

Decision No. 36072

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
T. V. Wheeler for permission to
discontinue water service.

Application No. 24861

Mrs. T. V. Wheeler, for Applicant.

ORIGINAL

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this proceeding, T. V. Wheeler, who owns a public utility water system supplying domestic water in a small portion of the town of Oceano, San Luis Obispo County, asks the Railroad Commission for authority to discontinue all further water service. Mr. Wheeler alleges that he is no longer physically able to attend to the business and that he does not earn sufficient revenue to employ anyone to assist in its operation or make the necessary repairs.

A public hearing was held in this matter at Oceano.

From the evidence, it appears that about twenty years ago T. V. Wheeler ran a private pipe line from a well located at his residence, some two thousand feet to a general merchandise store which he then operated. From time to time, as a matter of accommodation, he permitted certain local residents living along the pipe line to connect thereto and receive domestic water. At one time there were as many as twenty-five water users.

Several years ago Mr. Wheeler's health began to fail and he was forced to retire completely from business. He is now an invalid requiring constant care. The additional burden of trying to keep the pumping plant in

operation has fallen upon the shoulders of Mrs. Wheeler who no longer can handle such work. It appears that practically all of the remaining consumers can use water from their own wells, or obtain water from their neighbors, or otherwise. At the time of submission of this proceeding, it was agreed and understood that two months would be allowed for the consumers to get together and arrange either individually or collectively to obtain water from other sources. Considerable time over this period has since elapsed and all but four water users are now receiving adequate water in some other way.

It is clear, therefore, that a fair and ample amount of time has been permitted all consumers to provide for their own water service and that it is no longer either reasonable or necessary to require T. V. Wheeler or his wife to continue further public utility water service. Applicant will therefore be authorized to discontinue water service as prayed.

O R D E R

T. V. Wheeler, having applied to this Commission for an order authorizing him to discontinue his public utility water service, a public hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been duly submitted, and the Commission being now fully advised in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that T. V. Wheeler be and he is hereby authorized to discontinue on the thirty-first day of January, 1943, all public utility water service in the Town of Oceano, County of San Luis Obispo, and thereupon and thereafter stand relieved of any and all public utility obligations and liabilities in connection therewith.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that T. V. Wheeler be and he is hereby directed to notify all of his consumers, within ten days after the date of this Order, of his intention to discontinue public utility water service upon the thirty-first day of January, 1943.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 29th day of December, 1942.

Justin F. Cooper
Carl H. Dreyer
A. B. K. M.
Francis R. Havens
Richard K. ...
 Commissioners.