

ek

Decision No. 87030

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Investigation on the Commission's own motion into the status, operations, service, maintenance, facilities, equipment, water supply practices, rates, rules, tariff schedules and records of James J. Downey, doing business as Greenvue Estates Water Company, Inverness Park Water Company, Kenwood Village Water Company, Penngrove Water Company, Point Reyes Water Co., Rio Dell Water Company, and Russian River Terrace Water Co.; and James J. Downey and W. H. Appleton, doing business as Canon Manor Water System; and Happy Acres Water Company, Inc., in Sonoma and Marin Counties.

Case No. 9076
(Filed June 9, 1970)

Antoinette H. Camizzaro,

Complainant,

vs

Rio Dell Water Company,

Defendant.

Case No. 10070
(Filed March 23, 1976)

Phyllis Grabe,

Complainant,

vs

Rio Dell Water Company,

Defendant.

Case No. 10103
(Filed May 21, 1976)

C. 9076 et al. ek

Dennis Reid, et al.,

Complainants,

vs

Rio Dell Water Company,

Defendant.

Case No. 10104
(Filed May 21, 1976)

Application of VERONICA A. TEDESCHI
for an order of exemption granting
permission to Rio Dell Water Company
to serve applicant's property in
Forestville, Sonoma County.

Application No. 56578
(Filed June 23, 1976)

APPEARANCES

(Listed in previous decisions
in Case No. 9076 and related
cases and applications.)

FIFTH INTERIM OPINION

On June 23, 1976, applicant Veronica A. Tedeschi filed an application requesting that Rio Dell Water Company be authorized to provide water service to her unimproved property consisting of approximately 16.91 acres with approximately 450 feet of frontage area on Trenton Road, Forestville, California, commonly known as 8755 Trenton Road, on which she intends to erect a dwelling to be used as her resort residence.

Hearings were held before Examiner Cline in Guerneville on October 28, and in San Francisco on October 29 and November 17, 1976. The matter was taken under submission on the filing of late-filed Exhibit No. 72 on December 13, 1976.

At the time of the hearing Rio Dell Water Company was making arrangements for an interconnection with the Hollydale Mutual Water Company's water system.

In Exhibit No. 72 the Commission staff witness stated that the interconnection of the Hollydale Mutual Water Company's facilities to the Rio Dell system will enable the utility to meet its capacity requirements at peak demands. To provide adequate service, pressure and volume to its customers, especially on Argonne Way and Trenton Road, the utility will have to modify its transmission and distribution system to transport the water to the higher elevations in this area. After the interconnection is made between the Hollydale system and the Rio Dell system, service to Mrs. Solvin will have little or no effect upon the Rio Dell system due to the elevation and closeness of the sources of supply provided that the service connection is of nominal size for residences. Service to Veronica Tedeschi will have a great effect on the service to customers on Argonne Way and Trenton Road due to the utility's present inability to transport water to the upper elevations of this area.

The staff witness recommended (1) that upon completion of the interconnection of the Hollydale Mutual Water system with the Rio Dell system that the Rio Dell Water Company be authorized to provide service to Mrs. Lillian Solvin's summer home, and (2) that as soon as the staff assures the Commission that Rio Dell Water Company can provide service on a continuous basis at adequate pressure and volume to its customers at the higher elevations of Argonne Way and Trenton Road, Rio Dell Water Company should be authorized to provide service to the property of Veronica Tedeschi on Trenton Road, and the restrictions on new connections should be lifted.

By Decision No. 86900 dated January 25, 1977, this Commission as an exception to Ordering Paragraph 4 of Decision No. 81621 dated July 24, 1973, in Case No. 9076 as modified by Ordering Paragraph 2 of Decision No. 86477, authorized Rio Dell Water Company to accept an application from Mrs. Lillian Solvin to provide water service to her summer home at 9740 River Road, Forestville, California upon completion of the interconnection between Rio Dell Water system and Hollydale Mutual Water system.

