

Decision No. 39764

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY, a corporation, and SOUTHERN COUNTIES GAS COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, a corporation, under Section 50(b) of the Public Utilities Act of the State of California, as amended, for a certificate that Public Convenience and Necessity Require the Exercise of the Rights and Privileges Granted to Applicants by Ordinance No. 325 of the County of Riverside.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 27905

L. T. Rice for Applicants.

O P I N I O N

Southern California Gas Company and Southern Counties Gas Company of California join in asking authority to exercise a franchise granted by the County of Riverside permitting the installation and maintenance of gas facilities upon the roads and highways in a limited portion of said county.

The franchise referred to, a copy of which is attached to the application and marked Exhibit "B", is for a term of fifty years and a fee is payable annually to the county equivalent to two per cent. of the gross annual receipts arising from the use, operation, or possession thereof.

The franchise provides that Southern California Gas Company shall have an undivided three-quarters interest therein, and that Southern Counties Gas Company of California shall have an undivided one-quarter interest therein.

The territory covered by this franchise is a continuous strip of land fifteen miles wide extending from the Colorado River near Blythe to the western boundary of Riverside County. The center line of this strip is to be the route of that certain gas transmission line extending from Blythe to Santa Fe Springs, the construction, operation, and maintenance of which was authorized by this

Commission by Decision No. 38668 in Application No. 27056. The course of this line is described in detail in the franchise.

Decision No. 38668 ordered, among other things, that pursuant to Section 50(c) of the Public Utilities Act Applicants would be granted a certificate or certificates to exercise such county franchises or permits as might thereafter be obtained by them for the construction and maintenance of said gas transmission line upon receipt of further applications therefor. The instant application is one filed in compliance with that order.

A hearing on this application was held by Examiner Daly at which no opposition to the granting of the requested authority was manifested.

The cost to Applicants in obtaining this franchise is stated to have been \$933.33. It is estimated that the annual payments to be made to the county will be equivalent to \$30 or \$40 per month.

As Applicants have procured from the County of Riverside a franchise necessary to the installation of the contemplated pipe line within the County of Riverside, and have made application for authority to exercise the same in accordance with the decision above mentioned, it is evident that the requested authority should be granted.

The authority granted herein is subject to the following provisions of law:

That the Commission shall have no power to authorize the capitalization of the franchise involved herein or this certificate of public convenience and necessity or the right to own, operate or enjoy such franchise or certificate of public convenience and necessity in excess of the amount (exclusive of any tax or annual charge) actually paid to the state or to a political subdivision thereof as the consideration for the grant of such franchise, certificate of public convenience and necessity or right.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held upon the joint application of Southern California Gas Company and Southern Counties Gas Company of California, the matter having been considered, it appearing to the Commission and being found as a fact that public convenience and necessity so require, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Southern California Gas Company and Southern Counties Gas Company of California be and hereby are authorized to exercise the rights and privileges granted by the County of Riverside by Ordinance No. 325 adopted August 26, 1946.

The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof,

Dated at San Francisco, California this 23rd day of December

1946.

Harold P. Huls
Justin F. Gaumer
Francis Deane
John H. Lawrence
A. F. Dunnington

Commissioners