the complete reconstruction of the distributing system in Stockton.

Mr. C. M. Brewer, manager of petitioner's Richmond Division, testified that approximately 85 per cent of petitioner's system in this division complies with the statute. The violations of the statute consist mostly of failure to observe the prescribed horizontal clearances. Mr. Brewer testified that it will take between \$2000.00 and \$3000.00 to complete the work.

In petitioner's Eureka Division, considerable reconstruction work has been done during the last few years. Petitioner presented an estimate of \$23,608.05 as being the total expense to be incurred in completing the reconstruction work in the Eureka Division.

Mr. Kahn asked for an extension of three years in connection with the Stockton Division. He testified that apart from the reconstruction work on the transmission lines, the work could be completed in six months. Petitioner owns about 200 miles of high tension lines in its Stockton Division, which lines run through a barren country, in part difficult of access. Mr. Kahn testified that if it were necessary to rush this work the cost thereof might be doubled. He testified that the reconstruction work on the transmission lines could be done in one year if rushed, but that petitioner's service would suffer. The Electrical Workers stated that the report from their representative showed that petitioner has tried to comply with the requirements of the law and that about 80 per cent of the necessary reconstruction work has been completed.

Mr. Brewer testified, with reference to the Richmond

Division, that an extension of two years would be sufficient. He testified that if the work were crowded, it could be finished in between six months and one year, but that a number of contemplated changes in street grades would make it desirable to give petitioner a two-year extension.

Mr. E. L. Jackman, manager of the Eureka Division, writes that he believes that the entire work in his division can be satisfactorily completed by June 1, 1918.

After a careful consideration of the evidence herein, we are of the opinion that a reasonable extension of time on all three of petitioner's divisions would be until June 30, 1918, at least one-half of the work to be done by June 30, 1917 and the work to be entirely completed by June 30, 1918, on the conditions specified in the order hereinafter.

We submit the following form of order:

O R D E R.

WESTERN STATES GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY having applied for an order extending the time within which to comply with the provisions of Chapter 499, Law of 1911, as amended by Chapter 600, Laws of 1915, and a public hearing having been held,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The time within which petitioner shall reconstruct its existing system so as to comply completely with the provisions of Chapter 499, Laws of 1911, as amended by Chapter 600, Laws of 1915, is hereby extended to and including June 30, 1918, on condition that at least one-half the work be done by June 30, 1917, and the work ~~to~~ be entirely completed by June 30, 1918.
2. At the times herein directed, petitioner shall file with the Railroad Commission, on forms to be supplied by the Railroad Commission, progress reports showing in ^{such} detail as will be prescribed by the Railroad Commission, the extent to which the necessary

reconstruction work has been performed during the period covered by the report and also the extent to which reconstruction work remains to be done in order that the property will comply with the provisions of Chapter 499, Laws of 1911, as amended by Chapter 600, Laws of 1915. The first report shall cover the period ending December 31, 1916, and shall be filed with the Railroad Commission within 15 days subsequent thereto. The succeeding reports shall cover the succeeding six-months' periods respectively, and shall be filed on or before the expiration of 15 days after the termination of each such succeeding period of six months.

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 26th day of September, 1916.

Max Thelen
H. Shovaland
Edwin A. Edgerton
Stuart R. Denby

Commissioners.