

amp

Decision No. 90187 APR 10 1979

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Investigation on the Commission's )  
own Motion into the adequacy of )  
Gas and Electric Utility Rates )  
for Master Meter Customers who )  
provide Domestic Gas or Domestic )  
Electric Service, or both, to )  
users through a Submeter System. )

Case No. 10273

ORDER MODIFYING DECISION NO. 89907  
AND DENYING REHEARING AND RECONSIDERATION

Petitions for rehearing and reconsideration of Decision No. 89907 have been filed by Western Mobilehomes Association (WMA) and Golden State Mobilehome Owners League, interested parties in these proceedings. Responses which ask that WMA's petition be denied have been filed by Southern California Gas Company, Southern California Edison Company and San Diego Gas and Electric Company.

The petitions take issue with our decision not to change the existing 10% rate differential for master-meter customers who submeter, except for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) service area, and also with our decision to discontinue this proceeding and deal with further changes in such rate differentials in future general rate cases.

As we stated in Decision No. 89907, we do not believe the record in this proceeding will support changing the 10% rate differential in service areas other than PG&E's. The petitions do not convince us to the contrary.

As to our decision to discontinue this proceeding and deal with other changes in future rate cases, we are aware that this has been a long and arduous proceeding and we recognize the evidentiary difficulties posed by the wording of Section 739.5 which appears to require us to compare a utility's costs with those of its master-meter customers even though such costs are kept in very different manners and almost defy direct comparison. We intend to carry out

the legislative mandate to set appropriate differentials. However, we are faced with a much broader mandate than this; we must continue to carry out the whole of our regulatory obligation under the various parts of the Public Utilities Code.

We will modify our order in Decision No. 89907 to require respondent utilities to include comparable costs for their master-meter customers who submeter as part of their showing in their next rate increase applications. This should not discourage WMA or Golden State from seeking earlier action if they can produce such costs in the interim. We will consider a petition to reopen this proceeding to receive such new evidence whenever WMA or any other party believes it is ready to proceed.

After consideration, we are of the opinion that good cause for granting rehearing or reconsideration of Decision No. 89907 has not been shown but, as discussed above, the decision should be modified to clarify our intentions, therefore

IT IS ORDERED that ordering paragraph 3 is hereby added to read as follows:

3. Respondent utilities shall, in future applications for general rate increases, include, as part of their showing, evidence of the comparable costs of direct metering by the utility and the submetering costs of their master-meter customers, if any such customers exist in their service areas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that rehearing and reconsideration of Decision No. 89907 as modified herein is hereby denied.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16th day of APRIL, 1979.

John E. Bryan  
President

Joseph L. Stagg

Richard W. Howell

Clair J. DeFries

Leonard W. Smith  
Commissioners