

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 9389

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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CITY OF AZUSA, a Municipal  
Corporation, )

Complainant )

vs. )

SOUTHERN COUNTIES GAS COMPANY,  
a Corporation, )

Defendant. )

Case No. 1594.

Jas. E. Barker, for City of Azusa

F. S. Wade, and)

A. F. Bridge ) for Southern Counties Gas Company.

BENEDICT, Commissioner:

O P I N I O N

This complaint of the City of Azusa against Southern Counties Gas Company alleges that during past winter periods there has been a shortage of gas supplied by Defendant in that City; that frequently many consumers have not been able to obtain sufficient gas to operate their appliances; that as a result of such gas shortages consumers have suffered financial losses and great inconvenience in being unable to prepare meals or to heat their dwellings and school houses, which constituted a menace to public health.

Complainant further alleges that such gas shortages are due to the lack of proper pressure in the distribution pipes, some of which are claimed entirely inadequate in size, and that the transmission lines bringing gas to the City and also the compressor plant for pumping it are inadequate in capacity. It is further alleged that unless the existing situation is remedied prior to the coming winter of 1921-22, gas service conditions will be much more critical and unsatisfactory than in the past, wherefore Complainant asks that the Railroad Commission investigate the matter and order Defendant to provide larger transmission and distribution mains and to provide such other facilities as may be necessary to furnish an adequate and sufficient supply of gas to the City of Azusa.

Evidence was submitted in this proceeding by testimony of consumers in the City of Azusa setting forth the unsatisfactory gas service conditions which they had experienced, and testimony by Defendant's engineer covering new facilities which are now being installed so that adequate service may hereafter be rendered. The matter was thereupon submitted and is now ready for decision.

The Cities of Azusa and Glendora are supplied with gas from long transmission lines of small capacity obtaining their supply from a compressor plant located in the City of Pomona. There are no gas storage holders in either of these cities, their supply being entirely dependent upon transmission line capacity. During winter periods when gas pressures have generally been low in many districts of Defendant's system, it has at many times been entirely impossible for consumers of Azusa to obtain a proper supply of gas for their requirements.

During the year 1920 Defendant replaced 8000 feet of its two inch transmission line supplying Azusa, with four inch pipe at a

cost of \$7100 and also installed two 80 horse-power compressors in their plant at Pomona. These additions, however, failed to remedy gas shortage conditions. Because of the heavy peak loads which exist for periods of only a few hours duration, it has been found imperative that a large supply of gas be maintained immediately available to the City of Azusa. In order to make this possible, Defendant is now constructing a gas storage holder of 100,000 cubic feet capacity which will be filled during off-peak hours from the transmission line, and will be capable of delivering its supply at relatively high pressures, varying between 5 and 15 pounds per square inch, to the distributing system. It is estimated that during the coming winter, a peak day gas requirement for the Azusa district of 100,000 cubic feet may be experienced. With normal operating pressures at Pomona and complete use of the new holder now being built, it is estimated that it will be possible to deliver about 170,000 cubic feet of gas<sup>per day</sup> in this district. Defendant is also at this time replacing several of its smaller distribution lines in order to improve service. Total expenditures for the holder and other improvements of its system in Azusa will exceed \$26,000. In view of the apparent large excess capacity over estimated gas requirements which will shortly become available, I am of the opinion that the additional facilities now under construction will properly provide and assure adequate and satisfactory service when completed.

#### O R D E R

Complaint having been filed by the City of Azusa against Southern Counties Gas Company because of unsatisfactory gas service rendered, a hearing having been held and the matter submitted, and Defendant having presented its plans for the prompt remedy and removal of such unsatisfactory conditions, and the prevention of

future recurrence, the Railroad Commission of the State of California, after investigation, being of the opinion that the measures now being taken by Defendant, will assure adequate and satisfactory gas service henceforth to the City of Azusa and the surrounding district;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the above entitled proceeding be and the same is hereby dismissed.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1921.

*H. P. ...*  
*H. ...*  
*...*  
*...*