

DEC. 17 1992

Decision 92-12-040 December 16, 1992

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CORONA CITY COUNCIL; Mayor AL LOPEZ,)
 City of Corona; Mayor Pro Tem and)
 City Council Member WILLIAM)
 FRANKLIN, City of Corona; Mayor)
 WILLIAM PENDLETON, City of)
 Bellflower; Mayor ROBERT HANSON,)
 City of Banning; LOS ANGELES BLACK)
 WOMEN FOR WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK;)
 WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK; INTERNATIONAL)
 BLACK WOMEN FOR WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK;)
 HISPANIC BUSINESS COUNCIL OF)
 CORONA; JAMES EARLE CRISTO;)
 ENCARNACION MUNOZ; RAMON REYNOSA;)
 SYLVIA ORTIZ; UTILITY WORKERS)
 UNION OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO, LOCAL)
 132,)

ORIGINAL

Case 91-05-042
(Filed May 20, 1991)

Complainants,

vs.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY,
 Defendant.

O P I N I O N

This decision grants the petition of Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) for modification of Decision (D.) 92-08-038.

In D.92-08-038 the Commission ordered SoCalGas to reopen certain branch offices no later than December 9, 1992. SoCalGas states that it is exploring with Southern California Edison Company (Edison) the potential for a joint office in Corona beginning in 1993, after Edison's lease on its current office expires. Due to the steps that must be taken to establish a joint office, SoCalGas indicates that it will take a little additional time to accomplish this goal.

Therefore, SoCalGas requests that the Commission modify D.92-08-038 so that:

- "(a) SoCalGas is not required to open a facility in Corona by December 9, 1992, affording the community the same level of service as offered before the branch office closed in 1991;
- (b) not later than June 15, 1993, SoCalGas shall open a facility in Corona affording that community the same level of service as offered before the branch office closed in 1991;
- (c) between December 9, 1992, and opening of the new facility, SoCalGas shall operate one 'full-service' window in the Edison Corona facility, with the understanding that such a window cannot fully service the volume previously experienced by the SoCalGas Corona branch office;
- (d) SoCalGas may close the window at the Edison facility once the new facility is operational; and
- (e) SoCalGas shall adequately advise the public of the opening and closing of the window in the Edison facility and the opening of the new facility."

The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) does not object to SoCalGas' petition for modification. In fact, DRA supports the company's efforts to provide appropriately staffed joint facilities.

Complainants do not protest the concept of joint utility payment facilities, but do object to SoCalGas' request for a stay of the deadline for reopening the Corona office. Complainants charge that the stay will permit SoCalGas to provide an inadequate level of service in Corona for an indefinite period of time. We find no merit in complainants' charge. Our decision extends the deadline for opening an office in Corona to a date certain - June 15, 1993. The interim arrangement proposed by SoCalGas, while not ideal, is satisfactory on a temporary basis.

Therefore, for good cause shown, we will grant SoCalGas' petition for modification of D.92-08-038, as set forth below.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that Southern California Gas Company's (SoCalGas) petition for modification is granted as follows:

1. SoCalGas is not required to open a facility in Corona by December 9, 1992, affording the community the same level of service as offered before the branch office closed in 1991;
2. Not later than June 15, 1993, SoCalGas shall open a facility in Corona affording that community the same level of service as offered before the branch office closed in 1991;
3. Between December 9, 1992, and opening of the new facility, SoCalGas shall operate one "full-service" window in the Corona facility of Southern California Edison Company (Edison), with the understanding that such a window cannot fully service the volume previously experienced by the SoCalGas Corona branch office;
4. SoCalGas may close the window at the Edison facility once the new facility is operational; and
5. SoCalGas shall adequately advise the public of the opening and closing of the window in the Edison facility and the opening of the new facility.

This order is effective today.

Dated December 16, 1992, at San Francisco, California.

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

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