Skeeters, Bennett, Wilson, and Pike

Attorneys at Law

550 W. Lincoln Trail Blvd. Radcliff, Kentucky 40160 www.sbw-law.com 2007-246

Tel: (270) 351-4404 Fax: (270) 352-4626

Real Estate Dept: Tel: (270) 352-4406 Fax: (270) 352-4421

June 11, 2007

Beth O'Donnell Executive Director Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Ky 40602-0615

**Donald Skeeters** 

R. Terry Bennett

David T. Wilson II

Michael A. Pike

RECEIVED
JUN 1 3 2007

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Re: Hardin County Water District Proposed Tariff Modification

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

The undersigned represents Hardin County Water District No. 1. Enclosed herewith is a proposed tariff modification pertaining to the billing of mobile home parks located primarily in Radcliff, Kentucky. Also addressed by the tariff includes provisions regarding the non-payment of accounts by subtenants of mobile home parks. The issue of mobile home park water loss has been a lengthy and costly problem which confronts Hardin County Water District No. 1.

I am writing to ask that a review of this proposed tariff be scheduled for an informal conference with Commission staff.

Your attention to this matter is certainly appreciated. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

SKEETERS, BENNETT & WILSON PLC

David T. Wilson II

DTW:dnf cc: Jim Bruce

FOR	Entire Are	ea Served
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First Revisio	n Shee	t No. 7B-1

		Hardin County Water District No. 1
		CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICE: PRIVATE PROPERTY MASTER METER BILLING
		(N)
1.	prope The p	cability: These rules and policies apply to any property which has a master meter installed for the rty, but also has sub-meters installed on private property, which are used to bill individual tenants. roperties within the District to which this definition applies are primarily manufactured housing runities (MHC) and residents living within the same.
2.	Purpo	ose of Policy:
	a.	To provide a method and process to continue to allow billing of individual tenants, which are located on private property and served directly by private water mains within the private property, as long as certain conditions are met, while also recognizing the other policy purposes set forth.
	b.	To charge the property owner for all water, including that water which is being lost within their private water service lines or mains, and for all water used for domestic or potable use within their property boundary.
	C.	To ensure that lost water due to a property owner or customers private plumbing leaks does not increase the District's unaccounted for water excessively, or cause an added cost to the District's other customers.
	d.	To permit owners of MHC's to benefit from sub-metering and billing services provided by the District, as long as those owners continue to meet certain conditions set forth in a separate agreement between the District and the property owner.
	e.	To permit owners provide additional notice before interrupting service to a MHC, which notice shall be different than that provided for on Sheet No. 5A, <u>Non-Payment and Service Interruption</u> , or other advance service interruption notice regulations of the <u>Kentucky Public Service Commission</u> .
3.		Account Policies; The following rules and policies apply to only those customers which this on is applicable:
	a.	Each owner of an MHC to which this tariff applies shall be required to sign a Private Property Master Billing Agreement. Said agreement has been approved as to form and is attached hereto.
	b.	Each owner of an MHC shall be required to pay for all water (and City of Radcliff sanitary sewer services if applicable) that passes through a master meter, less any water which is measured and billed for at an individual meter on private property by a tenant of a MHC. Water required to be paid for through the master meter shall include 1) leaked water from the private plumbing and water mains downstream or after the master meter, 2) water being taken illegally by a tenant living on the

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ISSUED BY	Ji Blue	•••
	Jim Bruce, General Manager	Radcliff, Kentucky

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#### Hardin County Water District No. 1

#### CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICE: PRIVATE PROPERTY MASTER METER BILLING

private property of the owner, 3) water used at any other non-metered structure or other non-metered use within the private property downstream of the master meter, and 4) any other water loss occurring at the MHC.

