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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

JOHN RILEY DOWELL)	
COMPLAINANT)	CASE NO.
V.)	2023-00249
OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT)	
DEFENDANT)	

RESPONSE

Ohio County Water District (OCWD), as a non-municipal utility, files this formal response to the Kentucky Public Service Commission Case Number 2023-00249. In the response to case number 2023-00249, the District states as follows:

OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
CASE No. 2023-00249
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S SECOND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Question No. 1

Responding Witness: Eric Hickman, P.E. hire date – 12/28/20

Q-1. Explain why Ohio District had not installed a pressure regulator at 856 Buford Road, Utica, Kentucky 42376 (856 Buford Road) prior to the date in which the regulator was installed.

A-1. The original meter was set on April 9, 2008 which is over sixteen years ago. The Management (General Manager, Office Manager, & Distribution Manager) and Distribution Staff that were employed by the District during that time no longer work for the District. There are no records that this location was noted as a high-pressure area. It is of common practice that Distribution personnel will set a new meter and measure the pressure at the meter to ensure pressures do not meet or exceed 150 psi. In the event they do, then a pressure regulator is installed. We presume this was accomplished on April 9, 2008 when the new meter was set and pressure was found to be less than 150 psi. Our hydraulic model completed in November 2021 shows this property is between two nodes that are a total of 4,300 linear feet apart of which also provides evidence that this location was less than 150 psi.

- North pressure node is 1,800 feet from the meter and shows a static model pressure of 105 psi while at an elevation of 478.80 mean sea level
- South pressure node is 2,500 feet from the meter and shows a static model pressure of 127 psi while at an elevation of 430.60 mean sea level
- The meter is at an elevation of 420.70 mean sea level (i.e. 58.1 feet lower than north node and 9.9 feet lower than south node).
 - 25.2 psi higher than north node = 130.2 psi
 - 4.3 psi higher than south node = 131.3 psi
 - Average hydraulic calculated pressure at meter = 130.8 psi

OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
CASE No. 2023-00249
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Question No. 2

Responding Witness: Eric Hickman, P.E. – General Manager hire date 12/28/20,
Renetta Romero – Finance & Administrative Manager hire date 3/15/21,
Chad Smith – Distribution Manager hire date 6/3/21

- Q-2. Confirm that Ohio District performs pressure surveys to identify service addresses that may need a regulator.
- a. If confirmed, explain Ohio District's policy or process related to the performance of these surveys and provide a listing for service addresses where surveys have been confirmed, including the actions taken at each service address following the survey, since January 2, 2023. If available, also provide Ohio District's written policy for this process.
 - b. If not confirmed, explain Ohio District's policy or process to address water pressurization that may exceed 150 psi.
- A-2. Before setting a new meter, Distribution personnel check the hydraulic model to determine if pressure will be near the maximum 150 psi. The hydraulic model was completed under current Management direction in November 2021. This was one of the first items the current General Manager, Eric Hickman, P.E., ensured was completed. (hire date 12/28/20). Distribution personnel will then set the new meter and measure the pressure at the meter to ensure pressures do not meet or exceed 150 psi. In the event they do, then a pressure regulator is installed through a tandem meter set.
- a. Please see Attachment 2-1 for a listing of all properties that were surveyed from January 2, 2023 – current which includes all new meter taps and properties that were measured with pressure recorders for extended periods. Please see Attachment 2-2

for the standard operating procedure noting the process for setting new meters paying careful attention to 5.4.1 "*Pressure Test*".

b. Confirmed

Attachment 2-1
Surveyed Properties from January 2, 2023 – Current

Locations where pressure recorders were installed for multiple days.

Pressure Chart Readings Conducted in 2023 and 2024	
Year	Location
2023	2030 Hardinsburg Rd, Fordsville, KY 42343
2023	856 Buford Rd. Utica, KY 42376
2024	5483 Rob Roy Rd Cromwell, KY 42333
2024	3955 Old Halls Creek Rd Olaton, KY 42361
2024	602 Magan Rd Hartford, KY 42347

All new meter taps from January 2, 2023 – Current where pressure was surveyed for regulator placement.

