#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

# ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF SOUTHERN)CASE NO.WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT FOR AN)2022-00099ALTERNATIVE RATE ADJUSTMENT)

#### <u>ORDER</u>

On March 30, 2022, Southern Water & Sewer District (Southern District) filed an application, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:076, requesting to adjust its monthly water service rates.

The Commission finds that a procedural schedule<sup>1</sup> should be established to ensure the orderly review of Southern District's application. The procedural schedule is attached as an Appendix to this Order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. The procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix to this Order shall be followed.

2. No later than the date set forth in the procedural schedule, Commission Staff shall file with the Commission and serve upon all parties of record a written report (Commission Staff's Report) containing its findings and recommendations regarding Southern District's requested rate adjustment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No action is necessary to suspend the effective date of Southern District's proposed rates for service. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:076, Section 7(1), an applicant who applies for a rate adjustment pursuant to the procedures set for in 807 KAR 5:076 may not place its proposed rates into effect until the Commission approves those rates or six months from the date of the filing of its application.

3. No later than 14 days after the date of the filing of the Commission Staff's Report, each party of record shall file with the Commission:

a. Its written comments on and any objections to the findings contained in the Commission Staff's Report; and

b. Any additional evidence for the Commission to consider.

4. If Commission Staff finds that Southern District's financial condition supports a higher rate than Southern District proposes or the assessment of an additional rate or charge not proposed in Southern District's application, Southern District in its response to the Commission Staff's Report shall also state its position in writing on whether the Commission should authorize the assessment of the higher rate or the additional rate or charge.

5. If Commission Staff finds that changes should be made to the manner in which Southern District accounts for the depreciation of Southern District's assets, Southern District in its response to the Commission Staff's Report shall also state its position in writing on whether the Commission should require Southern District to implement the proposed change for accounting purposes.

6. A party's failure to file written objections to a finding contained in the Commission Staff's Report within 14 days after the date of the filing of the Commission Staff's Report shall be deemed a waiver of all objections to that finding.

7. If a party requests a hearing or informal conference, then the party shall make the request in its written comments and state the reason why a hearing or informal conference is necessary.

-2-

8. A party's failure to request a hearing or informal conference in the party's written response shall be deemed a waiver of all rights to a hearing on the application and a request that the case stand submitted for decision.

9. A party's failure to file a written response within 14 days after the date of the filing of the Commission Staff's Report shall be deemed a waiver of all rights to a hearing on the application.

10. As set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11)(a), a person requesting permissive intervention in a Commission proceeding is required to demonstrate either (1) a special interest in the proceeding that is not adequately represented in the case, or (2) that the person requesting permissive intervention is likely to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings. Further, KRS 278.040(2) requires that a person seeking intervention must have an interest in the rates or service of a utility, as those are the only matters that are subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Therefore, any person requesting to intervene in a Commission proceeding must state with specificity the person's special interest that is not otherwise adequately represented or the issues and facts the person will present that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. A mere recitation of the quantity of water consumed by the movant or a general statement regarding a potential impact of possible modification of rates will not be deemed sufficient to establish a special interest. In addition, any motion to intervene filed after the date established in the procedural schedule attached as an Appendix to this Order shall also show good cause for being untimely. If the untimely motion is granted, the movant shall accept and abide by the existing procedural schedule.

-3-

The Commission directs the parties to the Commission's July 22, 2021
Order in Case No. 2020-00085<sup>2</sup> regarding filings with the Commission.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC July 22, 2021), Order (in which the Commission ordered that for case filings made on and after March 16, 2020, filers are NOT required to file the original physical copies of the filings required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8).

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner



ATTEST:

Bridgel

**Executive Director** 

Case No. 2022-00099

#### APPENDIX

## APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2022-00099 DATED MAY 03 2022

Requests for intervention shall be filed no later than	05/06/2022
All initial requests for information to Southern District shall be filed no later than	05/10/2022
Southern District shall file responses to initial requests for information no later than	05/31/2022
All supplemental requests for information to Southern District shall be filed no later than	06/14/2022
Southern District shall file responses to supplemental requests for information no later than	06/28/2022
Commission Staff's Report shall be filed no later than	08/04/2022

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\*Jeff Prater Chairman Southern Water & Sewer District 245 Kentucky Route 680 P. O. Box 610 McDowell, KY 41647

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