

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 5319

Decision No. \_\_\_\_\_

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the matter of the application of )  
PACIFIC GAS and ELECTRIC COMPANY )  
for an order establishing the rates )  
to be charged for water delivered )  
for domestic purposes to the cities )  
and towns in Placer County and their )  
inhabitants, and to the Southern )  
Pacific Company. )

Application  
No. 1831.

C. P. Cutten for Pacific Gas and  
Electric Company.  
A. C. Lowell for city of Auburn.

HEELER, Commissioner.

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL OPINION.

On July 27, 1917, the Railroad Commission made its order herein specifying the rates which would be just and reasonable to be charged by Pacific Gas and Electric Company for "pure, clear, fresh water" sold by it to its domestic consumers in Placer county. The order provided that said rates should not be charged "unless and until said company shall first have secured from the Railroad Commission a supplemental order reciting that Pacific Gas and Electric Company is delivering to its said consumers in the county of Placer pure, clear, fresh water."

Pacific Gas and Electric Company has now filed herein a supplemental petition alleging, in part, that the company has completed the construction of the South Canal located below its Wise Power House; that prior to the completion of said canal it was necessary for the company, in order to take care of the large demand for water for irrigation purposes on the Boardman Canal below the town of Newcastle, to augment the supply of water in the Boardman Canal with water from the Bear River Canal (which water was frequently turbid) at a point just above Lake Arthur, sometimes called the Carburetor; that the completion of the South Canal has eliminated the necessity of turning into the Boardman Canal water from the Bear River Canal, and that the water now supplied by Pacific Gas and Electric Company to its consumers in Placer County is as pure and as clear as can be supplied through an open ditch system from such source of water supply as petitioner owns.

Petitioner also alleges that it has completed the installation of chlorination plants in the towns of Colfax, Auburn, Newcastle and Rocklin and has installed larger water mains in portions of Auburn as directed in said decision of July 27, 1917.

Public hearings on the supplemental petition herein were held in San Francisco on March 30 and April 16, 1918. The second hearing was held for the express purpose of permitting the City of Auburn to ~~introduce~~ introduce testimony as to the present character of the water, but no testimony to this effect was offered by the City. Every opportunity to present testimony has been accorded to the City of Auburn, but no good reason why the petition herein should not be granted was shown.

The testimony shows that the allegations of the supplemental petition are substantially correct and that Pacific Gas and Electric Company has made the improvements which it has heretofore held itself out as intending to make to improve

the quality of its water supply.

The testimony shows that on January 25, 1918, petitioner began to depend regularly on the South Canal to take care of irrigation requirements below Newcastle, thus relieving the Boardman Canal. While Bear River water continued to be mixed with Boardman Canal water at the Carburetor throughout February and until March 5, 1918, both Mr. E. M. Cooper, manager of petitioner's Placer water district, and Mr. P. M. Downing, petitioner's Chief Engineer, testified that hereafter Bear River water will be run into the Boardman Canal only at rare intervals and only in emergencies. Auburn and Newcastle will accordingly be supplied henceforth, except in emergencies, with clear, fresh water conveyed by the Boardman Canal principally from Lake Valley and Lake Spaulding.

Mr. A. C. Lowell, representing the city of Auburn, drew the Commission's attention to the desirability of not discouraging "war gardens" by increasing the rates for domestic irrigation. While these rates were found by this Commission to be reasonable and while this Commission can not compel petitioner to supply water at rates less than reasonable, I desire to direct attention to this Commission's order of April 28, 1917, authorizing all water utilities to deliver water free or at reduced rates for irrigation during the emergency created by the war. Under this order, petitioner may, if it so desires, without prejudicing its rights, deliver

water for the irrigation of food-stuffs during the war, at less than the rates herein authorized.

I submit the following form of supplemental order:

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company having filed herein its supplemental petition alleging that it has complied with the conditions precedent to the right to charge the rates set forth in the order of July 27, 1917, herein, public hearings having been held, and the Railroad Commission finding that petitioner has made the improvements referred to in the decision of July 27, 1917, and may now be authorized to charge the rates specified in said decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pacific Gas and Electric Company be and the same is hereby authorized to charge on and after May 1, 1918, the rates specified in the order of July 27, 1917, herein; provided, that said rates shall have been filed by said company with

the Railroad Commission on or before April 25, 1918.

The foregoing Supplemental Opinion and Supplemental 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1918.

Max Theiler

H. D. Loveland

Lee Gordon

Edwin O. Edgerton

Frazer P. Wheeler

Commissioners.