- c. Each owner of a MHC shall be advised of the events which shall result in all water used within the private property being billed only by the master meter, to which extent the District is aware or can be expected to become aware, and which all charges for said delivered water through the master meter shall be paid for by the property owner.
- 4. <u>Policy Regarding Deposits</u>: The following deposit policy shall apply to each property owner who is required to open a new account for the master meter. This deposit policy varies from other District deposit policies, or those set forth by PSC regulations;
  - a. No deposit shall be required to be paid when opening the initial master meter account. This exclusion shall only apply to the first time this location opens the master meter account, and shall not apply to future, or subsequent owners. Deposits for subsequent owners shall be as required in the following paragraph.
  - b. If an existing master meter account is turned off for any reason provided for in this section, or any time a new customer is established for an existing master meter location, the District may require a new deposit to be paid prior to service being turned back on. If required, the amount of the deposit shall be equal to the water volume charge, for that location, for the most recent complete month.
- 5. Notice of Service Interruption: Each owner of an MHC to which this tariff applies, will be afforded additional prior notice to a service interruption for non-payment. This notice provision shall be different than that provided for on Sheet No. 5A, Non-Payment and Service Interruption. The policy for this extended notice shall apply as follows:
  - a. If a qualifying event or action occurs which the District believes should result in service interruption, the District shall notify a qualifying customer in writing no less than sixty (60) from the billing date. After the notice is presented, the customer shall have ten (10) week days (excluding District observed holidays or weekends) to respond in writing to the notice providing any reasons why the interruption should not occur. The response from the customer shall be presented to the District's General Manager who shall make a final decision on whether to proceed with the interruption, or take other action. Should the decision be to proceed with service interruption, no further notice will be provided to the owner, and the shut-off will occur as notified. Should the decision be to delay the shut-off, the owner will be notified that the shut-off has been postponed, and what actions or requirements, if any, the owner must make to avoid a future shut-off. The District may, along with the notice of delay, include an alternate date at which time a shut-off will occur, if certain conditions are not met, and which notice shall be the only notice to the owner of the revised and re-scheduled shut-off date.

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### Hardin County Water District No. 1

#### CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICE: PRIVATE PROPERTY MASTER METER BILLING

- b. Service may be discontinued for any of the reasons specified under Section 6 herein. This includes the failure or refusal of a property owner to execute a Private Property Master Billing Agreement, and open a new account for the master meter. Should this event occur, the property shall be subject to service interruption as set forth in this section.
- c. Property owners which are afforded the termination notice described herein shall not qualify for any other modification or extension of payment provisions.
- d. Should a service interruption occur, the District, at its discretion, may place a public notice in the local newspaper, or post notice on the property where the water is being delivered. This additional notice is to provide tenants notice that their water service may be interrupted. Regardless of whether additional notice is given by the District, the final notice to the master meter customer of record shall be all that the District is obligated to provide.
- 6. <u>Transition to Master Meter Only Billing:</u> The following five (5) conditions or events shall require master meter only billing, after which time the individual sub-meters located on private property shall no longer used for billing individual residents or tenants of a MHC. These conditions are as follows;
  - a. Transfer of a MHC to a new owner. Transfer would include transfer by transfer of deed, contract for deed, lease/purchase agreement or other similar transaction.
  - b. Major renovation of the MHC. For the purposes of this tariff, major renovation shall mean that more than half of the structures within the property have been removed or are vacant at any one time, or more than half of the individual metered accounts (using the original number of lots within the MHC as the base amount) within the property have been inactive for more than thirty (30) days.
  - Failure to pay for water charges billed through the master meter for the period provided for under Section 3.
  - d. Failure of the owner to open an account for the master meter within forty-five (45) days, after the effective date of this tariff. Failure to open an account shall include the non-response to a mailed notice, by certified mail, to the address of the owner of record.
  - e. Construction of any new MHC will be billed only by a master meter, in accordance with Sheet 7.A
    of this tariff.
- 7. Selective Termination of Individual Meter Billing (sub-metering) or Water Service Within Private

  Property: Under the following conditions, the District will not be required to read and bill individual meters and accounts located within private property, regardless of whether the property is billed by the master meter only. The District will provide notice, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:006 that water service will be

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Jim Bruce, General Manager	Radcliff, Kentucky
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# Hardin County Water District No. 1

CLASSIFICATION	OF SERVICE:
PRIVATE PROPERTY MAS	STER METER BILLING

interrupted, or that sub-metering at this location will be discontinued. These conditions and responses include;

- a. Lack of access to the water meter: This shall include when a private fence has been placed around the meter location, and the District must open and enter within the fenced area in order to access the meter. In this circumstance, individual reading and billing of water used at that lot or structure will no longer occur and all water used at that structure will be billed through the master meter. Once access to the meter has been restored, if sub-metering services still apply to this property, a new account and billing services may be re-activated and occur.
- b. Contamination of a water meter pit: If ground water within a meter pit has found to be contaminated with bacteria or other water borne pathogens, as confirmed by a water sample by an independent laboratory, then the District will notify the resident of the structure that water will be turned off, with advance notice as provided by 807 KAR Section 13 and 14. Water service to that location will be re-activated only after certification by a licensed plumber stating that the source or cause of the contamination has been located and repaired, and after a negative test of water in or near that meter pit has confirmed that the water is no longer contaminated. Cost of the plumber's certification letter, and second or subsequent laboratory test costs (after the first), shall also be paid directly or reimbursed by the property owner to the District before water service is re-established.
- c. Relocation of mobile home or deck which results in the water meter being underneath a structure:

