

Decision No. 28688.

BY THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Mrs. Mary Markevich,
Complainant,

vs.

Camp Rose; R. C. DeLong, Owner,
Defendant.

Case No. 4097.

ORIGINAL

Mrs. Mary Markevich, for Complainant.

R. C. DeLong, for himself and for
Camp Rose Water Co.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Complainant, Mrs. Mary Markevich, owns a summer cottage at Camp Rose on the Russian River near the City of Healdsburg and states that the charge made by R. C. DeLong for water service upon a basis of two annual minimum payments for her premises is unfair and discriminatory, and demand is made that defendant be ordered to serve water to her home for a single annual charge.

A public hearing in this matter was held in Healdsburg before Examiner MacKall.

The testimony shows that in 1934 Mrs. Markevich added one room to her cottage and equipped it with running water connected to the main house plumbing, permitting her friends and guests to occupy the new room occasionally during the summer. Although complainant stated that she had hoped to rent the additional room she has been unable to do so. Mrs. Markevich was billed an additional \$15.00 per year for the use of water to this new room, which she refused to pay, and as defendant would not serve water to the premises on any other basis complainant

removed all water pipes from the new room.

Defendant admitted that he did not know whether the new addition had been rented or occupied by house guests of the owner at any particular time, but contended that he was entitled to charge a separate minimum for every house, cabin or apartment using water, regardless of size, ownership or location. While this method of charging may be proper in the case of several homes or cottages owned by the same individual on separate premises, it is ridiculous to attempt to put this very small cabin in that category merely because of the additional room. There are several instances in the service area of this defendant utility where water is served to more than one home owned by the same individual and rented during the summer where the minimum annual charge is collected for each place. However, complainant's situation is the only one like it in the entire service area and our ruling will neither adversely affect defendant's revenues nor permit the single owner of several cottages, used for rental purposes and located on separate premises, the right to demand a single service connection for all.

Defendant will be directed to supply the present house of complainant through a single service connection and at but one annual payment.

O R D E R

Mrs. Mary Markevich, having filed complaint as entitled above, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted and the Commission being now fully informed in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that R. C. DeLong be and he is hereby ordered and directed to provide water service upon demand to the premises of Mrs. Mary Markevich at Camp Rose, as such

premises now exist, through a single service pipe connection and at a single minimum annual charge under the regular effective schedule of rates.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 6th day of April, 1936.

W B Lewis
Leon Whiskey
W A Kim
W H Lerner
Frank R. DeWitt
Commissioners.