

ORIGINALDecision No. 49801

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Louis A. Veit, et al,
Complainants,

vs.

The Rohnerville Water Works,
Defendant.

Case No. 5453

Application of Thelma B. Wood
requesting permission for exten-
sion of her Campton Heights Water
Service area by reason of contin-
ued requests for water service
from customers of The Rohnerville
Water Works owned by Melvin J.
Strong.

Application No. 34322

Melvin H. Strong, in propria persona, for defendants:
Ethel Veit, in propria persona, interested party.
John Reader, for the Commission staff.

OPINION AND ORDER
ON PETITION FOR MODIFICATION
OF DECISION NO. 48929

The defendants herein have petitioned the Commission to modify, in certain respects, Decision No. 48929, dated August 4, 1953.

A public hearing was held before Examiner Silverhart in Fortuna on February 16, 1954, on which date the matter was submitted.

Ordering paragraph 1(d) of Decision No. 48929 directed the defendants to develop a new deep well water supply within one year from the effective date of such order. The record shows that defendants, with commendable dispatch, have completed a new well 200 feet deep, equipped with a deep well turbine pump connected to a 5 hp motor. Defendant Melvin H. Strong testified that the well has

a capacity of 50 gpm, is iron free and ample to supply the community. A bacteriological analysis of water taken from such well, performed by the Humboldt-Del Norte County Department of Health on January 11, 1954, showed no evidence of contamination. Defendant Melvin H. Strong further testified that old iron deposits were flushed from the tanks, 4-inch mains and small tributary mains. The witness asserted that ordering paragraph 1.c.(3) of Decision No. 48929, which requires defendants to recondition or replace the existing 4-inch distribution mains, should be eliminated therefrom because the mains have been flushed out and the new well will correct the situation as to the iron content of the water. However, an analysis of water samples made by the California Department of Public Health indicated that water taken from the new well contains 1.8 p.p.m. of iron and that water taken from the far end of the distribution system contains 0.2 p.p.m. of iron. It would appear from such analysis that iron is being deposited in the mains and could cause trouble in the future.

The evidence discloses that defendants are presently utilizing one of the springs which they were directed to discontinue by Decision No. 48929. Defendants propose to install a pressure system in lieu of the higher tanks contemplated by such decision and to take one of the existing 16,000-gallon tanks out of service, utilizing it only as a reserve. They then propose to discontinue the use of the above-mentioned spring. The pressure system will include a 300-gallon pressure tank and the entire cost of such system was put at \$350. Defendant Melvin H. Strong would not furnish a date as to when the installation of such system would be undertaken.

Defendant Melvin H. Strong testified that at the end of March 1954, weather permitting, he will install 1,000 feet of 2-inch pipe. In lieu of the tie lines on Weber and Belle Streets, provided for by Decision

No. 48929, defendant proposed to install tie lines on Jordan and Church Streets. Defendant stated that proposed tie lines would be shorter and would accomplish the same purpose as those prescribed by the Commission. Defendant would not state a date for such installation.

The Commission engineer testified that proposed tie lines between Jordan and Church Streets should not be less than 2-inch pipe in order to accommodate future growth and that at the same time tie lines should be installed between School and Trinity Streets in order to improve service in that area. The witness indicated that one 16,000-gallon tank, as proposed by defendants, is inadequate for the system. He stated that in view of the fact the new well produces less than 50 gpm the 30,000-gallon tank, provided for by Decision No. 48929, is now insufficient. According to the engineer a 40,000-gallon tank would be necessary where only the one well will be used. Some of the 4-inch mains could remain in service, he said, and that the matter of replacements should be left to the judgment of defendants. He stated that the spring still in service tests very poorly and its use should be discontinued at once. The engineer considered the proposed pressure system to be feasible and inexpensive and suggested that defendants proceed immediately with its installation.

The record shows that there are three residences on First Street served by a 3/4-inch main. The engineer stated that the use of a 3/4-inch main is not good practice and recommended that the 2-inch main be extended across First Street to the point where service is now taken by two of the consumers on First Street.

According to the engineer, all the work involved herein could be completed before July 1954.

The evidence here presented warrants modification of Decision No. 48929 to the extent set forth in the ensuing order.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held and based upon the evidence therein adduced, the following form of order replaces all uncompleted requirements of Decision No. 48929.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Melvin H. Strong and Leona M. Strong, doing business as The Rohnerville Water Works, shall:

1. Within ten days from the effective date of this order:
 - a. Install a 300-gallon pressure tank and connect the existing pipelines on Mill Street and the extension to First Street directly to the main pump line.
 - b. Discontinue the use of all springs presently a part of their water system as a source for water supplied their consumers.
2. Complete by not later than July 1, 1954:
 - a. The installation of not less than 2-inch diameter tie lines on Belle Street, between Jordan Street and Church Street.
 - b. The installation of not less than 2-inch diameter tie lines on Weber Street between School Street and Trinity Street.
 - c. The extension of the 2-inch main presently serving First Street to the northerly side thereof and connect this extension at this point to the present 3/4-inch line serving two residences.
 - d. The installation of not less than a 30,000-gallon storage tank (or tanks of equivalent capacity) at an elevation not less than 50 feet higher than the lowest of the present tanks and tie the entire water system to this higher tank (or tanks).
 - e. The installation of not less than 2-inch diameter pipe on Church Street beginning at the intersection of Church Street and Main Street and extending in a westerly direction for not less than 1,000 feet.

3. Within ten days after compliance with the above subparagraphs 1a, 1b and 2a to 2e, inclusive, notify the Commission in writing thereof.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the submission of Application No. 34322 is set aside provided, however, that in the event Melvin M. Strong and Leona M. Strong shall fail to fully comply with each and all of the provisions of subparagraphs 1a, 1b, 2a to 2e, inclusive, and paragraph 3 of this order, Application No. 34322 shall thereupon be deemed resubmitted.

Except as hereinabove specifically provided, Decision No. 48929 shall remain in full force and effect.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16th day of March, 1954.

R. J. [Signature]
President.

Justin J. [Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]
Commissioners.