COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF MONROE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT FOR RATE ADJUSTMENT PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5:076

) CASE NO. 2017-00070

ORDER

The matter is before the Commission upon a motion filed on November 6, 2017, by Monroe County Water District ("Monroe District") for an Order to clarify and grant a deviation from 807 KAR 5:076 regarding the record on which this case will be decided. Also pending before the Commission are Monroe District's Post-Hearing Requests for Information to Commission Staff filed on November 3, 2017.

With respect to Monroe District's motion, the Commission granted a deviation by ruling from the bench at the conclusion of the October 25, 2017 hearing in this matter that the Commission would consider a post-hearing brief on the subject of depreciation. Therefore, Monroe District's motion for a deviation is denied as moot. Additionally, the Commission's Order of October 31, 2017 addresses the production of documents. We now clarify, as discussed below, that this is limited to the "work papers" referenced in the testimony of staff at the hearing in this matter. Therefore, the requests are denied, as they are discovery and outside the scope of 807 KAR 5:076.

Monroe District's motion cited previous Commission rulings as to the evidence to be considered in this rate case, which was filed under the Commission's regulation establishing the alternative rate adjustment procedure for small utilities, 807 KAR 5:076. That regulation specifically states in Section 3 that the Commission shall make its decision based on the applicant's annual reports, the applicant's rate application, information provided by the applicant in response to requests for information, written reports filed by Commission Staff, stipulations and agreements between the parties and Commission Staff, written comments and information filed by the parties in response to a written report by the Commission Staff, and the record of any hearing. The regulation does not permit discovery on Commission Staff outside the hearing.

As stated in the Commission's written Orders of August 18, 2017; September 18, 2017; October 31, 2017; and the Commission's rulings at the October 25, 2017 hearing, which addressed a post-hearing brief regarding depreciation and "work papers" referred to by Commission Staff in testimony, 807 KAR 5:076 does not give parties a right to conduct discovery on Commission Staff outside of a hearing. The Commission Staff Report, Jack Scott Lawless, is no longer a Commission employee, and that his recommendations in the Staff Report were adopted by Ariel Miller, a current Commission employee. Ms. Miller testified at the hearing, and references were made to Mr. Lawless's work papers. Under these circumstances, the Commission finds it reasonable to allow discovery of the work papers that were created by Mr. Lawless in conjunction with his preparation of the Staff Report. Therefore, the Commission will limit the scope of Monroe District's Post-Hearing Requests for Information to

-2-

Commission Staff to the work papers prepared by Mr. Lawless. Those work papers are attached hereto as an Appendix.¹

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Monroe District's motion for clarification is granted as set forth in the findings above.

2. Monroe District's motion to deviate is denied as moot.

Monroe District's Post-Hearing Requests for Information to Commission
Staff are limited to the work papers in the Appendix.

By the Commission

ENTERED NOV 1 7 2017 KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Executive Director

¹ In addition to the four handwritten pages in the Appendix, Mr. Lawless received from Monroe District approximately 500 pages, some of which contain employee personal information. Those pages will be made available for inspection at the Commission's offices and may be included in the record upon the motion of Monroe District.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2017-00070 DATED NOV 1 7 2017

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