

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 89065

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Women in Action Day
and Family Care Centers for a variance
to General Order No. 103 with regard
to minimum water fire flow for a Modules
Day-Care Center.

Application No. 58005
(Filed April 17, 1978)

O P I N I O N

Applicant Women in Action Day and Family Care Centers by Amparo Allen, Director, Women in Action, requested a variance from General Order No. 103 regarding fire flow requirements at 1259 Del Monte Avenue, Salinas. General Order No. 103, VIII, Fire Protection Standards 1(a)6, multiple residential, one and two stories, light commercial or light industrial, requires a minimum flow of 2,000 gallons per minute for two hours. The applicant has been informed by the water utility, Alisal Water Corporation, that it will cost approximately \$17,000 to improve the water mains to meet the required fire flow. The applicant states that it would be a serious financial hardship on a nonprofit organization serving low income people to make this expenditure to improve the water mains. The applicant submitted a letter from Paul A. Mehringer, Fire Chief of the Salinas Fire Department, stating that 1,756 gallons per minute of water was available at this location. The Fire Department recommends that the 2,000 gallons per minute fire flow requirement be waived as the proposed buildings will have automatic fire sprinkler systems installed.

Findings and Conclusions

1. The expenditure of \$17,000 to improve the water main by the applicant would cause them serious financial hardship.
2. Provision of an automatic fire sprinkler system justifies a decreased minimum fire flow.
3. The deviation from fire flow requirements of General Order No. 103 will not be adverse to the public interest and is justified.
4. A public hearing in this matter is not necessary.
5. The application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. A deviation is granted from Section VIII 1(a) of General Order No. 103 authorizing the applicant to receive service on the basis of an existing fire flow of approximately 1,750 gallons per minute in lieu of 2,000 gallons, and subject to the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system in the proposed building.

2. Alisal Water Corporation, owner of Alco Water Service, is directed to provide a suitable water service connection upon proper application.

The effective date of this order is thirty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11th day of JULY, 1978.

Robert Bateman
President

Robert D. Howell
Walter T. Hedrick
Commissioners

Commissioner William Symons, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

Commissioner Vernon L. Sturgeon, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.