COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION INTO BUTLER COUNTY WATER SYSTEM, INC.'S RATE SCHEDULE FOR SERVICES WITH PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION FACILITIES) CASE NO.) 2002-00040
AN INVESTIGATION INTO SIMPSON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT'S RATE SCHEDULES FOR SERVICES WITH PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION FACILITIES)) CASE NO.) 2002-00041
AN INVESTIGATION INTO WARREN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT'S RATE SCHEDULE FOR SERVICES WITH PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION FACILITIES))) CASE NO.) 2002-00042)

<u>ORDER</u>

On October 31, 2003, the Commission entered a procedural schedule providing the water districts and intervenors until December 15, 2003 to request a public hearing in any of these proceedings. The Commission has received two requests for public hearing, one from the city of Bowling Green and one from the Barren River Development Council. Both of these entities are parties to these proceedings. Warren County Water District has filed a motion to strike these requests as untimely. The city of Bowling Green, in its response to the motion to strike, has presented the Commission with sufficient information to indicate that its request was actually mailed December 11 and should have been timely received by this Commission. Barren River Development Council's request for a hearing was filed one day past the deadline. Given the filing of these motions in close proximity to a deadline and the information submitted showing that the city of Bowling Green's request had been timely mailed, the Commission will grant these requests for a hearing. Having determined that a public hearing is appropriate, the Commission will also grant the motion of Barren River Development Council to file written comments.

On its own motion, the Commission herein also schedules an informal conference to be held prior to the public hearing. The purpose of the conference is to discuss information submitted by the water districts in response to Staff's data request. This information relates to the fire protection demand (or fire flow requirements) that would be an appropriate input in calculating fire protection rates.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. The motions for public hearing by the city of Bowling Green and by the Barren River Development Council shall be granted.

2. The motion to file written comments by Barren River Development Council shall be granted. Such comments shall be filed by no later than January 23, 2004.

3. An informal conference shall be held on February 3, 2004, beginning at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky.¹

4. A public hearing in this matter is scheduled for March 3, 2004, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky.

¹ Attendance at this informal conference is limited to parties to these proceedings. Members of the press or public may contact the Commission's public information officer with any questions.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 9th day of January, 2004.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

DD ~____

Executive Director

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