

Decision No. 26769

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

-000-

PALOS VERDES WATER COMPANY, )  
a Public Utility Corporation, )

Complainant, )

vs. )

) Case No. 3753

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON )  
COMPANY LTD., a Public Utility )  
Corporation, )

Defendant. )

**ORIGINAL**

PALOS VERDES WATER COMPANY, )  
a Public Utility Corporation, )

Complainant, )

vs. )

) Case No. 3751

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON )  
COMPANY LTD., a Public Utility )  
Corporation, )

Defendant. )

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORDER OF DISMISSAL

In Case 3753 complainant water utility, a power consumer of defendant under the latter's Schedule P-1, seeks reparation in the amount of the difference between charges paid and those which would have accrued had defendant charged it in accordance with Schedule P-18. (Municipal Pumping Service Schedule; now identified as Schedule PMP-1.) For the future complainant seeks the rate granted to municipalities, and asks that General Order 45 be amended. That General Order, based upon Public Utilities Act, section 17, provides in part that public utilities other than common carriers may, if they so desire,

"grant free or reduced rate service to (1) the federal and state governments and the political subdivisions thereof, including the departments thereof; \* \* \*."

Schedule P-18 is applicable only to municipalities and political subdivisions. The General Order, permissive only, is an exception to the general statutory prohibition against the granting of free or reduced rates, and is limited to certain classes, such as political subdivisions. The Commission is of the opinion that the General Order should not be amended so as to permit utilities to extend such reduced rates to private consumers, such as complainant. Case 3753 should be dismissed.

In Case 3751 the same complainant seeks reparation on the alleged ground of overcharges by reason of not consolidating meter readings while granting such privilege to others. General Power Service Schedule P-1, under which complainant receives service, does not specifically provide for consolidation of meter readings. Defendant's Rule and Regulation No. 17 ("Reading of Separate Meters Not Combined") does not permit combined meter readings except as follows:

- "(a) Where combinations of meter readings are specifically provided for in rate schedules.
- (b) Where the maintenance of adequate service and/or where the company's operating convenience shall require the installation of two or more meters upon the consumer's premises, instead of one meter."

Case 3751 should also be dismissed. Public hearing appears unnecessary.

IT IS ORDERED that the above complaints are hereby dismissed.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 1934.

O. C. Leary  
Leon Caldwell  
W. P. Lane  
W. B. Higgins  
W. H. Murray  
Commissioners