On February 25, 1977, the staff witness filed a memorandum dated February 24, 1977, to supplement the information set forth in Exhibit No. 72. Such memorandum has been received in evidence as Exhibit No. 72A.

In Exhibit No. 72A the staff witness states that at the time of the hearing there was some lack of clarity as to the location of the Tedeschi property with respect to its elevation and closeness to the sources of water supply, but that later investigation revealed that the elevation of the Tedeschi property was such that upon completion of the interconnection between the Hollydale Mutual system and the Rio Dell system service could be provided to the Tedeschi property without adverse effect upon the other Rio Dell Water Company customers.

The last paragraph of Exhibit No. 72A reads as follows:

"The State Department of Public Health's Santa Rosa office has informed the Commission's staff that the Mutual Water Company's well does not meet DPH's quality standards and therefore will not allow interconnection on a continuous basis until the water is treated. However, it will allow interconnection on a temporary basis during periods of dire emergencies. Under these conditions Rio Dell will not be able to avail itself of a continuous use of the Mutual's well to meet its capacity requirements because of the high cost of treatment.

Hence, considering the circumstances, the staff recommends that Decision No. 86900 be modified by deletion of the interconnection requirement and allow Rio Dell to accept applications for services from Mrs. Solvin and Ms. Tedeschi. It is also believed that the sanitation requirement necessitates water connections to these premises."

Findings

1. Until recently the summer home of Mrs. Lillian Solvin at 9740 River Road, Forestville, which was built 16 years ago, was served water from a well which had been drilled on the property at a cost of \$4,000.
2. As the water well on the property of Mrs. Solvin at 9740 River Road, Forestville has gone dry and can no longer provide water to her summer home, Mrs. Solvin desires to obtain water service from the Rio Dell Water Company.
3. Ms. Veronica A. Tedeschi at the time she purchased the property located at 8755 Trenton Road, Forestville, California, for the purpose of constructing a resort residence thereon inquired of her neighbors who are adjoining property owners regarding the adequacy of their water service and she was informed by them that at all times the pressure and quantity of water served by the Rio Dell Water Company in the area where her property is located had been adequate and satisfactory. Only after purchasing the property and making an application for water service from Rio Dell Water Company did Ms. Tedeschi learn of the restriction imposed by this Commission upon Rio Dell Water Company prohibiting the water utility from making additional service connections without further order of this Commission.
4. James J. Downey, doing business as Rio Dell Water Company, is ready, able, and willing to furnish water service to the summer home of Mrs. Lillian Solvin at 9740 River Road, Forestville, and to the resort residence of Ms. Veronica A. Tedeschi to be constructed at 8755 Trenton Road, Forestville, California, and sanitation requirements necessitate water connections to such premises.

Conclusion

As an exception to the provisions of Ordering Paragraph 4 of Decision No. 81621 dated July 24, 1973 in Case No. 9076, as modified by Ordering Paragraph 2 of Decision No. 86477 dated October 5, 1976, James J. Downey, doing business as Rio Dell Water Company, should be authorized to provide water service to Mrs. Lillian Solvin at her summer home located at 9740 River Road, Forestville, California, and to Ms. Veronica A. Tedeschi at the resort residence to be constructed at 8755 Trenton Road, Forestville, California.

FIFTH INTERIM ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that, as an exception to Ordering Paragraph 4 of Decision No. 81621 dated July 24, 1973 in Case No. 9076, as modified by Ordering Paragraph 2 of Decision No. 86477,

1. James J. Downey, doing business as Rio Dell Water Company, is authorized to accept an application from Mrs. Lillian Solvin to provide water service to her summer home at 9740 River Road, Forestville, California.

2. James J. Downey, doing business as Rio Dell Water Company, is authorized to accept an application from Ms. Veronica A. Tedeschi to provide water service to the resort residence to be constructed at 8755 Trenton Road, Forestville, California.

