

ORIGINALDecision No. 54508

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)
 SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY,)
 a corporation, for an order of the)
 Public Utilities Commission of the) Application No. 36579
 State of California authorizing it)
 to increase the rates charged by)
 it for electricity.)

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL OPINIONAND ORDER

Decision No. 51687, dated July 18, 1955, in the above-entitled application left for supplemental decision, among other items, the question of whether or not the zoning of domestic and general service electric rates in San Diego Gas & Electric Company's territory should be modified. The first supplemental order herein, Decision No. 53449, dated July 16, 1956 ruled on several motions and temporarily removed from the calendar a zoning hearing scheduled for August 1, 1956.

The second supplemental order herein, Decision No. 53528, ruled on eight supplemental rate matters not concerned with zoning, but on which applicant desired a ruling before completion of the rate zoning matter. The second supplemental order was issued on August 3, 1956, and the Commission desired that the rate changes provided therein would become fully effective prior to rescheduling the zoning hearing. In the meantime, certain staff members engaged in this proceeding were assigned to the El Paso Natural Gas Company rate case before the Federal Power Commission and this assignment has continuously occupied their time since last August.

While the staff members are now available and zoning hearings could be rescheduled, the statistics upon which the staff

recommendation was predicated, together with the applicant's zoning report, have become sufficiently out-of-date that further survey and studies should be made of the growth in applicant's territory prior to such hearing. The applicant desires that this rate proceeding be terminated and, in view of the additional time that would be involved, it appears unreasonable to continue this proceeding while awaiting the bringing up-to-date of the zoning study. Accordingly, this proceeding will be terminated.

Although this proceeding is being terminated without revising applicant's present zoning of domestic and general service electric rates, for the reasons stated, the Commission is of the opinion that rate areas should take into account customer density and other pertinent factors and that the requirement of incorporation and the city boundary line as the major factor in zoning is inappropriate. The Commission has stated its views on the matter of establishment of boundary lines of rate zones in Decision No. 47832 (52 Cal. P.U.C. 111), Decision No. 50744 (53 Cal. P.U.C. 616), Decision No. 51634 (54 Cal. P.U.C. 266), and Decision No. 53143 (55 Cal. P.U.C. 43).

The Commission desires to be informed regarding any zoning changes. Applicant will therefore be required to report to the Commission regarding: (1) customer density statistics for the areas listed on Table 4-A of applicant's Exhibit No. 62; (2) customer density statistics relating to each parcel annexed to any city. Similar statistics will be required on all future filings made for the purpose of reporting the incorporation of any city or community.

In order that the question of zoning may be decided promptly in any future rate proceeding, applicant will be expected to present, as part of its showing in such proceeding, a full and complete zoning study comparable to Exhibit No. 62 in the present

proceeding, and including up-to-date customer density information.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Further hearing for the purposes of electric rate zoning under Application No. 36579 be not scheduled, and this proceeding be terminated.
2. Applicant shall maintain, and report to the Commission by March 31 of each year, customer density statistics as of the end of the preceding calendar year for the areas listed on Table 4-A of Exhibit No. 62, Columns (a) to (f), inclusive.
3. With respect to each parcel annexed to or de-annexed from any city during a calendar year, applicant shall report to the Commission, by March 31 of the succeeding year, the number of domestic and general service customers affected, miles of distribution line associated therewith, customers per mile of distribution line, area of annexation or de-annexation and the resultant annual revenue effect of such annexation or de-annexation.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11th day of February, 1957.

[Signature]
President
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
Commissioners