

Decision No. 30138

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, a corporation, for an order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California, granting to applicant a certificate of public convenience and necessity, to exercise the right, privilege and franchise granted to applicant by Ordinance No. 293 of the City Council of the City of Sebastopol, County of Sonoma, State of California.

Application No. 21131

**ORIGINAL**

R. W. DuVal for Applicant.

WAKEFIELD, COMMISSIONER:

O P I N I O N

In this application, Pacific Gas and Electric Company asks for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing it to exercise the fifty (50) year franchise granted to it by Ordinance No. 293 of the City Council of the City of Sebastopol, County of Sonoma, adopted on November 2, 1936, a copy of which is marked Exhibit "A" and attached to and made a part of the application.

Public hearing was held on this matter at San Francisco, California, on April 28, 1937. No one appeared to protest the granting of the application.

Evidence introduced by applicant establishes the facts that for more than thirty-five (35) years last past applicant or its predecessors in interest have been furnishing electric service to said City of Sebastopol, and its inhabitants, under and pursuant

to the franchise granted by Section 19 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of California as it existed from 1885 to October 10, 1911, and under and pursuant to the general county franchise granted to applicant's predecessor, Clear Lake Electric Power Company, by Ordinance No. 44 of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, adopted June 8, 1899 and expiring June 8, 1949 and the franchises granted by the following ordinances of the City of Sebastopol:

<u>Ordinance Number</u>	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Expiring</u>	<u>Grantee</u>
54	April 8, 1904	April 8, 1929	G. W. Swain
Unnumbered	June 6, 1905	June 6, 1955	Sebastopol Light, Power and Water Co.
148	June 11, 1910	June 26, 1960	John E. Bennett

and that applicant is now furnishing such service in substantially all parts of the city; that no person, firm, or corporation other than applicant is now engaged in the public utility business of furnishing electricity in said city; and that present and future public convenience and necessity require and will require that applicant exercise the franchise granted by said Ordinance No. 293, in order that applicant may continue to furnish electricity to said city and its inhabitants and, further, in order that applicant may qualify its first and refunding mortgage bonds as legal investments for savings banks and trust funds in certain states.

It appears from the evidence that the laws of the State of New York permit investments by savings banks in the bonds of gas and electric corporations provided, among other things, that "such corporation shall have all franchises necessary to operate in territory in which at least seventy-five (75) per centum of its gross income is earned, which franchises shall either be indeterminate permits or agreements with, or subject to the jurisdiction of a public service commission or other duly constituted regulatory body, or shall extend at least five (5) years beyond the maturity of such bonds, \*\*\*\*" and that the statutes of other states contain similar

provisions. Ability to comply with these statutory provisions materially assists the applicant in selling its securities and the granting of this application is one step in the applicant's program of qualifying its bonds under these laws. Other applications involving other areas in which applicant is rendering service are now pending before the Commission.

Applicant has stipulated that it, its successors or assigns, will never claim before the Commission, or any court or public body, any value for said franchise granted by Ordinance No. 293 in excess of the actual cost thereof, which cost was Two Hundred Eleven and 50/100 Dollars (\$211.50), exclusive of the Fifty Dollar (\$50) filing fee.

It appears that this application should be granted, and I recommend the following form of order:

O R D E R

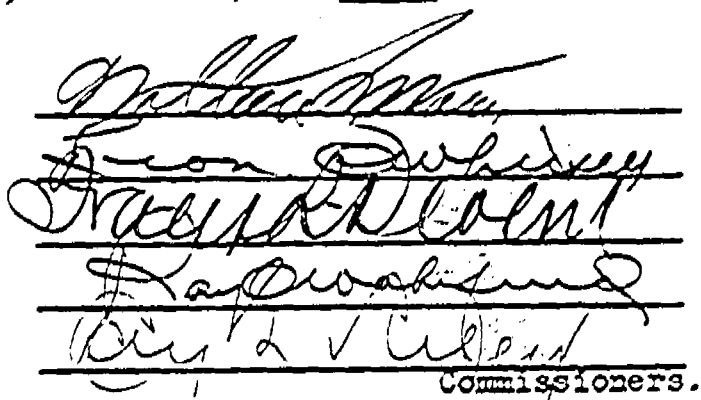
Pacific Gas and Electric Company having asked the Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity, as described in the opinion above, public hearing having been held, the matter being submitted and ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity, authorizing the exercise by Pacific Gas and Electric Company of the right and privilege under the franchise granted to it by Ordinance No. 293 of the said City of Sebastopol, County of Sonoma, as set forth and described in Exhibit "A" of the application herein, be and it is hereby granted to applicant.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, the 20<sup>th</sup> day of

Sept., 1937.

  
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Commissioners.