

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 6793

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Complaint of
John J. Thompson,
vs.
Walter Ogden,
Owner of a Water System.

Case 1332.

John J. Thompson in propria persona
Walter Ogden in propria persona

Brundige, Commissioner.

O P I N I O N

This is the complaint of John J. Thompson against Walter Ogden, who, with Walter J. Ogden, is owner of a water plant located on Baker Avenue, between Wilcox and Walker Streets, on Walker Berry and Alfalfa Tract, near Bell, Los Angeles County, California.

The complaint alleges in effect that said John J. Thompson resides in the territory served by the defendant Ogden, that complainant has made application for service of domestic water and such service has been refused; complainant is thereby greatly inconvenienced by lack of water for household and sanitary purposes and prays that the Railroad Commission order defendant to make connections and furnish water service to him.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held in Los Angeles on July 10, 1919.

It appears that the plant in question was in-

stalled originally by one Lafayette A. Walker and, after several changes, the ownership is at the present time vested in Walter Ogden and Walter J. Ogden. The water produced by this plant is used both for irrigation and domestic purposes. To obtain water for either such purpose it has been necessary for consumers to construct pipe lines, at their own expense, to the boundary of the farm property upon which the pumping plant is located. At the time of the hearing, the plant consisted of a well somewhat more than four hundred (400) feet deep, from which the water is drawn by an air lift system into a low tank of small capacity. The distribution from this plant is through terra cotta, concrete, and steel pipes, which extend only to the property lines of defendant's farm.

At the hearing it was shown that complainant Thompson resides on property owned by himself and located in the Walker Berry and Alfalfa Tract; that he has obtained his water for domestic uses from the pipe line of a consumer of this utility; that he has given payment to the defendant for this water; that it is necessary for him to transport the water so obtained to his own premises by means of receptacles; and that he is financially unable to construct a pipe line from the property of defendant to his own premises. Defendant Ogden asserts that he considers the utility, of which Walter J. Ogden and himself are owners, is responsible for the water supply for the residents of the Walker Berry and Alfalfa Tract, but does not feel obliged to deliver water beyond the limits of his own farm. Service of the nature described above is obviously unsatisfactory.

After carefully considering all of the facts submitted, it appears that defendant Ogden is responsible

for the delivery of water to complainant herein, and I shall recommend that he be directed to install facilities for this purpose.

I submit herewith the following form of order:

O R D E R

John J. Thompson, having filed complaint as entitled above, a public hearing having been held, and the Commission being fully informed in the matter,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the defendant, Walter Ogden, proceed to install, at his own expense, such facilities as will provide reasonable and adequate service to complainant John J. Thompson.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 25th day of October, 1919.

Edwin O. Edgerton
H. Loveland
Frank D. Tolson
H. B. Brundage

Commissioners.