Date	Acct #	Address	Regulator Installed
1/9/2023		3850 Crane Pone Rd Utica 42376	NO
2/8/2023		205 Caroline Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
2/23/2023		2147 Harmons Ferry Rd Utica 42376	NO
3/1/2023		217 Baker Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
3/2/2023		570 Rrender Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
3/7/2023		1280 St Rt 878 Olaton 42361	NO
3/20/2023		468 Park Ln Cromwell 42333	NO
3/28/2023		1961 Tick Ridge Rd Falls of Rough 40119	NO
4/3/2023		70 Dogwood Drive Beaver Dam 42320	NO
5/3/2023		1311 Belltown Rd Hartford 42347	NO
5/5/2023		9956 St Rt 1414 Hartford 42347	NO
5/10/2023		1162 Canary Loop Fordsville 42343	NO
5/11/2023		121 Young Lane Olaton 42361	NO
5/16/2023		201 St Rt 878 Hartford 42347	NO
5/17/2023		518 Taylor Mine Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
5/17/2023		3665 Belltown Rd Hartford 42347	NO
5/23/2023		6823 US Hwy 62 W Beaver Dam 42320	NO
6/1/2023		1880 Liberty Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
6/8/2023		2955 Barnetts Creek Rd Hartford 42347	NO
7/6/2023		3040 Russell Rd Utica 42376	NO
7/6/2023		5690 Rob Roy Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
7/12/2023		40 Wade Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
7/13/2023		1865 Rockport Ceralvo Rd Centertown 42328	NO
7/13/2023		216 Prentiss Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
7/24/2023		2978 St Rt 140 E Utica 42376	NO
7/27/2023		22 Pattiville Loop Fordsville 42343	NO

8/2/2023		54 Jordan Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
8/7/2023		613 Raymond Curry Rd Livermore 42352	NO
8/10/2023		896 Hwy 110 Falls of Rough 40119	NO
8/10/2023		896 Hwy 110 Falls of Rough 40119	NO
8/15/2023		1840 St Rt 1245 Beaver Dam 42320	NO
8/18/2023		709 Union Hill Rd Bever Dam 42320	NO
8/17/2023		3915 Ronnie Lake Rd Utica 42376	NO
8/28/2023		171 Vincent Way Hartford 42347	NO
8/28/2023		1626 Goshen Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
8/31/2023		1953 Rockport Ceralvo Rd Centertown 42328	NO
8/31/2023		430 Fire Tower Spur Beaver Dam 42320	NO
9/28/2023		80 Paxton Circle Rd Hartford 42347	NO
9/28/2023		11 Odessa Drive Utica 42376	NO
10/19/2023		335 Chick Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
10/25/2023		940 New Baymus Rd Olaton 42361	YES
11/1/2023		10237 Hwy 231 N Utica 42376	NO
11/2/2023		3390 Girl Scout Rd Utica 42376	NO
11/2/2023		3800 Crane Pond Rd Utica 42376	NO
11/7/2023		4981 Halls Creek Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
11/8/2023		1845 Arnold Leach Rd Horse Branch 42349	NO
11/9/2023		630 Weedman Loop Cromwell 42333	NO
11/9/2023		600 Weedman Loop Cromwell 42333	NO
11/13/2023		3703 Belltown Rd Hartford 42347	NO
11/13/2023		3187 Greenbriar Rd Utica 42376	NO
11/15/2023		1946 Buford Rd Utica 42347	NO
11/16/2023		1911 Beda Rd Hartford 42347	NO
11/16/2023		2588 St Rt 762 Philpot 42361	NO
12/5/2023		4030 Harmons Ferry Rd Utica 42376	NO
12/6/2023		6219 Hwy 231 N Hartford 42347	NO
12/14/2023		496 AG Daniel Rd Hartford 42347	NO
1/8/2024		1374 New Baymus Rd Olaton 42361	NO
1/12/2024		3180 Old Halls Creek Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
2/6/2024		5120 St Rt 69 N Hartford 42347	NO
2/6/2024		241 Stanley Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
2/12/2024		11379 Redhill Maxwell Rd Utica 42376	NO
4/2/2024		4640 St Rt 878 Olaton 42361	NO
4/4/2024		377 Mahaney Lane Utica 42376	NO
4/15/2024		654 Weedman Loop Cromwell 42333	NO
4/15/2024		1026 Toms Branch Rd Hartford 42347	NO
4/16/2024		30 Paxton Circle Hartford 42347	NO

