

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 80399

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)
convenience and necessity require)
the exercise of the rights and)
privileges granted by Ordinance)
No. 25 of the City of Irvine,)
California.)

Application No. 53466
(Filed July 18, 1972)

O P I N I O N

This is an application by Southern California Gas Company seeking authority to exercise the rights and privileges granted it by a franchise from the City of Irvine.

Applicant is engaged in the purchase, distribution and sale of gas within the central and southern portions of the State of California. It presently furnishes gas service in the City of Irvine. It conducts operations under a franchise granted it by the County of Orange. The verified application avers that the City Council of the City of Irvine enacted Ordinance No. 25 which grants Southern California Gas Company a franchise to indefinitely conduct its gas business in the city. The franchise would supersede the previously mentioned county franchise with respect to the area lying within the city limits. Southern California Gas Company has included in the application, a stipulation that it will not claim before this Commission, or any court or other public body, any value for the franchise in excess of its original cost which is stated to be \$188.33.

Ordinance No. 25 is attached to the application as Exhibit A. Examination of the ordinance indicates that the franchise granted therein is of the standard type between gas utilities and cities. It provides for a payment of 2 percent of applicant's annual gross receipts arising from the use, operation or possession of the franchise, provided however, that such payment shall in no event be less than 1 percent of the gross annual receipts of the applicant derived from the sale of gas within the city limits.

The Commission makes the following findings and conclusions in this matter.

Findings of Fact

1. A public hearing is not necessary in this matter.
2. Public convenience and necessity require the exercise by Southern California Gas Company of the rights and privileges granted in the franchise conferred by Ordinance No. 25 of the City Council of Irvine.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application should be granted.
2. The certificate of public convenience and necessity issued herein is subject to the following provisions of law:
 - (a) 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 issuance of such franchise, certificate of public convenience and necessity or right.
 - (b) 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

IT IS ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity is granted to Southern California Gas Company to exercise the rights and privileges conferred by the franchise issued pursuant to Ordinance No. 25 of the City Council of the City of Irvine.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 29th
day of AUGUST, 1972.

Vernon L. Stevens
President
William J. Quinn
J. P. Williams
Thomas W. ...
Ed Delo
Commissioners