

Decision No. 63322**ORIGINAL**

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

In the Matter of the Application )  
of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY, )  
a corporation, under Sections 1002 )  
and 1005 of the Public Utilities )  
Code, for a certificate that public ) Application No. 44144  
convenience and necessity require )  
the exercise of the rights and )  
privileges granted by Ordinance )  
No. 960 of the City of Visalia, )  
California. )  
(Gas)

O P I N I O N

Southern California Gas Company, in this proceeding, requests a certificate of public convenience and necessity to exercise the rights and privileges of a franchise granted by the City of Visalia, California, permitting the installation, maintenance, and use of a gas distribution and transmission system in the streets of said city.

The franchise referred to, a copy of which is attached to the application and designated as Exhibit "A", was granted by the city in accordance with the provisions of its 1923 Charter and is for a term of 50 years. A fee is payable annually to the city equivalent to 2 percent of the gross receipts arising from the use, operation, or possession of the franchise, but not less than 1 percent of the gross annual receipts from sales of gas within the limits of the city under said franchise.

The costs incurred by applicant in obtaining the franchise are stated to have been \$844.62, which amount does not include costs incident to this application.

Applicant has served gas in and about the City of Visalia without competition for many years. As of October 31, 1961, it served 5,969 customers within the city from approximately 77.72 miles of gas mains therein. No objection to the granting of the requested certificate has been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

After consideration it is hereby found as a fact that public convenience and necessity require the exercise by applicant of the right, privilege and franchise granted to applicant by Ordinance No. 960 of the City of Visalia.

The certificate of public convenience and necessity herein granted is subject to the following provisions of law:

1. That the Commission shall have no power to authorize the capitalization of the franchise involved herein or this certificate of public convenience and necessity or the right to own, operate or enjoy such franchise or certificate of public convenience and necessity in excess of the amount (exclusive of any tax or annual charge) actually paid to the State or to a political subdivision thereof as the consideration for the grant of such franchise, certificate of public convenience and necessity or right.
2. That the franchise involved herein shall never be given any value before any court or other public authority in any proceeding of any character in excess of the cost to the grantee of the necessary publication and any other sum paid by it to the municipality therefor at the time of the acquisition thereof.

O R D E R

The above-entitled application having been filed, and the Commission being informed in the premises,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it is hereby granted to Southern California Gas Company to exercise the rights and privileges granted by the City of Visalia, California by Ordinance No. 960, adopted October 2, 1961.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY, 1962.

*Geoffrey H. Page*  
 President

*D. L. Mitchell*

*E. J. Fox*

*Frederick B. Holhoff*

Commissioners

Commissioner George G. Grover, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.