

Decision No. 36565

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY, a corporation, for an order approving contract dated June 29, 1943, for the installation of earthquake valves on school premises in City of Los Angeles School Districts.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 25723

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND ORDER

In this Application Southern California Gas Company requests authorization of a contract under date of June 29, 1943, by and between Los Angeles City School District of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles City High School District of Los Angeles County, and Los Angeles City Junior College District of Los Angeles County and Southern California Gas Company, which will result in certain deviations in respect to the utility's liability in the installation of earthquake valves and as provided in Section 34(a) of this Commission's General Order No. 58-A. The agreement referred to with the aforesaid School Districts, marked Exhibit "A," is attached to and made a part of the Application.

Very briefly, the Applicant has agreed to permit the Districts to have installed and maintain earthquake valves between the gas main and the meter installation of the utility. Apparently, the Applicant does not desire to assume the responsibility that may result from the operation of earthquake valves in shutting off utility gas service to the schools where they are installed and, accordingly, points to its responsibility under Section 34(a) of General Order No. 58-A which provides as follows:

"Each gas utility, unless specifically relieved in any case by the Commission from such obligation, shall operate and maintain in safe, efficient and proper condition all of the facilities and instrumentalities used in connection with the furnishing, regulation, measurement and delivery of gas to any customer up to and including the point of delivery, which point, for the purpose of these rules, shall be deemed to be the outlet fitting of the meter installed by the utility."

It is represented that under the terms of the contract as set forth in Exhibit "A," Applicant is to be relieved from obligations provided in the aforesaid section in so far as such obligation applies to the earthquake valves installed upon the utility's service pipes and as the operation of such valves may affect the rendering of gas service to the schools.

In view of the fact that the parties to the contract are willing to carry out the terms of such contract, the Commission is of the opinion that the authorization requested should be granted and, further, that no public hearing is required; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Southern California Gas Company may carry out the terms of that certain contract of June 29, 1943, with Los Angeles City School District of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles City High School District of Los Angeles County and Los Angeles City Junior College District of Los Angeles County and perform the work and functions as set forth and provided in the contract.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 24th day of August, 1943.

Francis D. Havenner
W. H. M. M.
Andrew J. C. ...
Robert ...
Wm. ...
Commissioners.