  If the District employees are not be able to access the meter from directly above the meter lid, individual reading and billing of water used at that lot will no longer occur to that tenant, and all water used at that structure will be billed through the master meter. Once access to the meter has been restored, if sub-metering services still apply to this property, a new account and billing services may be re-activated and occur.
- d. Other restrictive access locations: These may include location of a meter which is normally covered by a parked vehicle; a meter lid or pit which has been damaged to the point the meter cannot be properly protected or secured, or other circumstances which make the meter inaccessible. In these circumstances, individual reading and billing of water used at that lot or structure will no longer occur to that tenant, and all water used at that structure will be billed through the master meter. Once access to the meter has been restored, if sub-metering services still apply to this property, a new account and billing services may be re-activated and occur.
- e. Should a meter location need to be moved from a location that was installed and selected by the private property owner and not according to the District's regulations, then the cost of that relocation, including all materials and labor, shall be at the expense of the property owner. Any new materials and installation shall be in accordance with the District's construction standards.

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	Hardin	County	Water	District	No.	1
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CLASSIFICATIO	N OF SERVICE:
PRIVATE PROPERTY M.	ASTER METER BILLING

- 8. Process of Transition to Master Meter Only Billing: The transition to master meter only billing shall be as follows:
  - a. The customer of the District whose meter is located on private property and in the past was billed as an individual, sub-metered account, will be provided notice of a transition beginning date. After the effective transfer date, all future water billings will become the responsibility of the property owner, and the District's current customer of record will no longer be responsible to the District for water passing through the meter located on private property or for their individual lot.
  - b. For those accounts which will be changed to master meter billing, that customer will receive a final bill. Any deposit held by the District will be applied to the final bill. Should that customer wish to open a water account in their name, any outstanding balance must be paid in full before a new account may be established, in accordance with the District's tariff and other applicable Public Service Commission regulations.
  - c. For any sub-metered accounts which have been transferred to master meter billing, the property owner shall be offered ownership of the affected meter. Should the owner of the property request that meter, the District will agree to transfer ownership of that water meter, which is located on private property. The transfer of ownership shall be made in writing and sent certified mail. The notification will provide details of the meter(s) including meter diameter, brand of meter, serial number and last test date. Transfer of these meters shall be at no cost to the property owner. Once transfer notification is made, the District shall no longer own, maintain test or repair these meters, nor shall any of these meters be used in the future by the District for billing purposes. The owner receiving the meter(s) will then become responsible for future reading, billing and testing or maintenance of the meter(s).
- 9. Re-sale of Water Services: If a MHC is converted to master meter only billing, the District will no longer bill MHC tenants individually. MHC owners may elect to allocate metered water service to their tenants based on actual water use (sub-metering). Should a property owner choose to allocate their water charges to individual tenants, the following re-sale limitations apply:
  - a. In order to continue to receive water service, the property owner or customer of the District (master meter customer) may not charge more than the District's current volume rate for water (Sheet No. 10, Volume Charge) PLUS, the amount of a Customer Meter Charge (Sheet No. 9, 2.a, Customer Meter Charge) for each meter located on private property. Failure to comply with these re-sale requirements may result in service termination or interruption to the owner's property, and subsequent water users within the property.
  - b. The additional Customer Meter Charge amount (example; \$4.70 per month for a 5/8 inch meter) may only be added to a tenant's sub-metered utility bill if the property actually uses a sub-meter to calculate that tenants portion of the master meter bill, for that specific dwelling unit or lot.

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## Hardin County Water District No. 1

CLASSIFICAT	TION OF S	ERVICE	
PRIVATE PROPERTY	MASTER	METER	BILLING

- c. If the property owner divides the master meter bill equally among the number of tenants receiving water through the master meter, and choose not to use their meters for water bill allocation, they may not add any additional charges equal to the Customer Meter Charge, but may only recover the actual total amount of the water bill on the latest bill for the master meter(s).
- d. This restriction only applies to water service provided by the District. Any restrictions on re-selling sewer services received by the City of Radcliff would only be imposed by the City of Radcliff, and enforced by contract by the District, if requested by the City and agreed to by the District.
- e. Should the Owner choose to disregard the requirements of this section, and re-sell water for a profit to their tenants, the Owner may then be required to comply with other state or federal regulations which apply to public water system providers, and distributors of potable water. The District shall not be responsible to notify the Owner if or when these regulations may apply, nor would have any jurisdiction or authority to enforce said regulations.

