

Decision No. ~~23772~~

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER COMPANY  
 for a Certificate of Public Conven-  
 ience and Necessity Defining the  
 Water Service Area of said Company  
 adjacent to its Lawndale, Lennox  
 and Gardena Water Service Districts,  
 in the County of Los Angeles.

**ORIGINAL**

Application No. 23772

Paul Overton, for Applicant.  
 Charles B. Stewart, Jr., for The O.T. Johnson  
 Corporation, a corporation, and  
 A. P. Johnson Company, a corporation,  
 protestants.  
 L. F. Stephenson, Secretary of and for  
 Moneta Water Company, a mutual corporation,  
 as its interests may appear.  
 Clyde Woodworth, City Attorney of and for City  
 of Inglewood, as its interests may appear.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding, Southern California Water Company, a corporation, engaged in the business of supplying water for domestic and other purposes for sale to the public generally in certain portions of the County of Los Angeles and in various other areas in the State of California, asks for a certificate of public convenience and necessity which will define its service area in the vicinity of its present Lawndale, Lennox and Gardena water service districts in the County of Los Angeles.

A public hearing in this matter was held before Examiner Wm. Stava at Los Angeles.

The evidence shows that water service in the above named districts was commenced in the years 1903 to 1909 by five predecessor public utility water companies. Successive transfers brought

the separate systems under the ownership, operation and management of American States Water Service Company, a corporation, in the year 1929, which company duly changed its name in 1936 to Southern California Water Company, a corporation, hereinafter referred to as Applicant. The separate water systems under each succeeding ownership have from time to time been extended into territory adjacent and contiguous to that theretofore served. Applicant contends it is lawfully entitled to continue such extensions under the provisions of Section 50(a) of the "Public Utilities Act." The areas presently served by Applicant now nearly circumscribe unincorporated territory within which residents have no regularly established domestic water service. Applicant maintains that public convenience and necessity require that water service be made available within the territory described in paragraph VII of the application herein, as duly amended at the public hearing held in this proceeding, and as delineated on a map entitled "Southern California Water Company, map showing prescriptive service area," filed herein as Exhibit No. 1.

Parcel No. 1, as set forth in above paragraph VII, is bounded by the city limits of Los Angeles, Gardena, Torrance, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, Hawthorne and Inglewood. Gardena is the only incorporated city within the above described territory. Water service therein has been rendered continuously since 1909 by Applicant and its predecessors. Protests of the cities of Inglewood and Hawthorne were withdrawn upon stipulation by Applicant that it does not desire any portion of the area incorporated within these two cities to be included in its certificate.

Testimony by L. F. Stephenson, Secretary of Moneta Water Company, a corporation, operating as a mutual concern for the benefit of its shareholders within the City of Torrance and within the

southwest portion of the City of Gardena, indicates that there are no objections on the part of this Company to the granting of the application herein and that the operations of Applicant do not and will not adversely affect or conflict with the affairs of this Company or any of its shareholder members.

The O. T. Johnson Corporation and A. P. Johnson Company entered oral and written protests against inclusion of some 1,559 acres owned by them, all of which area is included in Parcel No. 1 as described by Applicant, except 80 acres thereof lying within the City of Inglewood. Testimony shows that protestants utilize said acreage for agricultural and recreational purposes; that all water needs thereon are supplied from wells on the property; that subdivision of the property is not contemplated; and that public convenience and necessity do not and will not require Applicant to furnish water upon the whole or any part of said 1,559 acres. The certificate hereinafter granted will therefore exclude said acreage.

From the record it also appears that public convenience and necessity do not presently require public utility water service by Applicant within that area lying west of the City of Hawthorne, north of El Segundo Boulevard, east of Inglewood-Pedondo Road and south of the City of Los Angeles. There are two other areas now under service by county water-works districts and a third area is being served by a mutual water company. All of these areas will also be eliminated from the territory included in the certificate hereinafter granted.

Parcel No. 2, as described in amended paragraph VII of the application, with the exception of 20 acres in the southeast portion thereof, is now completely served by Applicant and, there being no protest, will be included as requested. This is known as the Lennox district; it is separated from the other areas herein

involved and is surrounded by the cities of Hawthorne, Inglewood and Los Angeles.

The evidence shows that in the last six months, principally by extensions of Applicant's Lawndale and Gardena units, some 1,000 additional consumers have been connected to these various systems. Recently several subdivisions of about 40 acres each have been fully developed and provided with service in this vicinity. Applicant is ready, willing and able to render and provide adequate water service to all present and future consumers throughout the entire area embraced within this application.

