

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 47493

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
SOUTHERN COUNTIES GAS COMPANY OF)
CALIFORNIA for permission to deviate) Application No. 33532
from General Order No. 94-A, covering)
gas holders.)

OPINION AND ORDER

In this application the Southern Counties Gas Company of California requests authority to deviate from certain provisions of General Order No. 94-A, "Rules Governing the Design, Construction, Operation, Maintenance and Inspection of Gas Holders and Liquid Hydrocarbon Vessels."

Applicant proposes to construct a 16-inch diameter pipe line in 1952 starting at San Luis Obispo and extending south toward Arroyo Grande for a distance of approximately 17,000 feet. A compressor station will be installed at San Luis Obispo and used to pack gas in this section of pipe line during off-peak hours in order to augment high pressure storage capacity available to San Luis Obispo which is now needed to render adequate natural gas service in that vicinity. The utility plans to complete the line southward to Arroyo Grande during the next few years and thereafter the pipe line will serve as a gas transmission line having built-in storage capacity. The compressor station will be moved from San Luis Obispo to Arroyo Grande at that time.

The 17,000-foot section of the pipe line to be constructed in 1952 will be used only for the storage of natural gas until such time as the line is completed to Arroyo Grande.

The 17,000-foot section of pipe line may be considered as a gas holder. This proposed gas holder will be constructed entirely of pipe and fittings and will be built in accordance with the provisions of the American Standard Code for Pressure Piping, A.S.A. B 31.1 - 1951 as recommended by General Order No. 94-A. The installation of the gas holder will be on rights of way and in public streets. Section 3e of General Order No. 94-A contemplates that all gas holders be installed on land owned or under the exclusive control and use of the utility. Applicant asks for a modification of this rule under Section 1 of said general order so that it may install and operate the described 16-inch pipe line as an underground gas holder.

The utility will construct the pipe line in accordance with the same standards of design and construction as used for all of its high pressure natural gas pipe lines. There will be no operating conditions during the period that the pipe line is used exclusively as a gas holder that will be more severe than when it is eventually used as a transmission line with built-in storage capacity.

The Commission having considered the request of applicant and being of the opinion that the application should be granted and that a public hearing is not necessary, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicant be and it is hereby authorized to deviate from the provision of Section 3e of General Order No. 94-A by installing on rights of way and in public streets a gas holder constructed entirely of pipe and fittings and extending southward approximately 17,000 feet from San Luis Obispo. Said gas holder should be constructed in accordance with the appropriate

provisions of Section 2 of the American Standard Code for Pressure Piping, A.S.A. B 31.1 - 1951

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd day of July, 1952.

A. Z. Anderson
President.
Justin J. Casper
Harold H. Kite
Russell P. Potter

Commissioners.