

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 55498

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application

of

SOUTHWEST WATER COMPANY, for authority to purchase certain water distribution facilities from the City of Riverside and the Application of the CITY OF RIVERSIDE for an Order relieving said City of its obligation to furnish water service from said facilities.

Application No. 39297

OPINION AND ORDER

This is an application for an order (1) authorizing Southwest Water Company to purchase certain water distribution facilities from the City of Riverside and (2) relieving said city from its obligation to furnish water service from said facilities.

The facilities lie outside the city limits of the City of Riverside and in territory certificated to Southwest Water Company. The city desires to withdraw from the operations outside its limits and, accordingly, has made arrangements to sell the outside facilities to the privately owned utility for the sum of \$5,000. The city presently is serving 85 domestic customers from such facilities.

It appears that the city acquired certain water service facilities from Riverside Water Company in 1913, including the facilities outside the city limits. In authorizing the utility to sell the facilities at that time the Commission, as a condition precedent, required the city to file a stipulation obligating itself

to take the facilities subject to all legal claims for water service which might be enforced against Riverside Water Company, including such claims as may exist in territory outside the city limits.

(Decision No. 1003, dated October 8, 1913, in Application No. 716, 3 CRC 712-715.)

Southwest Water Company is not required by the Public Utilities Code to obtain authorization to purchase the water service facilities and hence its request will be dismissed for want of jurisdiction and it may proceed with such acquisition. In view of the obligation referred to in the stipulation required of the city in the 1913 proceeding, we will enter an order as requested by the city.

In our opinion a public hearing is not necessary, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. The application of Southwest Water Company to purchase facilities is dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

2. Upon purchase of said facilities by Southwest Water Company and commencement of operations by it, the City of Riverside shall stand relieved from any further obligation to serve domestic water from said facilities.

3. The action taken herein shall not be construed as a finding of the value of said facilities nor as indicative of amounts to be included in a future rate base for the purpose of determining just and reasonable rates.

4. The authority herein granted will become effective 20 days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 3rd day of September, 1957.

(Signature)
President
(Signature)
(Signature)
(Signature)
Commissioners