

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 60022

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA:

In the Matter of the Application of)
PACIFIC WATER CO., a California)
corporation, under Section 454 of)
the Public Utilities Code, to increase)
its rates for its Rim Forest and)
Arrowhead View Water Systems in)
San Bernardino County, California.)

Application No. 38891 ✓
(Amended)

ORDER DENYING EXTENSION OF TIME

Pacific Water Co., by petition filed January 29, 1960, requests an extension of time until January 22, 1961, within which to comply with certain requirements of Decision No. 58143, dated March 17, 1959, herein.

By the subject decision, Pacific was authorized to increase its rates by approximately 200 per cent for its Arrowhead View and Rim Forest Water system, San Bernardino County, which rates became effective May 1, 1959.

Additionally, Pacific was required to install certain automatic control equipment at its pumps and tanks, divide the Arrowhead View portion of the system into two pressure zones and install meters at its pumping plants. Within 60 days after completion of the above items, Pacific was ordered to file four copies of a comprehensive map. Besides the above requirements, Pacific was ordered to carry out a program of covering exposed and insufficiently covered distribution mains. Of these requirements, records of the Commission indicate that Pacific has separated the Arrowhead View portion of the system into two pressure zones and installed meters

at its pumping plants; that the program of covering the mains was commenced but not completed; that the installation of the automatic control equipment has not been commenced; and, that since the control equipment has not been installed, the comprehensive maps have not been filed. The automatic control equipment was required to be installed by June 5, 1959 and the main covering program was required to be carried out by October 3, 1959. Although compliance is now long overdue, no extension of time has been sought heretofore.

Pacific alleges that funds are not available at present to enable it to complete the required improvements and that, until it receives rate increases in certain of its various other water systems, it will be unable to secure additional financing.

In addition to the Arrowhead View and Rim Forest system, Pacific renders service in 24 other water systems in Kern, Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino Counties.

The Commission, in establishing rates in Decision No. 58143, considered the widespread deficiencies in service reflected by the evidence of record and concluded that such service deficiencies should be corrected. There is no new evidence in Pacific's petition to now justify the Commission's changing its opinion.

Pacific is reminded of its continuing public utility obligation to render adequate service which it voluntarily assumed when it undertook the operation of this particular system. The Commission cannot find in the public interest that Pacific should be relieved of its obligation to provide reasonable service as heretofore ordered.

The Commission having considered the petition of Pacific and concluding that the requested extension of time should be denied; therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the petition of Pacific Water Co. for an extension of time within which to comply with Decision No. 58143 be and it hereby is denied.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 3rd day of May, 1960.

Wesley B. Long
President
W. E. Mitchell
Walter D. Doolen
C. L. Fox
Theodore J. Jansen
Commissioners