

Decision No. 37847

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
 MECCA WATER AND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY,
 owned by Dr. C. S. Johnson, for a
 certificate of public convenience and
 necessity permitting the establishment
 of Applicant as a public utility water
 company in the Town of Mecca and
 environs, a subdivision of the SW 1/4
 of Section 8, T. 7 S., R. 9 E.,
 S.B.B. & M., Riverside County,
 California.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 26558

Loren W. East, for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Dr. C. S. Johnson, doing business as the Mecca Water and Development Company, asks the Commission to grant him a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct, maintain and operate a public utility water system in and in the vicinity of the unincorporated town of Mecca, Riverside County, and to approve a schedule of rates to be charged for the service rendered.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held in Mecca before Examiner Chiesa.

The townsite of Mecca was established in 1915. It has an area of approximately 160 acres, being a subdivision of the SW 1/4 of Section 8, T. 7 S., R. 9 E., S.B.B. & M. At the hearing, the application was amended to include within the certificated area an adjoining 80 acres lying immediately to the east of the townsite, as there was a request for water service in this territory. This additional acreage comprises the W 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of said Section 8.

At present there are twenty-two residents of Mecca receiving service from a pipe line and well installed by the County of Riverside to irrigate young trees along certain streets of the town. The cost of operating this system is divided among the users on an informal basis. The present service is inadequate but the users have no organization or association to raise funds to maintain the property or to make needed replacements or repairs. They approved the construction of the proposed water system and urged its early installation and operation as the development of the community has been handicapped because of inadequate water service. The construction of the All American Canal and the reclamation of the surrounding desert lands is expected to result in a material increase in population of the town.

Dr. Johnson proposes to install and operate a public utility water system to supply the present and future residents of the townsite. He owns a developed well, 600 feet deep, that is equipped with a pump and motor capable of producing water at a rate of 100 gallons per minute. A 300-gallon pressure tank and a 3,000-gallon storage tank have also been installed at the well site. He proposes to install 4,500 feet of four-inch pipe to service the present users in the townsite and to meet the demand for service in the adjoining 80-acre tract. Dr. Johnson has expended approximately \$2,900 in connection with the source of water supply and he estimates that the pipe lines will require an additional expenditure of \$7,200. The evidence shows that he is financially able to carry out the proposed construction and to operate the system.

The County of Riverside does not grant a franchise, but issues permits to open the roads and streets to install and maintain pipe lines. Dr. Johnson has been informed that he will be issued said permits upon request.

The proposed rates are on a measured basis and provide for a minimum charge of \$1.25 per month, which entitles the user to 500 cubic feet of water. The quantity charges are reduced as the use of water increases. These rates are similar to the schedules in effect on other water systems in nearby communities.

No other public utility water system operates in the area for which a certificate is requested and no one objected to the proposed service. Under the circumstances, it appears to be in the public interest to grant the certificate and approve the proposed schedule of rates.

O R D E R

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 now being fully advised in the premises,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity requires, and will require, the construction and operation of a public utility water system by Dr. C. S. Johnson, doing business as the Mecca Water and Development Company in and in the vicinity of the unincorporated town of Mecca, Riverside County, being the SW 1/4 and the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE 1/4 of Section 8, T. 7 S., R. 9 E., S.B.B.& M., said area consisting of 240 acres, and partially shown on the map marked Exhibit A attached to the application herein.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. That a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it is hereby granted to Dr. C. S. Johnson, doing business as Mecca Water and Development Company, to construct and operate a public utility for the distribution and sale of water within the territory hereinbefore described.
2. That the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted herein is subject to the following provision of law, to wit:

"That the Commission shall have no power to authorize the capitalization of the certificate of public convenience and necessity herein granted, or the right to own, operate, or enjoy such certificate in excess of the amount actually paid to the State or to a political subdivision thereof, as the consideration for the grant of said certificate of public convenience and necessity."
3. That Dr. C. S. Johnson, doing business as Mecca Water and Development Company be and he is hereby authorized and directed to file in quadruplicate, in conformity with this Commission's General

Order No. 96, in not less than ten (10) days before beginning to sell water, the following schedule of rates to be charged for all water service rendered to his customers, which schedule of rates is hereby found to be just and reasonable for the service to be rendered.

Schedule No. 1

GENERAL METERED SERVICE

Applicability:

Applicable to all domestic, commercial and industrial metered water service.

Territory:

Within the entire territory served as delineated on the map and included in the tariff schedules as Map No. 1.

Rates:

	<u>Per Meter</u> <u>Per Month</u>
<u>Quantity Charges:</u>	
First 500 cubic feet, or less	\$1.25
Next 1,500 cubic feet; per 100 cubic feet20
Next 3,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet15
Next 5,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet125
Over 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet10

Minimum Charges:

For 5/8 x 3/4 inch meter	\$1.25
For 3/4 inch meter	2.00
For 1 inch meter	3.00
For 1 1/2 inch meter	4.00
For 2 inch meter	5.00

The Minimum Charge will entitle the consumer to the quantity of water which that minimum monthly charge will purchase at the Quantity Rates.

4. That Dr. C. S. Johnson, within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Order, shall file four sets of rules and regulations governing relations with his consumers, each set of which shall contain a suitable map or sketch, drawn to an indicated scale of about 8 1/2 x 11 inches in size, indicating thereon the service area and the location thereof with reference to the surrounding territory. Such filing shall not be construed as a determination or establishment, in whole or in part, of the dedicated area of service.

5. That Dr. C. S. Johnson, within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this Order, shall file four copies of a comprehensive map or sketch, drawn to an indicated scale of not less than 400 feet to the inch, delineating correctly thereon, by appropriate markings, the various tracts of land in the territory served. Such map should be reasonably accurate, show the source and date thereof, and include sufficient data to determine clearly and definitely the location of the various properties comprising the entire area of service. Such filing shall not be construed as a determination or establishment, in whole or in part, of the dedicated area of service.

The effective date of this Order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1st day of May, 1945.

Harold Rubin
Justus J. Coequer
Richard K. ...
Francis W. ...
James H. ...
Commissioners.