

1/10/54

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL ORDER

At a session of the Louisiana Public Service Commission held at its office in Baton Rouge on December 15, 1953, the matter of the invasion of each others territory by Gas and Water Public Utilities was considered.

As a result it appears necessary and desirable for this Commission to adopt an order pertaining to the invasion of territory by a gas or water public utility of another like public utility already serving or making available the same commodity in a satisfactory manner.

For the purpose of this order the "territory" of a gas or water utility shall be determined by the existence of mains or by areas that are readily accessible by extensions thereof that are economically feasible. It will not necessarily be confined strictly to customers already receiving service.

It is the opinion of this Commission that in order to effect economies in the service of gas and water and thus keep rates therefor within reasonable bounds, the paralleling of mains or the extension of mains to serve customers readily accessible by a public utility already providing service in the immediate area is not in the public interest, and such practices frequently lead to unwise expenditures and investments which ultimately become a burden upon the ratepayers.

IT IS ACCORDINGLY ORDERED

That no extension of mains shall be made by a Water or Gas Public Utility that will duplicate the service of another like utility serving the same commodity, nor shall extensions be made to serve customers that could be served by a Public Utility already in existence in an economic and justifiable manner. If a Public Utility, for good cause, refuses to serve a prospective customer within its defined territory, another like utility may serve the said customer upon proper written authority of this Commission.

If economies can be effected in the construction of so-called "feeder" mains by a utility company through the territory already being served by another public utility, such construction shall not be regarded as an "invasion" so long as no such feeder mains are tapped for service in the said territory. In the event that a tap from the said feeder line is necessary or desirable, it shall be made only upon separate and specific written authority of this Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

January 10, 1954

(Signed) Harvey Broyles
CHAIRMAN

(Signed) Wade O. Martin, Jr.
COMMISSIONER

(Signed) Nat B. Knight, Jr.
COMMISSIONER

(Signed) C. W. Coleman
SECRETARY