

Decision No. 8225

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Gridley Land & Irrigation Company,)
et al.,)
Complainants.)

vs.)

Sutter Butte Canal Company,)
a corporation,)
Defendant.)

Case No. 1456

In the Matter of the Commission's)
Investigation on its Own Motion, into)
the rules, regulations and practices)
of Sutter Butte Canal Company with)
reference to the delivery of water by)
it to its consumers and the ratable)
apportionment of the available supply)
during the 1920 irrigation season.)

Case No. 1458.

Henry Ingram for Complainants in Case No. 1456.

Douglas Brookman and Isaac Frohman for Sutter
Butte Canal Company.

W. H. Carlin for certain landowners in Sutter County.

Lawrence Schilling for Alvin Weis and Live Oak Water
Users' Association.

A. H. Hewitt for Sutter Water Users' Association.

Arthur H. Redington for W. H. Carlin, et al.

I. J. Truman, Jr., for Northern California Land
Company.

George F. Jones for certain stockholders of Western
Canal Company.

MARTIN, Commissioner.

O P I N I O N

Complainants in the above entitled formal complaint are
patrons of Sutter Butte Canal Company and consumers of water for ir-

rigation purposes from said system. Sutter Butte Canal Company is a public utility corporation engaged in the business of supplying water for irrigation purposes to certain territory in Sutter and Butte counties, State of California.

Complainants in this proceeding asked that the Railroad Commission make its order establishing rules and regulations with reference to the proration and distribution of water by said Sutter Butte Canal Company, it being alleged by said complainants at the time this action was filed that such supervision was necessary by reason of a water shortage which threatened at that time.

Thereupon the Railroad Commission instituted an investigation on its own motion, as entitled above, and both of these matters were set down for hearing. This situation was given wide publicity and all interested parties were given an opportunity to appear at the hearing.

The evidence presented at the hearing in these matters made possible a careful study of the situation and developed tentative plans relating to the proposed conservation of water during the emergency, economic deliveries and more efficient operation.

During the pendency of these proceedings the Great Western Power Company, the Western Canal Company and the Sutter Butte Canal Company entered into an agreement with each other ~~and both the water~~ ~~companies~~ whereby the general administration of the irrigation systems supplying this territory was placed under the control of the Railroad Commission during the 1920 irrigation season. Under this agreement the Commission placed its representative in the district in question, and he was delegated such authority as would enable him to work out methods for the conservation of water, outline schedules of delivery, and do whatever appeared necessary in the premises to the end that all available water might be put to beneficial use. Both the companies and the consumers entered into this spirit of cooperation with the result that normal crops have been produced.

Inasmuch as it now appears that the crisis of the 1920 ir-

rigating season is past, and the matters complained of herein have been satisfactorily adjusted. I recommend the following form of order:

O R D E R

Complaint having been made against Sutter Butte Canal Company as entitled above, and the Commission having instituted an investigation into the rules and regulations of said company; the matters having been joined for hearing and investigation, and the Commission being fully apprised in the premises,

And it appearing that the matters complained of and which were subjected to investigation have been satisfactorily adjusted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above entitled matters be and they are hereby dismissed.

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 11th day of October, 1920.

Edwin O. Edgerton

H. A. Loveland

H. B. Brundage

Dwight Martin
Commissioners.