

Decision No. 28894

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application
of A.B. RODMAN, JESSIE M. RODMAN,
MARK H. WRIGHT and HERBERT V.
KEELING to discontinue water ser-
vice.

Application No. 18663.

Herbert V. Keeling, for Applicants.

J.A. Hatchford, for Irwin Jones and
other water users.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Applicants own jointly a water system supplying a sub-
division known as Clear Lake Villas in Lake County and ask for
authority to discontinue public utility water service.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held at Lake-
port before Examiner Handford.

According to the evidence, Clear Lake Villas Tract
was placed upon the market in 1921 by Henry Springe and Edith A.
Rockwell, Mrs. Jessie Rodman, A.B. Rodman and Herbert V. Keeling.
Thereafter, during the year 1930, a water system was installed
to supply the northerly section of this tract, the water being
pumped directly from Clear Lake without filtration or treatment.
This water plant was installed and is owned by Herbert V. Keeling,
Mrs. Jessie Rodman, A.B. Rodman and Mark H. Wright and is claimed
to be entirely separate and apart from the real estate project in

which certain of these owners are also interested. The investment in the plant to date is approximately five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and some seventeen consumers, half of which are classified as summer users only, are served. The annual revenues receivable should average two hundred and eighty-eight dollars (\$288), while the corresponding operation expenses including depreciation amount to six hundred and twenty-one dollars (\$621), the major portion of which is for electric power for pumping. There are some thirty occupied premises in the service area, only seventeen of which, however, take water from applicants, and of the above thirty premises all but two are equipped with private sources of supply either from wells or from the lake.

Applicants stated that they would be willing to continue furnishing water for the remainder of the present summer season provided an emergency rate was established at four dollars (\$4.00) per month, at the end of which period they demanded the right to discontinue entirely all further water service. This rate is unquestionably prohibitive for the consumers. The record shows that under present economic conditions the growth of the community must necessarily be very slow, no new sales of real estate having been made in the tract during the past two years. No relief in the immediate future therefore can be expected through additional revenues from any substantial number of new consumers. There appears to be no satisfactory method of providing for the continued operation of this plant without unreasonable out-of-pocket loss and, in view of the fact that all present water users now have or can at very little expense obtain their own water supplies from individual wells or from Clear Lake, it

is evident that authority to discontinue public utility service should be granted, giving, however, all present users a reasonable time in which to arrange for whatever independent and/or additional water supplies, if any, may be required. Under the circumstances it seems that by permitting applicants to discontinue service as of September 1, 1933, no injustice will be done to any of the parties involved and interested in this proceeding.

O R D E R

Application as entitled above having been filed with this Commission by A.B. Rodman, Jessie M. Rodman, Mark H. Wright and Herbert V. Keeling asking for authority to discontinue public utility water service in and in the vicinity of Clear Lake Villas in the County of Lake, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted and the Commission being now fully advised in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that A.B. Rodman, Jessie M. Rodman, Mark H. Wright and Herbert V. Keeling be and they are hereby authorized to discontinue on the first day of September, 1933, the operation of their public utility water system serving consumers in and in the vicinity of Clear Lake Villas, Lake County, and thereafter stand relieved of all further obligations and liabilities in connection therewith, subject to the following conditions:

Within twenty (20) days from and after the date of this Order, applicants herein shall notify in writing each and every consumer served by them as of the date of this Order of their intention to discontinue water service on the first day of September, 1933,

and said applicants shall file with this Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, a certified statement that they have caused such notice to be duly given as required herein.

For all other purposes, the effective date of this Order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 26th day of June, 1933.

CL Seavey
Leon Seavey
W. A. Cline
W. B. Cline
W. B. Cline
Commissioners.