

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF BIG SANDY	)	
WATER DISTRICT FOR A CERTIFICATE OF	)	
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO	)	
DEPLOY AN ADVANCED METERING	)	CASE NO.
INFRASTRUCTURE AND GEOGRAPHIC	)	2023-00163
INFORMATION SYSTEM, ISSUANCE OF	)	
EVIDENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS, AND REQUEST	)	
FOR EXPEDITED RELIEF	)	

ORDER

This matter arises on Big Sandy Water District’s (Big Sandy District) request for Commission approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), pursuant to KRS 278.020, and authority to issue evidence of indebtedness, pursuant to KRS 278.300. Big Sandy District’s application was deemed filed on June 15, 2023, when the Commission issued an Order granting Big Sandy District’s May 24, 2023 motion for a deviation from certain filing requirements.<sup>1</sup>

KRS 278.300(2) provides that the Commission must adjudicate an application for authority to issue evidence of indebtedness within 60 days of the date that the application was filed. KRS 278.300(2) also provides that the Commission can continue its review of the application for longer than 60 days upon a showing of good cause.

Big Sandy District requested an expedited decision no later than July 31, 2023. However, based upon a review of the application, the Commission finds that an

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<sup>1</sup> Order (Ky. PSC June 15, 2023).

investigation is necessary to determine the reasonable necessity and appropriateness of Big Sandy District's requests, and that the investigation cannot be completed within 60 days of the date that the application was filed, because of the complexity of the project and the initial delay caused by Big Sandy District seeking a deviation of the filing requirements. For that reason, the Commission finds that good cause exists to continue the application beyond the 60-day period specified in KRS 278.300(2) so that the Commission can conduct a thorough review of the proposed transaction.<sup>2</sup>

The Commission further finds that a procedural schedule should be established for the orderly processing of this case. The procedural schedule is attached as an Appendix to this Order.

Additionally, any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing may be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing. Hearings are held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information are expected to participate in person at a hearing.

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<sup>2</sup> The Commission will use its best efforts to meet the time sensitive date, but it cannot be guaranteed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Big Sandy District's application for approval of the proposed evidence of indebtedness is continued beyond the 60-day period specified in KRS 278.300(2).

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

3. Big Sandy District shall respond to all requests for information propounded by Commission Staff, whether identified on the procedural schedule or otherwise, as provided in those requests.

4. Any party filing a paper with the Commission shall file an electronic copy in accordance with the electronic filing procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked. The Commission directs the parties to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085<sup>3</sup> regarding filings with the Commission.

5. 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. Therefore, any person requesting to intervene in a Commission proceeding must state with specificity the person's special

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<sup>3</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).

interest that is not otherwise adequately represented, or the issues and facts that the person will present that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. A mere recitation of the quantity of utility service 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.

6. Any motion to intervene filed after the date established in the procedural schedule 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.

7. Big Sandy District shall give notice of any scheduled hearing in accordance with the provisions set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2). In addition, the notice of hearing shall include the following statement: “This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, [psc.ky.gov](http://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 listing on the PSC website, [psc.ky.gov](http://psc.ky.gov).” At the time publication is requested, Big Sandy District shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

8. At any public hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimonies shall be permitted.

9. Any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing shall be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal

announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing.

10. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information shall participate in person at any hearing scheduled in this matter.

11. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video recording shall be made of the hearing.

12. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions for continuance. Accordingly, motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

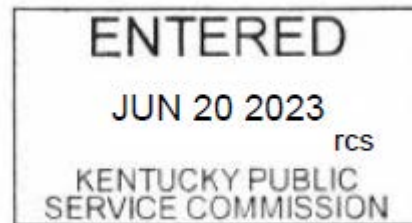
13. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions to excuse witnesses from testifying at Commission hearings. Accordingly, motions to excuse a witness from testifying at a Commission hearing or from testifying in person at a Commission hearing shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner



ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2023-00163 DATED JUN 20 2023

Last day for intervention requests to be accepted..... 06/26/2023

All initial requests for information to Big Sandy District  
shall be filed no later than ..... 06/27/2023

Big Sandy District shall file responses to initial requests for  
information no later than..... 07/11/2023

Last day for Parties to request a Public Hearing or submit a  
request for the matter be decided based upon the written record ..... 07/14/2023

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