

Decision No. 7575

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

UNPAID

In the Matter of the Application of )  
GREAT WESTERN POWER COMPANY OF CALI- )  
FORNIA for an order authorizing said )  
company to discontinue deviations )  
from schedule rates for steam )  
service. )

ORIGINAL

Application No. 5177

Guy C. Earl and Chaffee E. Hall,  
for Applicant,  
Arthur Joel for Leo Bruck,  
Milton A. Nathan for Granada Hotel  
E. S. Page for Bacon Building, and  
St. Marks Hotel;  
Alexander Bond for Hotel Victoria Company.

BRUNDIGE, Commissioner:

O P I N I O N

Great Western Power Company of California applies herein for approval of certain schedules of rates for steam service, and for authority to charge in accordance therewith all of its non-contract consumers and all of its consumers whose contracts have expired since July 22, 1919. It further asks, however, that it be permitted to continue to charge certain other consumers for the remaining term of their contracts in accordance with special rates lower than the proposed standard schedules.

A hearing was held in San Francisco on January 5, 1920 at which time evidence was submitted and protests heard. Thereafter,

in accordance with the stipulation, further data were filed at the request of the Commission and the Commission made its own investigation into the subject matters presented.

Great Western Power Company of California, hereinafter referred to as applicant, in connection with its business of generating and distributing electricity, supplies steam for heating service in the cities of San Francisco and Oakland. At the date hereof it supplied approximately 400 consumers with steam, of which 250 are charged in accordance with applicant's standard rates heretofore filed, known as Schedules Nos. 750 and 751, and the remainder supplied under lower rates based upon special contracts entered into prior to this Commission's jurisdiction over heat utilities.

The situation presented in this proceeding is parallel in all respects with that in application No. 5014 of Pacific Gas and Electric Company for similar authority. The special contract rates in effect take into consideration the supply of electricity to the holders thereof. The character of Applicant's business, the revenues and income therefrom, showed the same general results, insofar as concerns the small margin of profit in the business, as appeared in the application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

The propriety of permitting the continuance of these special contract rates in the present instance hinges upon the same considerations as in the Application No. 5014 of Pacific Gas and Electric Company and reference is hereby made to the Opinion in Decision No. Application No. 5014, in which is fully set forth the considerations from which this Commission concludes that the continuance of the special contract rates is discriminatory and contrary to both the letter and spirit of the Public Utilities Act. In the present instance, as in the case of the special contract consumers of Pacific Gas and Electric Company there has been no showing that justifies this Commission in making an exception to

the prohibition of Section 17-b of the Public Utilities Act.

We must, therefore, conclude, as in Application No. 5014, that all steam heating consumers of the applicant herein should hereafter be charged upon a uniform basis for heating service.

Schedules Nos. 750 and 751 heretofore filed with the Railroad Commission as the standard schedules of rates of applicant for steam service, which have been in effect for an extended period and which do not contemplate any increase in the standard rates for steam service, should at this time be approved. There is, however, no occasion for the separate filing of Schedule No. 751 and the charge for flat rate heating service therein set forth is covered in the schedule hereafter authorized under the paragraph on "measurement of service."

I submit the following form of Order:

#### O R D E R

Great Western Power Company of California having applied for certain adjustments in its rates and charges for steam heating service, a public hearing having been held, and the matter being submitted and now ready for decision,

The Railroad Commission of the State of California hereby finds as a fact that the rates charged by Great Western Power Company of California for steam heating service, which are conditional upon the consumers thereof becoming or continuing as electric consumers and which are lower than the rates charged for steam heating service alone, are discriminatory and in violation of the Public Utilities Act; that the rates for steam heating service charged by Great Western Power Company of California in accordance with certain existing contracts, which differ from the standard schedule of rates herein established, are likewise discriminatory, and that the rate

for steam heating service herein established is, under present condition, a just, fair and reasonable rate.

Basing its order on the foregoing findings of fact and on the other findings of fact contained in the Opinion which precedes this order, and in the opinion in Decision No.        in Application No. 5014 hereinabove referred to,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, effective for all regular meter readings taken on or after the first day of June 1920, Great Western Power Company of California shall charge and collect for steam heating service the following rate schedule, which shall apply to all steam heating service except to those classes of consumers to whom it may grant free or reduced rates in accordance with Section 5 of General Order No. 45 of this Commission:

GREAT WESTERN POWER COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA

SCHEDULE OF STEAM HEATING RATES

CHARACTER OF SERVICE:

Steam will be supplied under this schedule for heating service.

TERRITORY:

This rate applies in the City and County of San Francisco and in the City of Oakland, Alameda County.

MEASUREMENT OF SERVICE:

The consumption of steam will be measured by condensation meters. In such cases where the condensation can not be measured, the charge will be based upon estimated consumption of steam.

RATE:

Upon the basis of monthly consumption per meter:

For the first 20,000 pounds	-	\$ 1.50	per thousand pounds
For the next 25,000 pounds	-	1.25	per thousand pounds
For the next 35,000 pounds	-	1.10	per thousand pounds
For the next 150,000 pounds	-	1.00	per thousand pounds
For the next 170,000 pounds	-	.90	per thousand pounds
For all over 400,000 pounds	-	.75	per thousand pounds.

MINIMUM CHARGE:

Monthly minimum charge of \$1.00 per 100 sq.-ft of direct radiation per month, but not less than \$7.50 per month per meter.

PROVIDED, Great Western Power Company of California shall, within ten days of the date of this order, file with the Railroad Commission the schedule of rates for steam heating service herein established, and, further provided, Great Western Power Company of California shall file with the Railroad Commission, rules and regulations for steam heating service subject to the approval of this Commission.

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 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1920.

Edwin C. Edgerton  
H. D. Leland  
Frank P. Johnson  
H. B. Brundage  
Irving Martin  
Commissioners.