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Decision 91-12-035 December 18, 1991

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Investigation on the Commission's
own motion into measures to mitigate
the effects of drought on regulated
water utilities, their customers and
the general public.

ORIGINAL

I.89-03-005
(Filed March 8, 1989)

And Related Matters.
(Drought Phase)

I.90-11-033
Application 90-11-038 et al.

INTERIM OPINION

In Decision (D.) 91-10-042, we accepted and approved 38 water management programs certified as complete by the Water Utilities Branch (Branch) of the Commission Advisory and Compliance Division. The water management programs set forth comprehensive conservation programs, complete with benefit-cost analyses, water resource management objectives and other means of dealing with the drought.

Branch now has certified as complete an additional 10 water management programs. Branch notes that there are relatively minor deficiencies in some of these programs, but it adds that it will work with the utility districts to correct these deficiencies. Accordingly, we accept and approve these 10 additional programs as complete, and Order CACD to certify by February 3 that all deficiencies have been remedied.

In the event that CACD can not certify the deficiencies as fully remedied we will reopen our investigation into these water management programs and suspend, without interest, any surcharges used to amortize the drought memorandum account.

Findings of Fact

1. On March 8, 1989, the Commission signed Order Instituting Investigation (I.) 89-03-005 into measures to mitigate the effects of drought on regulated water utilities and their customers.

2. As part of the investigation, the Commission in D.90-08-055 required all Class A water utilities to prepare comprehensive water management programs.

3. A total of 60 water management programs have been submitted for approval to the Commission. In D.91-10-042, the Commission approved as complete 38 of these programs.

4. Branch recommends Commission approval of an additional 10 water management programs under the same conditions as those imposed in D.91-10-042.

5. The additional 10 water management programs are those of California Water Service Company for the following districts:

Application (A.) 91-02-018 - Los Altos-Suburban

A.91-02-012 - Stockton

A.91-02-013 - Bear Gulch

A.91-02-009 - East Los Angeles

A.91-02-024 - Palos Verdes

A.91-02-016 - Livermore

A.91-02-010 - Hermosa-Redondo

A.91-02-001 - Westlake

A.91-02-019 - San Carlos

A.91-02-003 - South San Francisco

6. Branch states that there are relatively minor discrepancies in some of these water management programs, and it will work with the utility districts to correct the discrepancies.

7. All discrepancies may not be remedied by February 3, 1992.

Conclusions of Law

1. Additional water management programs certified by Branch as complete should be accepted and approved, subject to the same conditions as those set forth in D.91-10-042.

2. California Water Service Company should be ordered to work with Branch to correct any discrepancy in these approved water management programs no later than February 3, 1992.

3. CACD should certify to the Commission no later than February 3, 1992, that all discrepancies have been remedied.

4. If CACD does not certify to the Commission by February 3 that all discrepancies have been remedied, the Commission should reopen the investigation into these water management plans, and immediately suspend without interest any surcharges used to collect drought memorandum account monies.

5. Because of the continuing drought, this order should be effective immediately in order to help mitigate effects of the drought.

INTERIM ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The following water management programs certified as complete by the Water Utilities Branch (Branch) of the Commission Advisory and Compliance Division are accepted and approved:

Application (A.) 91-02-018 California Water Service Company (Los Altos-Suburban District)

A.91-02-012 California Water Service Company (Stockton District)

A.91-02-013 California Water Service Company (Bear Gulch District)

A.91-02-009 California Water Service Company (East Los Angeles District)

A.91-02-024 California Water Service Company
(Palos Verdes District)

A.91-02-016 California Water Service Company
(Livermore District)

A.91-02-010 California Water Service Company
(Hermosa-Redondo District)

A.91-02-001 California Water Service Company
(Westlake District)

A.91-02-019 California Water Service Company
(San Carlos District)

A.91-02-003 California Water Service Company
(South San Francisco District)

Specific proposals set forth in each water management program are subject to further review and approval during a utility district's rate case or at the time a district seeks to recover costs of such proposals.

2. California Water Service Company is directed to correct deficiencies, if any, in the above water management programs on or before February 3, 1992.

This order is effective today.

Dated December 18, 1991, at San Francisco, California.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TODAY

PATRICIA M. ECKERT
President
JOHN B. OHANIAN
DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY
Commissioners


NEAL J. SHULMAN, Executive Director