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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY and COAST COUNTIES GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY for an order authorizing the former to sell and the latter to purchase certain gas distribution properties in Contra Costa County, State of California.

Application No. 28790

<u>OPINION</u>

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (hereinafter sometimes called Pacific) and Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company (hereinafter sometimes called Coast Counties) ask for an order authorizing the former to sell and the latter to purchase certain gas distribution facilities in Contra Costa County, used by Pacific to serve nine customers located in the recognized gas service area of Coast Counties, and authorizing Pacific to cease furnishing gas service to said customers.

Pacific and Coast Counties each furnish natural gas service in portions of Contra Costa County in service areas separated by a boundary line established by Decision No. 39230 in Application No. 27359. This boundary line is described by metes and bounds in Exhibit 8 of that proceeding. Contrary to the information and belief of both applicants as expressed at the hearing thereon, it now appears that Pacific was then and still is supplying gas service to approximately nine customers in the vicinity of San Pablo at locations recognized by Pacific to be within the service area of Coast Counties.

To overcome this complication, Pacific has agreed to sell and Coast Counties has agreed to purchase the distribution facilities presently used directly to serve said customers for the equivalent of the historical cost thereof, less accrued depreciation, estimated to amount to approximately \$2,450.

Coast Counties proposes to serve the customers thus acquired under its Schedule G-2-C (or successor schedules) or under such other rates as the Commission

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may direct. At the time this application was filed certain rates of this schedule were higher than those of Pacific's applicable Schedule G-6-A. Subsequently, Schedule G-2-C was superseded by Schedule G-1-C, effective December 31, 1947, the rates of which are in general lower than those of Pacific's Schedule G-6-A. Owing to differences in schedule design, charges for consumptions between 1900 cubic feet and 5000 cubic feet will be from one cent to a maximum of four cents per month higher. For all other consumptions the charges will be lower.

To overcome these slight inequalities it will be necessary either to redesign the established schedule structure of Coast Counties or to place these few customers on a special schedule discriminatory to its other customers. Neither of these courses appears warranted, and Coast Counties will accordingly be directed to apply its Schedule C-1-C to their service.

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Application as above entitled having been filed, the Commission having considered the same and being of the opinion that a public hearing thereon is not necessary and that the requested authority should be granted,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. That Pacific Gas and Electric Company is hereby authorized to sell and Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company to purchase the gas distribution facilities presently being used directly by Pacific Gas and Electric Company to furnish gas service to approximately nine customers located along Sobrante Road, San Pablo, Contra Costa County in territory recognized as a part of the gas service area of Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company.

2. That Pacific Gas and Electric Company is hereby authorized, upon consummation of the contemplated sale and transfer, to cease furnishing gas service to the customers presently being served by means of the facilities to be transferred and Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company is hereby authorized thereafter to furnish gas service to said customers.

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3. That Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company shall charge for gas service furnished to the customers thus transferred the rates contained in its presently effective Schedule G-1-C or successor schedules.

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> 4. That Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company shall, upon undertaking this service, by written communication advise each of these customers fully with respect to the transfer and rates authorized by this Order.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this <u>27</u> - day of <u>January</u>, 1948.

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Commissioners