

Decision No. 36517

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of the Application of The Quaker Oats Co., Ken-L-Products Div., a corporation, for permission for service of surplus gas for industrial uses under applicable surplus gas rate schedule or schedules of the Southern Calif. Gas Co., a public utility, without standby fuel installation and supply.

Application No. 25694

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND ORDER

In this application The Quaker Oats Company petitions the Commission for permission to be served with gas under the applicable surplus gas tariffs and by Southern California Gas Company and without the necessity of installing and providing a standby fuel installation and supply.

The petitioner respectfully shows that it is in the business of manufacturing and distributing biscuits and meal to be used for the feeding of dogs under the trade names of "Ken-L-Biskit" and "Ken-L-Meal," and that such products in part are used by the United States military forces in the training of "Dogs for Defense." It further represents that gas is used in its plant for the production of the above named products in Los Angeles (P.O. address 5112 South Hoover Street) and that the original allotment of surplus gas of 10,000 cubic feet daily made in January of this year is now entirely inadequate to provide for the increased requirements of its plant. Further, that petitioner has made application and has obtained permission from the War Production Board to deviate from that Board's Limitation Order L-31 to the extent it may receive up to 40,000 cubic feet daily of gas and without installing standby equipment. Copies of such request and permission to the War Production Board are attached to and made a part of this application as Exhibits "A" and "B".

In making the request for surplus service without the necessity of installing standby equipment and fuel, petitioner points out that the nature of its production operations are such that it can at all times meet any curtailment and discontinuance orders of the gas company in case there should be a deficiency in the natural gas supply.

The Commission observes that the operations of The Quaker Oats Company in the production of dog food products is not classed as an essential war industry and that petitioner is ready at all times to conform its operations so as to be able to take curtailment and shutoff of the natural gas fuel in case there becomes a shortage of that product. The Commission likewise knows that it is exceedingly difficult to obtain necessary materials to install standby facilities and that every effort should be made in the curtailment of the use of critical materials. Under the circumstances now obtaining, it accordingly appears reasonable that the petition of The Quaker Oats Company should be granted; and further, no public hearing is deemed necessary, and good cause appearing,

It is hereby found as a fact that Southern California Gas Company is warranted to render surplus gas service to the extent of approximately 40,000 cubic feet in any one day to The Quaker Oats Company at its plant for the production of dog foods in its Los Angeles plant and without petitioner installing standby; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern California Gas Company may render surplus gas service under the appropriate filed tariffs and under the conditions of such tariffs with the deviations hereinbefore found reasonable, provided that the period of such service without auxiliary standby equipment and fuels shall not exceed the war period plus six months unless otherwise authorized by the Commission.

The effective date of this Order shall be the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th day of July, 1943.

Francis D. Havens
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Francis D. Havens
Commissioners