

Decision No. 72084

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application)
of CARL L. DAMSEN doing business)
as the Damsen Water Company under)
Section 454 of the Public Utili-)
ties Code for authority to)
increase rates for water service.)

Application No. 48791
Filed September 15, 1966;
amended October 3, 1966.

O P I N I O N

Damsen Water Company seeks authority to increase its rates. This is a flat rate system and the present rate is \$3.75 per month. The company wants this increased to \$4.50. A report prepared by an engineer of the Commission's Utilities Division, Hydraulic Branch, and a financial examiner of its Finance and Accounts Division is received as Exhibit No. 1.

The partners serve 51 flat rate customers in an area about 1-1/2 miles northwest of Porterville, Tulare County. Notice of the proposed increase was mailed to all these customers and no protests have been received by the Commission.

The staff made a field investigation in October 1966. Pressures taken by the staff were found to be adequate. There have been no informal complaints against applicants within the last two years.

The staff calculated an average rate base of \$8,560 for the year 1966. It estimated revenue at \$2,850 under proposed rates. This, after expenses, depreciation and taxes were deducted was estimated to yield \$500 per year or 5.8 percent. This is not excessive and the application will be granted.

The Commission finds that:

1. The estimates of operating revenues, expenses, including taxes and depreciation, and the rate bases as submitted by the staff for the year 1966 reasonably represent the results of applicants' operations for the purposes of this proceeding.

2. The increases in rates and charges authorized herein are justified, that the rates and charges authorized herein are reasonable, and that the present rates and charges, insofar as they differ from those herein prescribed, are for the future unjust and unreasonable.

The Commission concludes that the application should be granted as hereinafter provided.

A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. After the effective date of this order, applicants Carl L. Damsen and Laura J. Damsen, doing business as Damsen Water Company, are authorized to file the revised rate schedules attached to this order as Appendix A. Such filing shall comply with General Order No. 96-A. The effective date of the revised schedules shall be March 16, 1967, or four days after the date of filing, whichever is later. The revised schedules shall apply only to service rendered on and after the effective date thereof.

2. For the year 1966, applicants shall apply a depreciation rate of 3.4 percent to the original cost of depreciable plant. Until review indicates otherwise, applicants shall continue to use this rate. Applicants shall review the depreciation rates at intervals

Schedule No. 1

GENERAL METERED SERVICE

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to all metered water service.

TERRITORY

The unincorporated area including Tract No. 239 adjacent to State Highway 65 approximately 1½ miles northwest of Porterville, Tulare County.

RATES

	<u>Per Meter</u> <u>Per Month</u>	
Quantity Rates:		
First 1,000 cu.ft. or less	\$ 3.60	(I)
Next 5,000 cu.ft., per 100 cu.ft.24	
Next 5,000 cu.ft., per 100 cu.ft.18	
Over 10,000 cu.ft., per 100 cu.ft.14	
Minimum Charge:		
For 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter	\$ 3.60	
For 3/4-inch meter	4.20	
For 1-inch meter	5.40	
For 1½-inch meter	8.40	
For 2-inch meter	12.00	

The Minimum Charge will entitle the customer to the quantity of water which that minimum charge will purchase at the Quantity Rates.

Schedule No. 2R

RESIDENTIAL FLAT RATE SERVICE

APPLICABILITY

Applicable to all residential water service furnished on a flat rate basis.

TERRITORY

The unincorporated area including Tract No. 239 adjacent to State Highway 65, approximately 1½ miles northwest of the City of Porterville, Tulare County.

RATES

	<u>Per Service Connection Per Month</u>	
For a single-family residential unit, including premises not exceeding 9,000 sq.ft. in area	\$4.50	(I)
a. For each 100 sq.ft. of premises in excess of 9,000 sq.ft.04	(I)
b. For each evaporative-type cooler, in addition to regular flat rates during the six-month period May through October:		
Circulating type25	
Non-circulating type50	

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. The above flat rates apply to a service connection not larger than one inch in diameter.

2. Residential service not provided for above shall be furnished on a metered basis only.

(Continued)

Schedule No. 2R

RESIDENTIAL FLAT RATE SERVICE

SPECIAL CONDITIONS—Contd.

3. Charges for air coolers will apply as provided above except in those cases where the customer notifies the utility in writing which months during the above period any air cooler will not be in service, and provided that such unit is disconnected during said months subject to inspection by utility representatives.

4. If either the utility or the customer so elects, a meter shall be installed and service provided under Schedule No. 1, General Metered Service. When a meter is installed at option of customer, metered service must be continued for at least 12 months before service will again be furnished at flat rates.