COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION)
OF RIDGELEA INVESTMENTS, INC. OF)
FARMGATE, EDGEWOOD AND MEADOWBROOK) CASE NO. 2008-00378
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES IN)
FRANKLIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY)

ORDER

Commission Staff has performed the inspection of the facilities of Ridgelea Investments, Inc. ("Ridgelea") as directed by the Commission in its Order dated September 28, 2008. The Commission Staff Inspection Report is attached hereto. All parties should review the Commission Staff Inspection Report carefully and submit any written comments on Staff's findings and recommendations within 10 days of the date of this Order.

The Commission will establish a procedural schedule to be followed in this matter.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. All parties shall file any responses to the Commission Staff Inspection Report on or before October 29, 2008, with a copy of the response to all parties.
- 2. An informal conference is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, on November 6, 2008 in Hearing Room 2 of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky to discuss all issues and the procedure for a formal hearing. Ridgelea should be prepared to discuss any deficiencies noted in the

Commission Staff Inspection Report and present cost estimates for their correction. A video record of the informal conference shall be made.

- 3. A formal hearing of all issues contained in the Commission Staff Inspection Report shall be held on November 18, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, in Hearing Room 1 of the Commission's offices.
- 4. Ridgelea shall publish public notice of the public hearing pursuant to KRS 424.300 at least 7 days prior to the hearing date.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 17th day of October, 2008.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director Whenson

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In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATION OF)	
RIDGELEA INVESTMENTS, INC. OF)	
FARMGATE, EDGEWOOD, AND)	CASE NO.
MEADOWBROOK WASTEWATER)	2008-00378
TREATMENT FACILITIES IN FRANKLIN)	
COUNTY, KENTUCKY)	

COMMISSION STAFF INSPECTION REPORT

By an Order in this matter dated September 18, 2008, Commission Staff was directed to inspect the Ridgelea Investments, Inc.'s wastewater treatment facilities in Franklin County, Kentucky. As part of that Order, an exhibit was attached, being a petition from several customers of Ridgelea Investments, Inc. concerning the condition of the treatment plants.

Ridgelea Investments, Inc. owns and operates three wastewater treatment facilities in Franklin County, Kentucky being: Farmgate, Edgewood, and Meadowbrook. Commission staff inspected each of these facilities and issued this report. The inspection of these facilities considered the four issues as contained in the petition applied to all three plants and included all applicable Public Service Commission Regulations.

FARMGATE

On October 2, 2008, George Wakim and Brian Rice inspected the Farmgate wastewater treatment plant. Farmgate is an in-ground package sewage treatment plant which was constructed in approximately 1972 and serves approximately 36 residences

in the Farmgate subdivision. The design treatment capacity of Farmgate is 20,000 gallons per day. Farmgate is an extended aeration activated sludge package plant that services a collection system composed of sanitary sewer lines. The treated effluent is discharged into an unnamed tributary of South Benson Creek under a permit from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet which authorizes Ridgelea Investments, Inc. to discharge from Farmgate under the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

- 1. The elimination or substantial reduction of detectable emissions from the treatment plant such as visible sludge deposits in the creek bed and possible odor. There appeared to be wastewater treatment sludge deposits in the stream bed downstream from the plant's discharge point. There was no detectable odor during the time of the inspection.
- 2. Safety barrier around the treatment plant. This plant has a safety barrier in the form of a chain link fence that surrounds it. The side of the fence facing the road has a nine-inch gap below it and the grade for a length of approximately three to four feet. 807 KAR 5:071, Section 7 requires that the sewage utility be operated in accordance with the safety of persons and property. Commission Staff would interpret this regulation to require the plant facility to be fenced. The fence now in place needs to be repaired.
- 3. Noise generated by treatment plant equipment. No malfunctioning equipment was detected that may have resulted in noise levels beyond the normal operational limits of this type of plant.

4. Appearance of treatment plant to include privacy fence. Commission Staff interprets the regulations to require the facility to be fenced for safety reasons only; however, there are no Commission regulations to require a privacy fence.

EDGEWOOD

On October 2, 2008, George Wakim and Brian Rice inspected the Edgewood wastewater treatment plant. Edgewood is an in-ground package sewage treatment plant which was constructed in approximately 1972 and serves approximately 133 residences in the Edgewood subdivision. The design treatment capacity of Edgewood is 55,000 gallons per day. Edgewood is an extended aeration activated sludge package plant that services a collection system composed of sanitary sewer lines. The treated effluent is discharged into an unnamed tributary of South Benson Creek under a permit from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet, which authorizes Ridgelea Investments, Inc. to discharge from Edgewood under the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

- 1. The elimination or substantial reduction of detectable emissions from the treatment plant such as visible sludge deposits in the creek bed and possible odor. It was indicated that the effluent was so clear by the Division of Water inspector that we did not feel the need to go around the area to check the receiving stream. There was no detectable odor during the time of the inspection.
- 2. Safety barrier around the treatment plant. This plant has a safety barrier in the form of a chain link fence that surrounds the property on which this plant is located. There is an area of this fence where a post is broken and leaning towards the inside. There is also brush near this fence.

- 3. Noise generated by treatment plant equipment. No malfunctioning equipment was detected that may have resulted in noise levels beyond the normal operational limits of this type of plant.
- 4. Appearance of treatment plant to include privacy fence. Commission Staff interprets the regulations to require the facility to be fenced for safety reasons only; however, there are no commission regulations to require a privacy fence.

<u>MEADOWBROOK</u>

On October 2, 2008, George Wakim and Brian Rice inspected the Meadowbrook wastewater treatment plant. Meadowbrook is an in-ground package sewage treatment plant which was constructed in approximately 1972 and serves approximately 27 residences in Meadowbrook subdivision. The design treatment capacity of Meadowbrook is 6,000 gallons per day. Meadowbrook is an extended aeration activated sludge package plant that services a collection system composed of sanitary sewer lines. The treated effluent is discharged into an unnamed tributary of South Benson Creek under a permit from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet which authorizes Ridgelea Investments, Inc. to discharge from Meadowbrook under the Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

1. The elimination or substantial reduction of detectable emissions from the treatment plant such as visible sludge deposits in the creek bed and possible odor. There appeared to be wastewater treatment sludge deposits in the stream bed downstream from the plant's discharge point. There was no detectable odor during the time of the inspection.

- 2. This plant has a safety barrier in the form of a chain link fence that surrounds it. There appeared to be no problems with this fence.
- 3. Noise generated by treatment plant equipment. No malfunctioning equipment was detected that may have resulted in noise levels beyond the normal operational limits of this type of plant.
- 4. Appearance of treatment plant to include privacy fence. Commission Staff interprets the regulations to require the facility to be fenced for safety reasons only; however, there are no commission regulations to require a privacy fence.