There being no protests other than as hereinabove set forth, it appears that the best interests of the public at this time will be fulfilled by granting to Applicant a certificate of public convenience and necessity to serve water within the territory as more particularly described in the following Order.

ORDER

Application as entitled above having been filed with the Railroad Commission, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been duly submitted and the Commission being now fully advised in the premises,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA hereby declares that public convenience and necessity require the operation of a water system or systems by Southern California Water Company, a corporation, within that territory in Los Angeles County, consisting of approximately 15 square miles, more particularly described as follows, the streets and boundaries being as delineated on the map entitled "Southern California Water Company, map showing prescriptive service area," filed as Exhibit No. 1 in this proceeding and by reference made a part hereof:

Parcel No.1 Beginning at the intersection of the boundaries of the City of Inglewood and the City of Los Angeles in Arlington Avenue at Century Boulevard; thence following the boundary of the City of Los Angeles through its various courses and distances easterly along Century Boulevard, southerly along Gramercy Place, easterly along 108th Street, northerly along Western Avenue, easterly along 104th Street, northerly between Denker and La Salle Avenues, easterly along Century Boulevard, northerly along Halldale Avenue, easterly between 94th and 95th Streets, northerly along Normandie Avenue, easterly between 87th Street and Manchester Avenue, southerly along Vermont Avenue, and westerly along Electric Street to Normandie Avenue; thence leaving said boundary of the City of Los Angeles and proceeding northerly along Normandie Avenue to its intersection with the south boundary of the City of Gardena at 170th Street; thence following the boundary of the City of Gardena through its various courses and distances, westerly along 170th Street, southerly along Halldale Avenue, if extended, and westerly along 174th Street to Denker Avenue; thence leaving said boundary of the City of Gardena but continuing westerly along 174th Street to its re-intersection with the boundary of the City of Gardena at Western Avenue; thence again following the boundary of the City of Gardena through its various courses and distances westerly along 174th Street and northerly along Gramercy Place to its intersection with 166th Street, which point is on the boundary common to both the City of Gardena and the City of Torrance; thence following the boundary of the City of Torrance through its various courses and distances northerly along Gramercy Place if extended to Redondo Beach Boulevard and thence southwestward along Redondo Beach Boulevard to its intersection with Hawthorne Boulevard and with the boundary of the City of Redondo Beach; thence following the boundary of the City of Redondo Beach through its various courses and distances southwestward and westerly along Redondo Beach Boulevard, northerly along Inglewood Avenue, westerly along Compton Boulevard to its intersection with the boundary of the City of Manhattan Beach in Wiseburn Avenue, the northerly prolongation of said Wiseburn Avenue being also known as Inglewood-Redondo Road; thence following the boundary of the City of Manhattan Beach northerly along Wiseburn Avenue or Inglewood-Redondo Road to its intersection with the boundary of the City of El Segundo at Rosecrans Avenue; thence leaving said city boundaries and proceeding westerly along Rosecrans Avenue to Anza Avenue; thence northerly along Anza Avenue to the south boundary of Los Angeles County Water Works District No. 22; thence easterly along said south boundary of said District No.22 between 138th and 139th Streets to its intersection with the west boundary of the City of Hawthorne at Inglewood Avenue; thence following the boundary of the City of Hawthorne through its various courses and distances southerly along Inglewood Avenue, easterly along Rosecrans Avenue, northerly along a line midway between Prairie Avenue and Cordary Avenue (said line being the approximate