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ISSUED BY	Ji Blue		
	Tim Bruce/General Manager Rade	liff Kentucky	

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Hardin	County	Water	District	No. 1

CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICE: PRIVATE PROPERTY MASTER METER BILLING

(N)

# **Private Property Metering Agreement**

	er of the property where a master meter is located and sub-meters are located within that pro owner(s) names for purposes of this agreement are, who shall be referred to herein as "Owner owner owner owner owner owner."
Prop	perty Location: The following describes the property, or properties, to which this agreement sy;
a.	(ENTER THE NAME OF THE PROPERTY OR PARK)
b.	(ENTER PHYSICAL STREET ADDRESS)
C.	(ENTER LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY - DEED BOOK AND PAGE AS LISTED LOCAL CLERK OFFICE)
d.	(ENTER THE MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE OWNER(S))
	<b>cose of Agreement:</b> This agreement is to establish the terms and conditions with which the Comply, and to identify what services the District agrees to provide. Both parties agree as followed
a.	All sub-meters or water meters located on the Owner's private property have been installed the Owner (or Owner's predecessor) at the Owner's expense
b.	Water mains and lines within the boundary of the Owner's parcel were initially installed by Owner (or Owner's predecessor), and are privately owned facilities which were not installed the District's specifications or standards, nor have they been maintained by the District.
C.	The placement of meters within private property does not comply with current Kentucky F Service Commission (PSC) regulations, or with the District's tariff as of October 1, 2000. continued use of these meters to directly tenants of the Owner is subject to continued compliance with this agreement and District tariff.

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•	Jim Bruce, General Manager R	adcliff, Kentucky	

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CLASSIFICATIO	N OF SERVICE:
PRIVATE PROPERTY MA	ASTER METER BILLING

- d. The Owner agrees to pay for all water measured through the a master meter, less any water billed directly to tenants of the owners, in accordance with Sheet 7B-1 - 7B-6. Water billed to the Owner shall include water leaked or lost through the Owner's private plumbing, theft of water by tenants living at the Owner's property, or other un-metered water used within the Owner's property.
- 4. Acknowledgment and Referenced Policies: By signing below, the Owner(s) acknowledge that they have been provided a copy of the latest District tariff section applying to PRIVATE PROPERTY MASTER METER BILLING, and have reviewed and understand its provisions.
- 5. <u>Metering and Service Connections</u>: Owner agrees that any meter settings, which must be re-located or repaired on their property, shall be paid for by the Owner and shall be in accordance with the District's standard construction materials and specifications.
- 6. **Service Interruption Notice:** The District agrees to provide additional service termination notice, as set forth in the District's tariff. After notice has been given, the District shall have the right to terminate water service to the Owner's property. Owner agrees that there are obligations which they must satisfy in order to avoid water service interruption to their property. The Owner also agrees to waive any other payment extension or delay options that may exist in the District's latest tariff, or other PSC regulations.
- 7. Rates and Charges: The District shall charge the Owner all rates and charges as approved by the PSC and included in the District's tariff. All changes to rates shall be based on a cost of service analysis and shall be approved by the PSC prior to implementation.
- 8. Resale of Water Services: The Owner agrees to comply with the requirements of the District's tariff regarding re-sale of water services to their tenants. The Owner also acknowledges that they are aware that re-sale of utility services, for a profit, may require the Owner to comply with other state or federal regulations which apply to public water system providers, and distributors of potable water.
- 9. Release of Liability: The Owner agrees to release and discharge the District from all claims or liability related to the District accessing their private property for the purpose of reading water meters, servicing water meters, or turning off individual meters. The Owner further agrees that authorization is hereby granted to the District for access to their property, and recognizes that this agreement may be the only document or authorization which exists for granting this access.
- 10. <u>Successors and Assigns:</u> This agreement shall be binding upon, and to the benefit of the parties hereto, including their successors or assigns. The Owner agrees to allow the District to record this agreement with the County Clerk having jurisdiction of said property, and that this agreement will apply

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Jim Bruce, O	eneral Manager Radcliff, Kentucky

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	to any future owners, successors or assigns, and that condition running with the property.	the agreement will become a specia	al covenant or		
11.	Execution and Signatures; The following Owner(s) or authorized representatives have been authorized to sign and execute this agreement and have read and agreed to its terms and conditions, including all referenced and applicable tariff's;				
Prope	rty Owner(s);				
	Signature of Owner or Authorized Representative	Date			
	Printed Name of Above Person	Date			
Hardin	County Water District No. 1;				
	Signature of Authorized Representative	Date			
	Printed Name and Title of Authorized Representative	}			
	MONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY: ITY OF HARDIN:				
The fo	oregoing instrument was executed, acknowledged, subs day of,, by,, on behalf of said co	scribed and sworn before me this, as the pmpany or corporation.	······		
	ommission Expires:				
(OTH	ER NOTARY STATEMENTS AS REQUIRED)				

DATE OF ISSUE:

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Jim Bruce, General Manager Radcliff, Kentucky

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