

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 49419

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY, a )  
 corporation, under Sections 1002 and )  
 1005 of the Public Utilities Code, )  
 for a certificate that public con- )  
 venience and necessity require the )  
 exercise of the rights and privileges )  
 granted by Ordinance No. 296 of the )  
 City of Gardena, California. )

Application No. 34666

T. J. Reynolds and Harry P. Letton, Jr.,  
 by Harry P. Letton, Jr., for applicant

O P I N I O N

Southern California Gas Company in this proceeding asks for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to exercise the rights and privileges of a franchise granted by the City of Gardena, permitting the installation, maintenance, and use of a gas distribution and transmission system in the streets of said City. A public hearing was held before Examiner C. E. Crenshaw on November 30, 1953, in Los Angeles.

The franchise referred to, a copy of which is attached to the application and designated as Exhibit "B", was granted by the city in accordance with the Franchise Act of 1937, and is of indeterminate duration. A fee is payable annually to the City equivalent to 2 per cent of the gross receipts arising from the use, operation, or possession of the franchise, but not less than 1 per cent of the gross annual receipts from sales of gas within the limits of the City under said franchise.

The costs incurred by applicant in obtaining the franchise are stated to have been \$87.12, which amount does not include costs incident to this application.

At the present time applicant is rendering gas service in the City of Gardena under county franchises which have been previously obtained. The new franchise granted by Ordinance No. 296 of the City of Gardena will supersede those portions of the county franchise under which the Company has been operating within the city limits of Gardena.

The annual payments under the old franchises were approximately \$3,122. Under the new franchise the payments are estimated to be \$3,547 based upon 1 per cent of the total gross receipts within the City of Gardena and will result in an increase in payments of \$425 a year.

No objection to the granting of the certificate has been entered; furthermore, this utility or its predecessors have for many years served gas in and about the City of Gardena without competition.

The certificate of public convenience and necessity herein granted is subject to the following provisions of law:

1. 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.
2. That the franchise involved herein shall never be given any value before any court or other public authority in any proceeding of any character in excess of the cost to the grantee of the necessary publication and any other sum paid by it to the municipality therefor at the time of the acquisition thereof.

O R D E R

The above-entitled application having been filed, 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 require the exercise by applicant of the right, privilege and franchise granted to applicant by Ordinance No. 296 of the City of Gardena.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and is granted to Southern California Gas Company to exercise the rights and privileges granted by the City of Gardena by Ordinance No. 296 adopted May 12, 1953.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1953.

R. Z. [Signature]  
President

Justin D. [Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]  
Commissioners