southerly prolongation of Rose Avenue), easterly along El Segundo Boulevard, northerly along Doty Avenue to 126th Street, westerly along the prolongation of 126th Street to the approximate center line of Florwood Avenue if extended, northerly along said center line to the right of way of Pacific Electric Railway, easterly along the said right of way for a distance of somewhat over one-half mile, and northerly along a line midway between Yukon Avenue (if extended) and Crenshaw Boulevard to the intersection of the boundary of the City of Hawthorne with the southerly boundary of the City of Inglewood at the prolongation of 120th Street; thence easterly along said south boundary of the City of Inglewood in the prolongation of 120th Street to Crenshaw Boulevard; thence southerly along Crenshaw Boulevard to Rosecrans Avenue; thence easterly along Rosecrans Avenue to Arlington Avenue; thence northerly along Arlington Avenue to 135th Street; thence easterly along 135th Street to Western Avenue; thence northerly along Western Avenue to 120th Street; thence westerly one-quarter mile along the prolongation of 120th Street; thence northerly along a line one-quarter mile west of and parallel to Western Avenue for a distance of one-half mile to Imperial Highway; thence westerly along Imperial Highway five-sixteenths of a mile; thence northerly along a line one-sixteenth mile west of and parallel to Arlington Avenue for a distance of one-half mile to the south boundary of the City of Inglewood on the prolongation of 108th Street; thence following the boundary of the City of Inglewood through its various courses and distances easterly along the prolongation of 108th Street one-sixteenth mile to Arlington Avenue and northerly along Arlington Avenue to the point of beginning; excepting therefrom the area under service by Olivito Heights Mutual Water Company which area is bounded on the west by Normandie Avenue, on the north by a line midway between 92nd and 93rd Streets, on the east by Vermont Avenue, and on the south by a line midway between 95th Street and 96th Street (or Colden Avenue); and also excepting therefrom the area under service by Los Angeles County Water Works District No. 1 as the same is described in the official records of Los Angeles County and which in general lies south of 104th Street, west of Vermont Avenue, north of 119th Street, east of Budlong Avenue, north of Imperial Highway, east of Normandie Avenue, north of 108th Street and east of Western Avenue.

Parcel No. 2. Beginning at the intersection of the north boundary of the City of Hawthorne and the boundary of the City of Los Angeles in Hawthorne Boulevard just south of Imperial Highway; thence following the boundary of the City of Los Angeles through its various courses and distances northerly along Hawthorne Boulevard a short distance to Imperial Highway, westerly along Imperial Highway, northerly along the prolongation of Anza Avenue (or Freeman Boulevard) to 95th Street at the intersection of the boundary of the City of Los Angeles with the boundary of the City of Inglewood;

thence following the boundary of the City of Inglewood through its various courses and distances easterly along 95th Street, northerly along Cedar Avenue, easterly along 93rd Street, southerly along Inglewood Avenue, easterly along Century Boulevard, northerly along Hawthorne Avenue (or La Brea Avenue), easterly between 99th Street and Century Boulevard, southerly along Prairie Avenue, easterly again along Century Boulevard, southerly along Yukon Avenue, easterly along 108th Street southerly along Crenshaw Boulevard, westerly along Imperial Highway and southerly along Yukon Avenue to the prolongation of 120th Street at the point of intersection of the boundary of the City of Inglewood with the boundary of the City of Hawthorne; thence following the boundary of the City of Hawthorne through its various courses and distances westerly along the prolongation of 120th Street, northerly along Prairie Avenue and westerly along Imperial Highway to the point of beginning at Hawthorne Boulevard.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it is hereby granted to Southern California Water Company, a corporation, to operate a public water utility within the territory hereinabove described.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Southern California Water Company be and it is hereby directed as follows:

1. Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order to refile with this Commission for its approval, quadruplicate sets of rates to be charged for all water service rendered to its consumers within each of its water service districts or systems within the area for which the certificate is granted herein, said rates to be those heretofore duly established and now in effect and presently charged for the service rendered.

2. Within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order to refile with this Commission for its approval, quadruplicate sets of rules and regulations governing relations with its consumers within each of its water service districts or systems within the area for which the certificate is granted herein, each set of which shall contain a suitable map or sketch of the water service district, drawn to an indicated scale upon a sheet approximately 8½"x 11" in size, delineating thereupon in distinctive markings the boundaries of the heretofore authorized service area, within which the heretofore established rates, or the rules and regulations, shall differ in any manner from those now in effect in adjacent or interconnected water service districts; provided, however, that such map or sketch shall not thereby be con-

sidered by this Commission or any other public body as a final or conclusive determination or establishment of the dedicated area of service, or any portion thereof.

3. Within sixty (60) days from the date of this Order, to file with this Commission four copies of a comprehensive map drawn to an indicated scale of not less than 600 feet to the inch, upon which shall be delineated correctly by appropriate markings the various tracts of land in the territory for which the certificate is granted herein and upon which shall also be delineated by appropriate markings the full extent of Applicant's various water service systems being entirely or partly within said territory or adjacent thereto and presently interconnected to any system within said territory. This map should be reasonably accurate, show the source and date thereof, and sufficient data to determine clearly and definitely the location of the various properties comprising the entire utility area of service.

4. Within sixty (60) days from the date of this Order, to file with this Commission an affidavit to the effect that it will never claim before this Commission or any other public body an amount for the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted herein in excess of the actual cost of acquisition.

For all other purposes the effective date of the Order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco California, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1941.

[Signature]  
\_\_\_\_\_

Justus J. Craven  
Francis L. Havens  
COMMISSIONERS.