

Decision No. 36412

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY for
an order authorizing applicant to
file and make effective the proposed
rules and regulations governing the
furnishing of gas and electric services
referred to in this petition, and to
withdraw and cancel applicant's presently
filed gas and electric rules and regu-
lations, including the gas and electric
rules and regulations on file with the
Railroad Commission in the name of
Midland Counties Public Service Corpora-
tion and San Joaquin Light and Power
Corporation.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 24965
(Amended)

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND ORDER

In this amended application Pacific Gas and Electric Company, hereinafter sometimes called Applicant, seeks an order from this Commission granting and conferring upon it all necessary permission and authority to file and make effective uniform rules and regulations in accordance with which gas and electric energy will be supplied in the territory served by Applicant, copies of which are annexed to the application and marked Exhibits "C" and "D," respectively, and to withdraw and cancel all of Applicant's filed and effective gas and electric rules and regulations including those filed in the names of Midland Counties Public Service Corporation and San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation.

Since Applicant acquired ownership of the former Midland Counties Public Service Corporation and of the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation,¹ the rates of

1. Consolidation authorized by Decision Nos. 31354 and 36081 effective December 31, 1938.

the consolidated companies have been unified and filed under Applicant's name, but no such action has been taken with respect to their rules and regulations. These still appear under the former corporate titles and are still being applied in the territory for which they were originally authorized.

Applicant's presently effective rules and regulations are those established August 31, 1919, by Decision Nos. 6542 and 6543, with minor changes subsequently authorized from time to time. Like those of the other two companies, they apply, with few exceptions, only to the territory of Applicant as it existed before the consolidation.

The primary purpose of this application is to eliminate that condition and to bring about properly unified rules and regulations for the consolidated operations, but in so doing certain other revisions which appear to be in keeping with present-day operations have been included. Such other changes have been directed essentially to a regrouping of the 29 former rules into 18 rules under the general headings outlined in Commission's General Order No. 96 on "Rules Governing Filing and Posting of Tariff Schedules." In making such rearrangements of the rules and regulations, it necessarily becomes essential that many of the consolidated rules have been reworded. Such work was jointly done by the respective staffs of the Applicant and the Commission.

The Commission finds that, on review and study of the revised rules as proposed in Exhibits "C" and "D," generally the intent in meaning of the new effective rules is maintained. However, in some instances changes made will provide a more liberal application of the rules from the customers' viewpoint, and in other instances the changes might be looked upon as more restrictive. Under the latter may be mentioned the rate of interest paid on customer deposits (proposed Rule No. 7). Such rate is reduced from 6% to 5% per annum. It appears that such lower rate is justified in view of prevailing interest rates, and that the ~~5%~~^{5%} rate will continue to provide a return to customers higher than normally obtainable, and at the same time provide an incentive to the utility to refund the deposits at the earliest date permissible. As to the other changes the Commission

finds them reasonable and justified except for two instances under Rule No. 16, Section B, on gas service connections, and Rule No. 16, Section C, on electric service connections. In these two cases a less liberal provision on maintenance performance by Applicant is proposed. At this time it is the Commission's view that no provisions should be incorporated in proposed Rule No. 16 less liberal than those contained in the presently effective rules and regulations of Applicant.

The Commission is further of the opinion that because of the nature and purpose of the matters herein pending, no public hearing is required, and good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY FOUND that the gas and electric rules and regulations set forth in Exhibits "C" and "D" of the amended application, and as modified hereinabove by the opinion part of the Order, are just and reasonable rules to be applied by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and basing this Order on the foregoing finding of fact and upon factual findings in the foregoing opinion,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Pacific Gas and Electric Company shall file on or before June 21, 1943, and to become effective on July 1, 1943, in all territory served or to be served by Applicant, the gas and electric rules set forth and contained in Exhibits "C" and "D" of the amended application with the limitations imposed hereinabove in the opinion part of the Order.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that upon the filing and making effective of the aforesaid rules and regulations, the present effective rules and regulations of Applicant and the effective rules and regulations in the name of Midland Counties Public Service Corporation and the San Joaquin Light and Power Company shall be withdrawn and cancelled.

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

Dated at San Francisco this 1st day of June, 1943.

Francis D. Hoey

H. J. Baker

Justin F. Coleman

Richard P. Baker

Thomas W. Olson

(Commissioners)