

Decision No. 50794**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of JOSEPH H. SANDERS to)
 abandon a water system in Truckee,)
 Nevada County, California, known as)
 the SANDERS & GEBHART WATER COMPANY.)

Application No. 35733

Joseph H. Sanders, in propria persona
W. B. Stradley, for the Commission staff.

O P I N I O N

Applicant Joseph H. Sanders, doing business as Sanders & Gebhart Water Company and presently rendering a public utility water service within a portion of the City of Truckee and its immediate vicinity requests authority to discontinue said service.

Public hearing was held before Examiner T. E. Daly on October 26, 1954 at Truckee. Affidavits of publication of notice as well as service by mail upon each of applicant's customers were received in evidence. No appearance was made in protest to the application.

Applicant testified that he has operated a water service since 1901, serving 23 consumers located on Burckhalter Avenue and south thereof at a flat rate of \$2 per month, grossing approximately \$500 annually; that his source of supply is obtained under contract from the Southern Pacific Company which maintains a water tank just above Burckhalter Avenue; that recently Southern Pacific Company ceased chlorinating the water; that because of financial and operating reasons he is unable to chlorinate the water; that he has been informed by the Department of Public Health of Nevada County that the water does not meet necessary health requirements and should be

boiled before domestic consumption; that the Truckee Public Utilities District maintains hydrants on Burckhalter Avenue and should be requested to provide service to his customers as well as purchase his water system, which he values at \$3,000.

The manager for the Truckee Public Utilities District testified that consideration had been given by the Board of Directors to the possible purchase of applicant's facilities, but no definite action had been taken and the matter is still pending. He was of the opinion, however, that the price of \$3,000, when considered with the additional estimated expense of \$2,000 which the district would have to expend to extend service, would be prohibitive.

The record discloses that applicant has made no study to determine the cost or feasibility of chlorinating the water, nor considered the advisability of filing an application for a rate increase. The present application appears to be premature in view of the fact that negotiations with the Truckee Public Utilities District are still pending. To authorize abandonment at this time would leave applicant's customers without any service.

After considering the matter the Commission is of the opinion that to authorize discontinuance of service at this time would be adverse to the public interest.

ORDER

Application having been filed, a public hearing having been held thereon, and based upon the evidence adduced therein,

IT IS ORDERED that Application No. 35733 is hereby denied.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 23rd day of November, 1954.

John E. Potter
President

Justin J. Gorman

Deane Juggins

Ray L. Williams

Commissioners

Commissioner Kenneth Potter; being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.