

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 4157

Decision No. ✓

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application
of Citizens Water Company of San
Jacinto, a corporation, to change
and increase its rates for water
service.

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)
) Application No. 994.
)
)

BY THE COMMISSION:

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER

WHEREAS it appears, Citizens Water Company of San Jacinto asks that by supplemental order rates be fixed for its service of water to consumers for the year 1915.

By order dated February 29, 1916, this Commission fixed rates and thereafter by supplemental order these rates were made effective as of March 15, 1916.

The original application to have its rates fixed was made by Citizens Water Company of San Jacinto, February 16, 1914, but at the instance of the company a long delay occurred and the matter was not finally decided until the order above mentioned was made.

Meantime, for the year 1915, the Company charged its consumers the full amount permitted under water certificates then outstanding, but only collected a part of such charges.

Two forms of water certificates were filed on November 20, 1912, with the Commission as its schedule of rates.

In Class "A" certificates rate set out is \$3 per acre for the use of water during each irrigating season of seven months, commencing March 15, the water to be delivered at the rate of 1 inch to 5 acres of land. Nothing is said about extra water, and for extra water the Company charged 15 cents per minor's inch day but collected only 10 cents.

Class "B" certificates provide for an annual due of \$3 for each acre of land irrigated, at the rate of 1 inch of water to 7 acres of land, the \$3 to be paid in advance on the 15th day of March of each year. This annual due is stated to be a credit on water charges payable for water used during the irrigation season of the same year for which this annual due was paid. And there is a further provision that the water rates or charges for water during any irrigation season shall be at a rate not to exceed 15 cents for a run of 12,960 gallons for 24 hours. Under this rate the Company charged the 15 cents but collected only 10 cents.

The reason why the Company did not collect the full amount charged was because of the pendency of the proceeding to fix rates before the Commission, and at the suggestion of the Commission the matter was allowed to remain in abeyance pending a final fixing of rates.

The filing of these certificates did not comply with the Public Utilities Act. It will be noted that no provision for extra water is made in Class "A" certificates, and the Class "B" certificates provide for a maximum rate. This is not filing a schedule of specific rates to be charged and therefore no legal rates were established.

However, the service was rendered by the Company to the consumers and it becomes necessary that the Commission fix the rate for the year 1915.

In its order of February 29, 1916, the Commission fixed the same rates for all consumers regardless of what class of certificates were held and we should follow that precedent here.

It remains only to determine what the reasonable rate for 1915 was for all consumers.

It is logical to apply as far as possible for 1915, the rates found to be reasonable by the Commission for 1916, and while no exact comparison can be made between the rates charged by the Company in 1915 with the rates in 1916 because of the difference in form, nevertheless, it appears that these rates are approximately the same as far as they affect the income of the Company and the burden on the consumer.

WHEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that the reasonable rates to be charged by Citizens Water Company of San Jacinto for water served its consumers during the year 1915 are 15 cents per miner's inch day during the irrigation season and 5 cents per miner's inch day for winter water.

For all water furnished to lands to which the water must be supplied through a booster plant, 11 cents per day inch in addition to the rate hereinabove established.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 5th day of March, 1917.

Max Thelmer
H. S. Ireland
Alvin G. Dutton
Edwin O. Edgerton
Frank C. Brown
Commissioners.