

Decision No. 77679

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER COMPANY
and WEST SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY WATER
DISTRICT for an order authorizing
the sale of certain properties of
Southern California Water Company to
the West San Bernardino County Water
District.

Application No. 52026
(Filed July 7, 1970)

O P I N I O N

Southern California Water Company (company) is a public utility engaged in providing water service in certain areas in the Counties of Contra Costa, Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Bernardino and Ventura and in rendering electric service in the Big Bear Lake Valley area of San Bernardino County. In this proceeding, it requests an order of the Commission authorizing it to sell its Bloomington System to the West San Bernardino County Water District (district) for the sum of \$640,000.

According to the application, the Bloomington System is located entirely within the political boundaries of district and provides service for approximately 1,000 service connections. Company's Bloomington System constitutes a single operating unit completely segregated from, and in all respects physically and geographically unconnected with, the other water systems of company. District has paralleled certain existing water lines of company in the Bloomington System. Company believes and on the basis of such belief alleges that the ownership, operation and development of its Bloomington System as a part of district's water distribution operation will eliminate increasing wasteful duplication of facilities which would result from continued separate ownership of the two systems.

Company and West San Bernardino County Water District have entered into an agreement under which it is proposed that the properties covered thereby shall be sold and transferred by company to district. A copy of the Agreement is attached to the application as Exhibit II.

Company will repay all deposits including accrued interest, if any, made by its Bloomington customers to establish credit at or substantially concurrent with the consummation of the transaction to which this application relates.

District will assume company's obligations incurred with respect to any water main extension agreements existing on the closing date of the agreement (supra).

The Commission has considered this matter and finds that the sale and transfer of certain property as proposed in this proceeding would not be adverse to the public interest. On the basis of this finding, we conclude that the application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

The action taken herein shall not be construed as a finding of the value of the property authorized to be transferred.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Southern California Water Company (company) may sell and transfer to the West San Bernardino County Water District (district) the property referred to in this proceeding in accordance with the agreement attached to the application as Exhibit II.
2. On or before the date of actual transfer, company shall return to its customers any refundable deposits made to establish credit.

3. Within ten days after the date of actual transfer, company shall file written notification to this Commission of the refunding of deposits, the date of transfer, and the date upon which district shall have assumed operation of the water system authorized herein to be transferred. A true copy of the instrument of transfer shall be attached to the written notification.

4. Within ten days after the date of actual transfer, company shall file with this Commission the original cost figures to record properly the sale of the Bloomington System on the books of company. These figures should be reflected on proposed journal entries.

5. Upon compliance with the conditions of this order, company shall stand relieved of all of its public utility obligations in the areas served by the transferred system, and may discontinue service concurrently with the commencement of service by district.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 1st day of SEPTEMBER, 1970.

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]

William J. [Signature]

[Signature]

Yunon L. Sturgeon
Commissioners