

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 6004S

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
PACIFIC WATER CO., a California cor-	)	
poration, under Section 454 of the	)	
Public Utilities Code, to increase its	)	Application No. 39067
rates for its Morongo Valley Water	)	(Amended)
System in San Bernardino County,	)	
California.	)	

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. 57863, dated January 13, 1959, herein.

By the subject decision, Pacific was authorized to increase its rates by approximately one-third for its Morongo Valley water system, San Bernardino County, which rates became effective February 15, 1959. Additionally, it was required to file reports of a program initiated to correct service deficiencies, to make certain improvements and to submit plans for elimination of other inadequacies in the system. This work was ordered to commence with the effective date of the subject decision and to continue until completed, with progress reports being required at stated intervals during the first year. Of these requirements, records of the Commission indicate that, although Pacific has filed some, but not all, of the required reports, it has not completed the required improvements nor submitted the plans as ordered. 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 nor submit the required plans and that, until it receives rate increases in certain of its

various other water systems, it will be unable to secure additional financing. Pacific does not make any showing as to why it should not be required to complete the filing of the reports of the service deficiency correction program.

In addition to the Morongo Valley 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. 57863 considered the widespread deficiencies in service reflected by the evidence of record and concluded that such service deficiencies should be corrected forthwith. 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. Customers of this system cannot be expected to pay more than such service is reasonably worth.

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. 57863 be and it hereby is denied.

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

[Signature]  
President  
[Signature]  
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Commissioners