

Decision No. 31296.

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application
of SAN DIEGO CONSOLIDATED GAS &
ELECTRIC COMPANY, a corporation,
for an order authorizing it to
abandon direct current service

Application No. 22212

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company has applied for an order authorizing Applicant to abandon the service of direct current and to substitute therefor alternating current service. The service referred to herein comprises the delivery of 110-220 volt energy by means of a three-wire direct current network system in the central or business district of the City of San Diego, which system is supplied from motor-generator sets located in Applicant's Substation C at the southwest corner of Fourth and Ash Streets.

Applicant Company represents that (1) the total cost of the property used in supplying the service, and to be abandoned, is \$57,727, consisting of station equipment in the amount of \$28,401 and distribution equipment, almost exclusively underground, in the amount of \$29,326; (2) that at the present time twenty active customers are receiving this type of service, and (3) that the total billings rendered to customers amounted to \$775.37 for the year ended June 30, 1938.

Applicant further alleges that it is now necessary to change and improve the operation of its Substation C, from which direct current service is supplied, and that accordingly the continuance of such service will require the installation of additional expensive equipment. Investigation shows that it would be in the interests of the Applicant and its customers generally, and would be more economical, to abandon the direct current service, salvage such of the direct current system as is possible to reuse and to supplant this service with alternating current than to continue the present method of supply.

Applicant further represents that if any of the present direct current customers are unable to use alternating current directly in their operations, suitable conversion equipment with necessary changes in wiring will be installed on the customer's premises free of cost to said customer, and that such apparatus and appliances so furnished will become the property of the customer and thereafter the customer will be responsible for its operation and maintenance. It is likewise represented that the cost of conversion and furnishing of the aforesaid appliances and apparatus will approximate \$5,708, all of which will be charged to Applicant's appropriate operating expense accounts and no part of which will be capitalized.

It appears reasonably clear that revenues from the direct current service are inadequate to justify the present investment and to support the cost of that serv-

ice; that the replacement of the direct current with alternating current service will not impair the quality of electric service received by consumers of the San Diego Company; that the customers directly involved have no objection to the abandonment and discontinuance of the service and, finally, that the abandonment thereof will not constitute a burden upon present customers of the Company but rather will react to the benefit of the Company and its customers.

O R D E R

San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company having filed the above entitled application, and the Commission being of the opinion that a public hearing thereon is not necessary and that the application should be granted, therefore good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company be and it is authorized to abandon and discontinue furnishing direct current electric service, as requested, and

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company shall withdraw all rates, rules and regulations, including provisions of its Preliminary Statement providing for and appertaining to the supplying of direct current service, and shall transfer the billing of each customer of that service to the appropriate schedule of rates for alternating current service at the time the substitution of the latter is effected.

This Order shall be effective immediately.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this

26th day of September, 1938.

Paul W. ...

Frank ...

Ray ...

Commissioners.