

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 26252

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of AMERICAN STATES WATER SERVICE COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA for an order establishing rates for water ser- vice rendered throughout its Tujunga-Sunland service area.	} } } Application No. 18991. } }
--	--

W.C. Kennedy, for Applicant.

Fred F. Ball, for Board of Public  
 Utilities and Transportation,  
 Interested Party.

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION

In the above entitled application, American States Water Service Company of California, a corporation supplying domestic and irrigation water to the residents of Tujunga and Sunland, Los Angeles County, asks the Railroad Commission for authority to establish a new schedule of rates for the service rendered its consumers.

The present rates of the utility filed with this Commission are as follows:

MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGES

5/8-inch meter-----	\$1.25
3/4-inch meter-----	1.50
1-inch meter-----	2.00
1 1/2-inch meter-----	2.50
2-inch meter-----	3.00
3-inch meter-----	4.00
4-inch meter-----	5.00

MONTHLY CHARGES FOR WATER CONSUMED

From	0 to	400 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	---\$0.3125
From	400 to	1,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	---.25
From	1,000 to	15,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	---.10
All in excess of	15,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet		---.06

oOo

The rates which applicant proposes to put into effect are as follows:

MONTHLY MINIMUM CHARGES

5/8-inch meter	-----	\$1.25
3/4-inch meter	-----	1.50
1-inch meter	-----	2.00
1 1/2-inch meter	-----	2.50
2-inch meter	-----	3.00
3-inch meter	-----	4.00
4-inch meter	-----	5.00

MONTHLY CHARGES FOR WATER CONSUMED

Minimum - 600 cubic feet	-----	\$1.25
From 600 to 1,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	-----	.20
From 1,000 to 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	-----	.13
From 10,000 to 50,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	-----	.09
All over 50,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet	-----	.06

oOo

A public hearing was held in this matter before Examiner Kennedy at Los Angeles.

The testimony shows that, through negotiations between the Board of Public Utilities and Transportation of the City of Los Angeles and various civic organizations of Tujunga and Sunland representing the interested communities, a schedule of rates for water service was agreed upon which has been accepted by the American States Water Service Company of California. In view of the fact, however, that the agreed schedule results in a slight increase in the intermediate block, it became necessary to obtain

such authority by formal application. The proposed schedule of rates will reduce the present charges to approximately 95.2 per cent of the consumers. The cost of water to the other 4.8 per cent of the water users will be increased from a small fraction of one per cent for those using 3,400 cubic feet per month, gradually increasing to 9.3 per cent for those who use 200,000 cubic feet per month. The application of the proposed schedule, however, will effect a reduction of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per year in gross revenue.

Mr. S.M. Lanham, Assistant Engineer of the Board of Public Utilities and Transportation, presented a report showing, among other things, that the large user of water under the present schedule of rates has enjoyed an especially favorable and preferential rate at the expense of those consumers who need but a small volume of water. The average cost of operation, including depreciation, by this utility was ten cents (10¢) per 100 cubic feet during 1932; the present rate provides for a charge of ten cents (10¢) per 100 cubic feet for all use from 1,000 cubic feet to 15,000 cubic feet.

Although a few individual consumers protested against the granting of this application, the committees of the following civic organizations representing a very large number of people residing in this territory appeared and endorsed the new schedule:

American Legion Post.  
Sunland Women's Club.  
Tujunga-Sunland and Tuna Canyon Realty Board.  
Sunland Chamber of Commerce.  
Tujunga Chamber of Commerce.  
Joint Water Committee, appointed by the  
various civic organizations.

It appears that the proposed rates will distribute the charges for water service more equitably among the various classes of use. While there will result a slight increase to approximately

five per cent of the consumers, there will be a substantial reduction affecting ninety-five per cent of the users. Revision of the quantity block charges should eliminate the existing discrimination in the present rate structure.

The request of applicant therefore will be granted.

### O R D E R

American States Water Service Company of California, a corporation, having made application to this Commission as entitled above, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been duly submitted and the Commission being now fully advised in the premises,

It is hereby found as a fact that the rates and charges of the American States Water Service Company of California, a corporation, for water delivered to its consumers in the Tujunga-Sunland territory of Los Angeles County, in so far as they differ from the rates herein established, are unjust and unreasonable and that the rates herein established are just and reasonable rates to be charged for the service rendered, and

Basing its Order upon the foregoing finding of fact and upon the further statements of fact contained in the Opinion which precedes this Order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that American States Water Service Company of California, a corporation, be and it is hereby authorized and directed to file with this Commission, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order, the following schedule of rates to be charged for all service rendered consumers in this territory on and after the date of this Order.

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGES

5/8-inch meter-----	\$1.25
3/4-inch meter-----	1.50
1-inch meter-----	2.00
1 1/2-inch meter-----	2.50
2-inch meter-----	3.00
3-inch meter-----	4.00
4-inch meter-----	5.00

MONTHLY CHARGES FOR WATER CONSUMED

Minimum - 600 cubic feet-----	\$1.25
From 600 to 1,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.20
From 1,000 to 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.13
From 10,000 to 50,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.09
All over 50,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet-----	.06

All other rates to remain the same as now in effect.

o o o

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 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1933.

C. Searcy  
Leon Whiskey  
M. A. Lee  
W. B. Lewis  
W. H. Moore  
Commissioners.