## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

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

## <u>ORDER</u>

This matter arises upon Southern Water and Sewer District's (Southern District) motion to continue a scheduled hearing. On August 22, 2022, a hearing in this matter was scheduled to be held on September 16, 2022. On September 6, 2022, Southern District filed a motion requesting that the September 16, 2022 hearing be continued for 60 days. As a basis for the motion, Southern District referenced the amount of damage from the July 2022 flooding that must be repaired and the time spent working on documentation required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to obtain funds for the damage repairs resulting from the FEMA declared weather event, Disaster 4643DR.

Having considered the motion and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that Southern District established good cause to continue the September 16, 2022 hearing to allow Southern District personnel to focus on recovery from the July 2022 flooding event. The Commission finds that the formal hearing in this matter shall be rescheduled for Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at 9 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Southern District shall file with the Commission any exhibits that it may introduce at the November 9, 2022 hearing no later than noon on Monday, November 7, 2022. Southern District shall bring copies of the case record for this proceeding and Case No. 2020-00121 so that Southern District's witnesses have access to said records at the November 9, 2022 hearing.

In accordance with the August 26, 2022 Order in this proceeding, the witnesses who shall appear at the November 9, 2022 hearing on behalf of Southern District are: (1) Jeff Prater; (2) Paula Burke; (3) Jeff Reed; and (4) Randy Conley.

The Commission also finds that a procedural schedule should be entered by separate Order to allow for additional discovery on the following topics in the interest of a thorough and robust case record:

- Southern District's general financial condition.
- Southern District's general accounting practices.
- Southern District's meter replacement surcharge billing, collection, and deposit practices as they affect this proceeding.
- The term of the loan obtained from Citizens Bank of Kentucky that was originated on November 17, 2017, and modified on December 2, 2021, with a maturity date of November 20, 2023.
- Operational efficiencies that are the basis for Southern District's request to defer implementing a rate increase.
- All other related matters.

The Commission notes that the suspension date for this proceeding is September 29, 2022. Because Southern District proposed to continue with the current rates rather than place a rate increase into effect, there will be no effect if the Commission does not issue an Order on or before September 29, 2022. Because the statutory due date for a final Order in this proceeding is January 27, 2023, continuing the hearing until

November 9, 2022, should not adversely impact the Commission's ability to timely issue an Order prior to the statutory due date of January 27, 2023.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- Southern District's motion to continue the September 16, 2022 hearing for
   days is granted.
  - 2. The September 16, 2022 hearing is canceled.
- 3. Southern District shall appear on November 9, 2022, at 9 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, in the Richard Raff Hearing Room of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of presenting evidence on the issues raised in this proceeding.
- 4. Southern District shall file copies of any exhibits it plans to introduce at the November 9, 2022 hearing no later than noon on Monday, November 7, 2022.
- 5. Southern District shall make copies of the case record for this proceeding and Case No. 2020-00121 available for its witnesses during the November 9, 2022 hearing.
- 6. Southern District shall give notice of the hearing in compliance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2)(b). In addition, the notice of hearing shall include the following statements: "This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov"; and "Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov." At the time the notice is mailed, or publication is requested, Southern District shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

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- 7. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video transcript shall be made of the hearing
- 8. The record of Case No. 2020-00121 is incorporated by reference into the record of this proceeding.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

**ENTERED** 

SEP 09 2022 rcs

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

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