

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 56663

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 Del Norte Gas Co., a corporation, )  
 for an order to Furnish and Supply ) Application No. 40036  
 Propane Gas Service In Lieu of Propane- )  
 Air Gas Service in the City of Crescent )  
 City, California and Vicinity and to )  
 Adopt and to File and Make Effective )  
 Rates and Rules Applicable Thereto. )

OPINION AND ORDER

Del Norte Gas Company by the above-entitled application filed April 25, 1958, requests an order of the Commission authorizing it to furnish and supply propane gas service in Crescent City and vicinity and to adopt and file effective rates and rules applicable thereto.

Applicant now furnishes propane-air gas service in Crescent City and vicinity. The gas has a heating value of approximately 1500 Btu per cubic foot. The applicant states that this type of service has been a constant problem and as a result the consumers have not received a uniform and economical gas service.

Applicant proposes to provide more reliable and economical service by converting the service from propane-air gas to straight propane gas vapor with a heat content of approximately 2520 Btu per cubic foot. The application states that with straight propane gas vapor the heating value will always be as uniform as the heating value of the liquified petroleum from which the gas is vaporized and that piping capacities will be greater with a richer gas making it possible to maintain a more economical service. It is estimated by

applicant that the conversion will cost \$2,000, which includes the cost to the company of making the necessary modifications to the consumers appliances without cost to the consumers. The consumers have been notified of the proposed change by letter of the type shown in Exhibit "C" attached to the application. The Commission is advised that no unfavorable responses have been received by applicant. Applicant estimates that the savings in labor and gas loss due to the conversion will approximate \$150 per month in operating expenses.

Applicant proposes to furnish propane gas service under a revised Rule No. 2, Description of Service, and Schedule No. G-80, copies of which are attached to the application as Exhibits "A" and "B", respectively. The applicant alleges that the proposed rates will not result in an increase in revenue to the company nor an increase in rates to the customer, since the conversion of the present rates is made on the basis of equivalent heat units.

It is the applicant's belief that the furnishing and supplying of straight propane gas vapor service in lieu of the present propane-air gas service will be in the public interest and for the benefit of the public service and that these advantages can be made available more quickly by waiving a hearing on the application.

The Commission having considered the request of applicant and being of the opinion that the application should be granted and that a public hearing is not necessary; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. Applicant is authorized to furnish and supply to customers in Crescent City and vicinity straight propane gas vapor service in lieu of the propane-air gas service presently supplied by applicant in these areas.

2. Applicant is authorized to file with this Commission in accordance with General Order No. 96 the tariff schedules set forth in Exhibits "A" and "B" attached to the application and, after not less than five days notice to this Commission and to the public, to make said tariffs effective before June 15, 1958.

3. The amount shown as 0.5¢ in Special Condition 1 of Exhibit "B" shall be changed to 0.1¢.

4. Applicant is authorized to withdraw and cancel its presently filed Schedule No. G-1 and Rule and Regulation No. 2.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 13<sup>th</sup>  
day of May, 1958.

*John E. Kishell*  
President  
*Ralph L. Lutermer*  
*Walter J. Goshin*  
*Theodore J. Jenner*  
Commissioners