

Lt. J. E. Lewis,  
Grossmont, California.

Dear Sir:-

Answering yours of May 24th: Enclosed here-  
with find letter from Mr. Harritt which is explanatory.  
The rate hearing will take place very shortly.

EF/bm

Yours very truly,  
CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY,

Manager.

June 5th, 1919



742 Market Street,  
San Francisco, California,  
6 June 1919.

Cuyamara Water Company,  
916 Eighth Street,  
San Diego, California.

Gentlemen:

I return herewith bill for water used dur-  
ing the month of May, charged at "domestic" rates.

Inasmuch as I am properly entitled to irriga-  
tion rates both because of having received service  
at irrigation rates and because this water is used  
on acreage, I request that a revised ~~bill~~ be sent.

Formal request has been made on Mr. Fletcher  
for correction of my account and water-rates  
charged.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "W. L. Lewis".

Yours truly,

JEL:ELC

Inclosure.



June 14, 1919

Mr. J. E. Lewis,  
742 Market Street,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

Answering your letter of June 6, 1919, in which you return water bill sent to you for the month of May, amounting to \$4.85, in this connection we beg to say that under our present rates and rules, which became effective April 1, 1917, you would be classed strictly as a domestic user of water, and accordingly we cannot do otherwise than charge you as set out in the rates and rules. However, before very long there will be a hearing before the Railroad Commission and you can then take this matter up with them.

We are enclosing your bill and would ask that you send us your check for this amount. If you so desire you can stamp your check, as well as the bill, as being paid under protest.

Thanking you for a prompt reply, we are,

Yours very truly,

CUYAMACA WATER COMPANY

Secretary.

LEM/VBS

STATEMENT OF WATER USED BY

LIEUT. JOHN E. LEWIS  
Grossmont, Calif.

666

MONTH	Cu. Ft. Used	Amount Charged
January 1918	3100	\$ 4.00
February "	2310	4.30
March "	3450	6.15
April "	1080	2.60
May "	1930	3.90
June "	3010	5.50
July "	2930	5.35
August "	2230	4.35
September "	2180	4.30
October "	1050	2.55
November "	650	1.60
December "	270	1.00
Total	23050	45.60
January 1919	1330	3.00
February "	640	1.60
March "	3210	5.80
April "	2990	5.50
May "	2560	4.85
Total	10730	20.75

JUN 13 1919



June 16, 1919

Mr. J. E. Lewis,  
724 Market St., Room 202,  
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find Railroad Commission Decision No. 4059, together with copy of letter to Mr. Fletcher in reference to your application for irrigation rates at Grossmont. Mr. Fletcher has asked me to explain to you that we have an application pending before the Commission and that their representative, Mr. Loveland, is expected in San Diego before the first of July for the purpose of making a personal inspection of a large number of places on the system, whose owners, like yourself, think that they are entitled to a different classification. Mr. Loveland will go into this matter fully and the Company will be glad to abide by his Decision in your case as well as the other cases. Until such time as he renders a decision, however, it will be necessary for us to abide by the Decision previously rendered.

Very truly yours,

Superintendent.

CH:EK

Office,  
June 12th, 1919

Mr. Harritt:

Enclosed find letter from Lewis. Please forward decision of the Railroad Commission. I think Lewis' position is well taken, don't you? Let us decide this matter at an early date.

E.F.



June 9, 1919.

Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
Manager, Cuyamaca Water Company  
San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

Please forward me a copy of the portion of the last decision of the Railroad Commission that directs I should pay domestic rates for irrigation water.

It would seem that I am equally entitled to irrigation rates with Murray, Wister, and the Jap gardeners. The present rate makes further development of my place prohibitory and it would appear that I have wasted several years and considerable money in work that cannot be continued. Certainly this rate decreases the value of my property to a point where it becomes almost unsalable as when the trees are mature the cost of the amount of water necessary will be out of reason.

Yours truly,

  
J.E. Lewis.

*My  
Address is  
742 Market St  
Room 202  
San Francisco*

JUN 11 1919

June 18, 1919.

Mr. Ed Fletcher,  
Manager, Cuyamaca Water Company  
916 Eighth St. San Diego, California.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the Superintendent's letter of June 16th relative to my request for irrigation rates, I note that Mr. Loveland is expected in San Diego before July 1st for the purpose of inspecting a number of places where owners believe they are entitled to a change in classification.

In as much as I can not be present to advance my claim because of duty here I request that you state my case.

I have at present a half acre in citrus fruit, and some deciduous trees.

I have cleared, and am contemplating development of another half acre with the intention of devoting it to citrus or avocado trees.

Being in a frostless location, I intend to plant tomatoes and other vegetables to market at-out-of season times.

I began development of this property under irrigation rates.

While the difference in cost of water at domestic and irrigation rates used during the year 1918 as set forth in Mr. Harrit's letter was not much, it would have been considerable but for the fact that owing to my absence on Naval duty, the trees were neglected and insufficient water used. The points that with the growth of the present orchard and the development of the balance of my property as now under way the cost of water under domestic rates will be prohibitive and I will be deprived of such income as I had reason to expect.

With over an acre of land under commercial irrigation, whether or not the trees have reached an income producing age or whether the income is sufficient to support me, I consider that I will be entitled to classification as engaged in commercial irrigation and receive the irrigation rate.

The Murray orange tract is quoted as being a large user of water and entitled to the irrigation rate. I too believe it is.

*Mr. Malheur*



Also as I remember it, the tract consists of 2-plus acres and contains less than 100 citrus trees. If granted irrigation rates the income from my 1.42 acres can be made to exceed the income possible from that tract. Moreover, I have a house on my property that is my home and am endeavoring to develop a substantial income. Because I am making it attractive to the eye does not lessen its value in a commercial sense, nor should it deprive me of the consideration shown other tracts.

As this decision is of vital importance in the future of my property, I request that I be informed as soon as made in order that I may if necessary, change my development plans and reduce the amount of water now necessary. In case irrigation is not granted, I request that I be informed as to conditions under which I may be granted that rate.

Trusting that favorable consideration be given this and that the money and labor already spent may not be lost, I am

Yours truly,

S J E Lewis



**Ed Fletcher Papers**

**1870-1955**

**MSS.81**

**Box: 55 Folder: 15**

**Business Records - Water Companies - Cuyamaca  
Water Company - Cuyamaca Customers  
- Customer correspondence - Lewis, J.E.**



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