

Decision No. 6149S**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )	
SONOMA WATER & IRRIGATION COMPANY, )	
a corporation, for authority to )	Application No. 40275
increase rates on the sale of )	Petition for Modification
domestic water. )	

ORDER MODIFYING DECISION

Ordering Paragraph 7 of Decision No. 58162, dated March 24, 1959, reads as follows:

- "7. Within sixty days after the effective date of this order, applicant shall either acquire possession of the existing 4-inch meter installed in the pipeline supplying water service to Sobre Vista Mutual Water Company or install in said pipeline a meter of suitable size to measure the quantities of water supplied to said company and applicant shall inform the Commission in writing as to the manner in which this requirement was accomplished within ten days thereafter."

Paragraph 3 of the Commission's order extending time, dated June 28, 1960, reads as follows:

- "3. That the time limit within which applicant may complete the requirement set forth in Ordering Paragraph 7 of Decision No. 58162 be and it is extended to December 31, 1960."

By petition filed December 20, 1960, Sonoma Water & Irrigation Company asks the Commission to grant applicant permission to use the existing 4-inch meter as the means of computing the quantities of water supplied to Sobre Vista Mutual Water Company. Applicant states that the mutual company has agreed to the use of its meter for such purpose and to have the said meter checked periodically and repaired if necessary.

In its petition, applicant agrees to have the meter manufacturer make checks no less than once a year as to the accuracy and

efficiency of the meter and to send a report thereof to the Commission, and further to make all repairs necessary to keep the meter in good condition.

A field investigation pertaining to this matter was made on December 28, 1960, by a Commission staff engineer of the Hydraulic Branch of the Utilities Division. The results of his investigation have been presented in a memorandum, which is hereby made a part of the record herein as Exhibit No. P-1. A sketch attached to the memorandum shows that the existing 4-inch meter, owned by the mutual company, is located near a county road some 640 feet from a certain 90,000-gallon reservoir and is installed in a 6-inch main transmitting water from the said reservoir to the mutual company's distribution system, the ownership of which water main is claimed by the mutual company and is not contested by applicant. The memorandum states that the meter was tested in place by Neptune Meter Company in the autumn of 1959 and in December 1960, and that the results of the tests show that the meter meets the requirements of Paragraph VI,3 of the Commission's General Order No. 103. The engineer concludes, in effect, that the present arrangement is satisfactory.

Subsequent to the preparation of the aforementioned memorandum, it was learned from the meter company that in the near future a further test will be made of the meter because of an erratic result appearing in the test for the lowest flow in the December 1960 figures. Applicant will be ordered to provide the Commission with a certified copy of such test.

The Commission finds and concludes that, under the peculiar conditions pertaining to this situation, it will not be adverse to the public interest to permit a deviation from the standard practice of requiring a utility to own all of the meters

through which it renders service, and that applicant's request is reasonable and should be granted.

The Commission has considered this matter and is of the opinion that Decision No. 58162 should be modified; therefore, good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the requirements of ordering paragraph 7 of Decision No. 58162, dated March 24, 1959, in Application No. 40275, be and they are rescinded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that applicant be and it is hereby authorized to use the existing 4-inch meter, owned by Sobre Vista Mutual Water Company, for the purpose of measuring the quantities of water supplied to said company, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Within thirty days after the effective date of this order, applicant shall file with the Commission a certified copy of the results of the latest test of said meter made by Neptune Meter Company.
- b. Within one year after the date of the test referred to in paragraph a, and at least as often as once a year thereafter, as long as the present situation exists, applicant shall cause the meter to be tested by a competent party as to the accuracy and satisfactory operating condition of the meter and applicant shall file with the Commission the results of each such test, within ten days thereafter.
- c. Applicant shall cause all such repairs and replacements of the meter parts to be made as may be necessary to maintain it in operable condition to properly measure water quantities passing through it in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's General Order No. 103.

d. Applicant shall notify this Commission of the date of any substantial modification or the termination of the present arrangement with the said mutual company for the use of the said meter, within thirty days from and after the date of such modification or termination.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14th day of February, 1961.

[Signature]  
 President

[Signature]

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 Commissioners