

**ORIGINAL**

Decision No. 47498

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
Joseph A. West and Elsie A. West )  
to operate a water system at Preston, )  
Sonoma County, to furnish water to ) Application No. 33214  
prospective consumers in West's Tract, )  
a subdivision, and to establish rates )  
to consumers. )

Joseph A. West, for applicants;  
Clyde F. Norris, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

Applicants, Joseph A. West and Elsie A. West, filed their application on March 11, 1952, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate a public utility water system in a proposed subdivision in Sonoma County to be known as West's Tract and for authority to establish rates to be charged for water service. A map of the proposed service area is attached to the application herein and was introduced into evidence as Exhibit No. 1.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held before Examiner Cline at Cloverdale on July 1, 1952. At this hearing applicants filed an amendment to Paragraph 6 of said application, setting forth a revised schedule of proposed rates.

Description of System

The West Tract contains 17 lots to which applicants propose to furnish water service after the construction of homes thereon.

The system will be connected to applicants' present well which is 28 feet deep, has approximately 18 feet of water

and has a capacity of 200 gallons per minute. This well also serves applicants' own home and serves as a standby well for applicants' fish farm and hatchery. The present well cost \$1,800.

Applicants also propose to construct a second well at an estimated cost of \$2,000 on applicants' Lot 16, which upon completion will be the primary source of water. The present well will thereafter be used for standby purposes only.

The new well will be equipped with a 5 hp Fairbanks centrifugal pump delivering 60 gallons a minute at a discharge pressure of 70 pounds. The water will be delivered through a 1,000-gallon pressure tank and will be distributed through 875 feet of galvanized pipe ranging from 6 inches to 2 inches in diameter.

The entire cost of the new system including the new well is estimated at \$5,100.

The water supply has been tested and approved by the county authorities.

Applicant will reserve the necessary easements in Else Way before turning this street over to the county.

Witness J. A. West testified that no other water system is prepared to serve the proposed service area. The Cloverdale Water System, which is 2 miles away, does not wish to extend service to this area.

Proposed Rates

Applicants propose to serve water only on a measured basis and at the following rates:

<u>Quantity Charge</u>	<u>Per Meter Per Month</u>
First 700 cubic feet, or less .....	\$2.10
Next 1,300 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet .....	.25
Next 3,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet .....	.20
Next 5,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet .....	.15
Over 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet .....	.12

Minimum Charges

For 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter .....	\$2.10
For 3/4-inch meter .....	3.10
For 1-inch meter .....	4.35

Applicants did not submit estimates of revenues and expenses in connection with the operation of the system. At this stage of development, any such estimates necessarily would be highly speculative.

Witness J. A. West did testify, however, that he did not expect to make any profit at the proposed rates unless and until the system is expanded to serve other areas not included in the presently proposed service area.

The above rates are in conformity with those charged by other public utility water systems in the general territory. They are reasonable and should be authorized.

Financial Ability

Joseph A. West is a retired navy man and Elsie A. West is his wife. For the past two years applicants have been engaged in the operation of a fish farm and hatchery adjacent to the proposed service area. Applicants have had a low net income during these initial years of the development of their business, but the record shows that their net income is steadily increasing. Applicants' net worth appears to be sufficient to assure their

financial ability to continue the development of their fish farm and hatchery business and also satisfactorily to develop and operate the public utility water system as proposed..

Conclusion

The Commission has considered the request of applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct and operate a public utility water system and is of the opinion that it should be granted. The rates for water service proposed by applicant should be authorized.

The certificate issued herein is subject to the following provision of law:

That the Commission shall have no power to authorize the capitalization of this certificate of public convenience and necessity or the right to own, operate or enjoy such certificate of public convenience and necessity in excess of the amount (exclusive of any tax or annual charge) actually paid to the State as the consideration for the issuance of such certificate of public convenience and necessity or right..

O R D E R

The above-entitled application having been considered, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY FOUND AS A FACT that public convenience and necessity will require the construction and operation of a public utility water system by Joseph A. West and Elsie A. West, his wife, in Sonoma County in the area known as West's Tract and set forth on the map attached to the application on file herein.

IT IS ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it is hereby granted Joseph A. West and Elsie A. West to construct and operate a public utility

## EXHIBIT A

GENERAL METERED SERVICEAPPLICABILITY

Applicable to all service.

TERRITORY

In an unincorporated area in Sonoma County known as West's Tract, as shown on the map included in the tariff sheets.

RATES

Quantity Rates:	<u>Per Meter</u> <u>Per Month</u>
First : 700 cubic feet, or less .....	\$2.10
Next 1,300 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet ...	.25
Next 3,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet ...	.20
Next 5,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet ...	.15
Over 10,000 cubic feet, per 100 cubic feet ...	.12

## Minimum Charges:

For 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter .....	\$2.10
For 3/4-inch meter .....	3.10
For 1-inch meter .....	4.35

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

system for the distribution and sale of water within the territory hereinbefore described.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that applicant shall:

1. File with this Commission, within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this order, in conformance with the provisions of General Order No. 96, four copies of the schedule of rates attached hereto as Exhibit A, together with four copies of rules and regulations and service area map and, on not less than five (5) days' notice to the public and this Commission, make said rates, rules and regulations effective for all water service rendered on or after the first day of September, 1952.
2. File with this Commission, within forty (40) days after the effective date of this order, four copies of a comprehensive map, drawn to an indicated scale of approximately 50 feet to the inch, delineating by appropriate markings the tract of land and the territory served and the location of the property of applicant.

The authorization herein granted will lapse if not exercised within one (1) year from the date hereof.

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

Dated at San Francisco California, this 52<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 1952.

A. T. [Signature]  
President.

Justus J. Coe  
Harold H. [Signature]

[Signature]

Commissioners.

Commissioner Peter E. Mitchell, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.