

Decision No. 22703

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application  
of SOUTHERN COUNTIES GAS COMPANY  
OF CALIFORNIA, a corporation, for  
authority to increase rates in those  
cities or communities in Orange  
County, California, known as Seal  
Beach and Los Alamitos.

Application No. 22703

LeRoy M. Edwards, for Applicant  
E. J. Hughes, Mayor, Seal Beach  
C. R. Crofoot, Los Alamitos

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application, Southern Counties Gas Company of California, hereinafter sometimes referred to as Applicant, requests authority to put into effect the schedule of rates and charges set forth in Exhibit "C" attached to and made a part of the application, for gas service to its consumers in those cities or communities in Orange County, California, known as Seal Beach and Los Alamitos. The proposed rates provide for certain minor increases in billings for minimum-use consumers.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Wehe, May 12, 1939, at Seal Beach, California, at which time the matter was submitted.

According to the testimony introduced by Applicant at the hearing, it has been for some time past serving gas to its consumers in Seal Beach and Los Alamitos in accordance with the rates and charges set forth in its filed Schedule 2-A, a copy of which is set forth in Exhibit "B", attached to and made a part of

the application. Seal Beach and Los Alamitos prior to 1924 were part of Applicant's so-called Long Beach district, and upon the sale in 1924 of a portion of Applicant's gas distribution system to the City of Long Beach, these communities became a part of Applicant's San Pedro District and the Rate Schedule 2-A for this district became effective. In 1927 Seal Beach and Los Alamitos were transferred to Applicant's Orange County District and although the unincorporated areas adjacent thereto were served under a separate Schedule 1-A, the Schedule 2-A was continued for these communities.

Billings under Schedule 1-A for the first one thousand cubic feet of consumption are slightly higher than under Schedule 2-A. These slightly higher billings are brought about by a 15¢ differential in the minimum charge. For consumptions of over one thousand cubic feet consumers experience a lower billing under Schedule 1-A than under Schedule 2-A. The maximum increase that any consumer would experience after the proposed change would be 15¢ per month, whereas, on the other hand the large majority of consumers in Seal Beach and Los Alamitos would receive a substantial reduction in their monthly billings. The over-all annual reduction would amount to approximately \$2,400.

Although at the hearing certain questions were asked by consumers regarding the effect of the change in rates, no one entered a protest directly opposing the proposed change.

#### O R D E R

Southern Counties Gas Company of California having requested of this Commission authority to increase rates for gas service in those cities or communities in Orange County, California, known as Seal Beach and Los Alamitos as indicated

in the foregoing Opinion, a public hearing having been held and the Commission having considered the testimony submitted and being of the opinion that this application should be granted as herein provided, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern Counties Gas Company of California be authorized to put into effect, on all meter readings taken on and after July 1, 1939, the rates and charges as provided in its Schedule 1-A and set forth in Exhibit "C" attached to and made a part of the application, in the communities of Seal Beach and Los Alamitos which are presently served under Schedule 2-A set forth in Exhibit "B", also attached to and made a part of the application.

The authorization herein granted is subject to the following conditions and not otherwise:

That Southern Counties Gas Company of California withdraw and cancel its presently effective Schedule No. 2-A, (Revised C.R.C. Sheet No. 910-G) and file with this Commission a revised Schedule No. 2-A in conformity with the provisions of this Order, not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the effective date thereof.

The effective date of this Order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31st day of May, 1939.

Rayburn  
James R. Brown  
Raymond C. Croy  
A. H. Hall  
Justin J. Cooney  
Commissioners