

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 3729

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the application)
of GREAT WESTERN POWER COMPANY)
for an order extending time for)
compliance with the provisions) Application No. 2425.
of Chapter 499, Laws of 1911, as)
amended by Chapter 600, Laws of)
1915.)

Chaffee E. Hall for Great Western Power Company.
William Rhys for Electrical Workers.

THELEN and DEVLIN, Commissioners.

O P I N I O N.

This is a petition for an order extending the time for compliance 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 September 22, 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 rendered on September 26, 1916, in Application No. 2222, Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation, et al.

Petitioner is engaged in the production, transmission and distribution of electric energy for light, heat and power in portions of Northern California.

Mr. T. E. Fogelsang, petitioner's superintendent, testified that the greater portion of the violations of the statute in petitioner's system have been removed. The remaining work consists principally of the painting of cross-arms yellow or, in lieu thereof, the installation of the high voltage signs referred to in Section 1(d) of the statute. Although petitioner

was of the opinion that a telephone line between Brighton and Sacramento violates the statute, the testimony would seem to indicate that this telephone line does not come within the provisions of the statute.

Mr. Fogelsang testified that some cross-arms should be painted on petitioner's power line between Brighton and Folsom and the Dredger District. These power lines are 17 miles long and carry electric energy at a voltage of 22,000 volts. The power line is used almost exclusively to serve the Natomas Consolidated Company in its dredging operations. Mr. Fogelsang testified that these lines are continuously in use for dredging operations with the exception of the Fourth of July and Christmas.

Cross-arms also do not comply with the statute on a portion of petitioner's 11,000 volt system in and about Oakland, the total mileage involved being about 50 miles. With reference to certain lines referred to in the testimony as the Standard Oil and Point Richmond lines, constituting between 30 and 40 of the total of 50 miles hereinbefore referred to, certain new lines now under construction will make it possible that the necessary work on the Standard Oil and Point Richmond lines be done shortly. Mr. Fogelsang testified that there would be difficulty in painting the cross-arms on the remaining 10 or 12 miles of line in the Oakland district, for the reason that these lines are constantly in use. As suggested by the Electrical Workers, however, this difficulty could be obviated by adopting the alternative method of placing "high voltage" signs, as specified in Section 1(d) of the statute.

Mr. Fogelsang testified that in either event, whether cross-arms be painted or high voltage signs placed, the cost will be less than \$5,000.00.

Petitioner asked until December 31, 1917, within which to reconstruct its Standard Oil and Point Richmond lines, and

five years within which to reconstruct its local mileage in the Oakland district.

In view of the alternative of placing high voltage signs, we are of the opinion that on the facts of this proceeding, an extension until December 31, 1917, within which to remove all remaining violations of the statute on petitioner's system will be reasonable, subject to the conditions specified in the order herein.

We submit the following form of order:

O R D E R.

GREAT WESTERN POWER COMPANY having applied for an order extending the time within which to comply with the provisions of Chapter 499, Laws 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 herein 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 December 31, 1917, on condition that at least one-half of the reconstruction work necessary to be done shall be completed on or before June 30, 1917, and the entire work on or before December 31, 1917.

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 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 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 30th day of September, 1916.

Max Thelen

Alex Gordon

Frank Derby

Commissioners.