Robert D. Vance, Secretary Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet

Timothy J. LeDonne Commissioner Department of Public Protection

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January 28, 2008

Mark David Goss Chairman

> John W. Clay Vice Chairman

Caroline Pitt Clark Commissioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

RE: Case No. 2007-00093 Appalachian Waste Control

I, Beth O'Donnell, Executive Director of the Public Service Commission, hereby certify that the enclosed attested copy of the Commission's Order in the above case was served upon the addressee by U.S. Mail on January 28, 2008.

Executive Director

BOD/tw Enclosure



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Honorable David Edward Spenard
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General Utility & Rate Intervention Division
1024 Capital Center Drive
Suite 200
Frankfort, KY 40601-8204

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Timothy J. LeDonne Commissioner **Department of Public Protection**

Honorable Shannan Stamper General Counsel **Environmental Public Protection** Fifth Floor, Capital Plaza Tower Frankfort, KY 40601



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Honorable John West Attorney at Law **Environmental Public Protection** Fifth Floor, Capital Plaza Tower Frankfort, KY 40601



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Timothy J. LeDonne Commissioner Department of Public Protection

Honorable Squire N. Williams III Special Master Commissioner Franklin Circuit Court P.O. Box 676 Frankfort, KY 40602-0676



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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF APPALACHIAN WASTE)	
CONTROL FOR AN ADJUSTMENT IN RATES)	
PURSUANT TO THE ALTERNATIVE RATE FILING)	CASE NO. 2007-00093
PROCEDURE FOR SMALL UTILITIES AND)	
REQUEST FOR INTERIM RELIEF)	

ORDER

On April 27, 2007, the Commission authorized Appalachian Waste Control, Inc. ("Appalachian Waste Control") to assess a monthly rate of \$56.72 for sewer service provided at 5 small sewage treatment plants in Johnson County, Kentucky. We expressly directed that Appalachian Waste Control's collection of this charge be subject to refund and stated that a final determination of the appropriate rate would be made only after the utility had experienced several months of operation. We further directed Appalachian Waste Control to report on its financial operations after operating for 3 months under the interim rates.

On September 12, 2007, Appalachian Waste Control filed with the Commission a report on its financial operations for the period from May 1, 2007 to July 31, 2007. In its report, it reported average total monthly expenses for the 3-month period of \$11,290.66 and a total of 90 customers on its system. Based upon this period of operations and number of customers, Appalachian Waste Control suggested that a monthly rate of \$125.45 was appropriate, but did not take any action to amend its application.

On January 11, 2008, the Commission directed that any party that wished a hearing in this matter should submit a written request for such hearing within 7 days and

that, if we failed to receive a request for hearing within that period, this case would stand submitted for decision. As of the date of this Order, we have yet to receive a request for a hearing.

Having reviewed the evidence of record, the Commission finds that the proposed monthly rate of \$56.72 should be approved for service that Appalachian Waste Control rendered on and after April 30, 2007. We further find that, although the record contains evidence to suggest that a higher monthly rate may be appropriate, this evidence should not be afforded much weight since it is based upon a very limited period of historical operations. Moreover, as Appalachian Waste Control has not sought to amend its proposed rate despite evidence that a larger rate may be appropriate, we will assume the proposed rate is reasonable.¹

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- A monthly rate of \$56.72 is approved for sewer service that Appalachian
 Waste Control has rendered on and after April 30, 2007.
- 2. Within 20 days of the date of this Order, Appalachian Waste Control shall file with the Commission revised tariff sheets that are signed by an authorized officer of the utility and that set forth the approved rate.

¹ <u>See Utilities Operating Co. v. King</u>, 143 So.2d 854, 858 (Fla. 1962) ("if the rates requested by a utility are less than those which would provide a fair return the Commission must approve the rates unless it be shown that approval of such rates would cause the service rendered the public to suffer."). There is no evidence to suggest that service will suffer if the proposed rate is approved.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 28th day of January, 2008.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

xecutive Director