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Conference's

Commonwealth of Kentucky  
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Vice Chairman

Charles R. Borders  
Commissioner

May 8, 2014

## PARTIES OF RECORD

Re: Case No. 2013-00383  
Ozark Slone and Kim Slone v. Southern Water & Sewer District

Attached is a copy of a memorandum which is being filed in the record of the above-referenced case. If you have any comments you would like to make regarding the contents of the memorandum, please do so within five days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Ramser, Staff Attorney, at (502) 782-2585.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Derouen".

Jeff Derouen  
Executive Director

ALR/kar  
Attachment

**INTRA-AGENCY MEMORANDUM**  
**KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**TO:** Case File No. 2013-00383

**FROM:** Ann Ramser  
Staff Attorney

**DATE:** May 8, 2014

**RE:** Ozark Slone and Kim Slone v. Southern Water & Sewer District

On May 6, 2014, Commission Staff held an informal conference in this matter. Attending the conference were:

Jonathan Beyer	-	Commission Staff
Ann Ramser	-	Commission Staff
George Wakim	-	Commission Staff
Dean Hall	-	Assistant General Manager, Southern Water & Sewer District participated via phone
Tyler Green	-	Attorney for Southern Water & Sewer District participated via phone
Kim Slone	-	Complainant participated via phone

At the beginning of the informal conference, Ms. Ramser explained the purpose of the conference was to gather additional information.

Upon questioning, Mr. Green stated that a setter is removed as a last resort to stop the theft of water. Mr. Hall indicated that a policy regarding removal of the setter is not in the tariff. When the setter is removed, the meter lid, meter box, and setter are all removed leaving no water available to the property. The service line is still present but the line is shut off.

Pursuant to the tariff, the cost for reconnection is the \$750 tap-on fee. Mr. Wakim questioned if Southern Water & Sewer District would incur \$750 in expenses to install a new setter when the service line is already present.

Mr. Hall identified the travel time to the address as well as the length of time and the number of people to install the setter and connect the lines. Mr. Hall also indicated that if the reconnection cost was less than \$750, the remaining amounts would help recover the cost of water lost due to the straight pipes (a pipe to bridge the space where the water meter is normally located) installed at 36 Tackett Branch and the overtime expense to disconnect the straight pipes.

Upon installation of the straight pipes, water leaked from both ends of the straight pipe causing water to run down the road. In some cases 10 to 20 gallons of water leaked per minute. This caused low tank levels. The water continued to leak until removal of the straight pipe. Southern Water & Sewer District relied on neighbors to report the leaks. Mr. Hall did not know how many straight pipes were removed but he knew it was at least three or four.

Ms. Slone wanted to know when the tap-on fee increased from \$450 to \$750. Ms. Ramser explained that the current fee in the tariff is \$750.

Ms. Slone does not know when the water service was put in her or Mr. Ozark's name at 36 Tackett Branch. Kim and Ozark Slone acquired the property in March 2006 and obtained water service prior to Ms. Lovely renting the property in September 2007. Ms. Slone indicated no one used the toilet between the eviction of Ms. Lovely in July 2010 and Mr. Wells and Ms. Moore leasing the property in June 2012. Mr. and Ms. Slone instructed Mr. Wells and Ms. Moore to obtain utility service in their own names.

Upon eviction of Mr. Wells and Ms. Moore, Mr. and Ms. Slone intended to rent the property again until they learned that the setter had been removed.

Well water is currently being used to flush the toilet. The property is not connected to a sewer.

Mr. Wakim questioned Ms. Slone about the water line that froze and burst. She indicated that no damage occurred to the house. The underground water line broke near the location where the meter was disconnected.

The parties were asked if they wanted a hearing or to submit briefs. If a hearing is held, the parties will be able to present witnesses and testify before the Commissioners. If the parties choose to submit briefs, the decision will be made based on the written record. Each party has the option of letting a decision be made based on what has already been submitted.

No later than May 19, 2014, each party will advise in writing if they want to submit a brief, let a decision be made on the current record, or for a hearing to be held. If both parties choose not to have a hearing, a scheduling order will be issued regarding submission of briefs.

The conference then adjourned.

cc: Parties of Record