4/16/2024		3981 Ronnie Lake Rd Utica 42376	NO
4/23/2024		13 Technology Place Beaver Dam 42320	NO
4/26/2024		1145 Highland Drive Beaver Dam 42320	NO
4/30/2024		1882 Tickridge Rd Falls of Rough 40119	NO
5/13/2024		1388 St Rt 1414 Hartford 42347	NO
5/16/2024		31 Odessa Drive Utica 42376	NO
5/26/2024		930 Cave Ridge Land Horse Branch 42349	NO
5/30/2024		583 Livermore Rd Hartford 42347	NO
6/4/2024		1580 Tickridge Rd Falls of Rough 40119	NO
6/6/2024		57 Hopwell Rd Horse Branch 42349	NO
6/7/2024		34 Tilford Drive Beaver Dam 42320	NO
6/11/2024		3552 Halls Creek Rd Olaton 42361	NO
7/3/2024		777 Cedar Grove Rd Hartford 42347	NO
7/11/2024		1156 Humble Valley Rd Hartford 42347	NO
7/15/2024		1878 Flint Springs Rd Cromwell 42333	NO
7/16/2024		3440 St Rt 2713 Horse Branch 42349	NO
7/24/2024		1025 Parks Ridge Rd Hartford 42347	NO
7/26/2024		381 Mahaney Lane Utica 42376	NO
8/7/2024		13357 US Hwy 231 N Utica 42376	NO
8/1/2024		13594 St Rt 69 N Hartford 42347	NO
8/1/2024		312 Howard St McHenry 42354	NO
8/1/2024		11385 Old Railroad Bed Rd Falls of Rough 40119	NO
8/16/2024		467 Bratcher Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
8/22/2024		12449 Redhill Maxwell Rd Utica 42376	NO
8/26/2024		84 Odessa Drive Utica 42376	NO
8/29/2024		3041 Rob Roy Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
9/8/2024		12555 St Rt 629 Falls of Rough 40119	NO
9/9/2024		198 Burton Huff Rd Falls of Rough 40119	NO
9/11/2024		15064 US Hwy 62 E Horse Branch 42349	NO
9/11/2024		351 Denton Slack Rd Fordsville 42343	NO
9/11/2024		515 Denton Slack Rd Fordsville 42343	YES
9/17/2024		46 Carolyn Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
9/18/2024		990 Liberty Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
9/25/2024		2480 Underwood Rd Olaton 42361	NO
9/26/2024		287 Miller Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
9/30/2024		369 Roby Lane Hartford 42347	NO
10/28/2024		164 WH Luce Beaver Dam 42320	NO
10/29/2024		27 Independence Loop McHenry 42354	NO
11/12/2024		230 Rafferty Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO
11/12/2024		4501 Rochester Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
11/12/2024		110 McDowell Lane Beaver Dam 42320	NO

11/13/2024		444 Water Tower Lane Hartford 42347	NO
11/13/2024		2946 Hamlin Chapel Rd Beaver Dam 42320	NO
11/20/2024		316 Kirk Lane Hartford 42347	NO
11/25/2024		12661 Hwy 231 N Utica 42376	NO
11/26/2024		81 Odessa Drive Utica 42376	NO
12/2/2024		3240 Greenbriar Rd Utica 42376	NO
12/4/2024		300 New Baymus Rd Olaton 42361	NO
12/9/2024		1320 US Hwy 231 N Hartford 42347	NO

Attachment 2-2
Standard Operating Procedure for New Meter Installation

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for New Water Meter Installation

Prepared By: Chad Smith, Distribution Manager

1. Purpose

To outline the procedure for the installation of new water meter sets to ensure accurate water usage measurement and compliance with relevant regulations.

2. Scope

This procedure applies to all personnel involved in the installation of water meters for residential and commercial properties.

3. Definitions

- **Water Meter Set:** A device used to measure the volume of water consumed by a property, typically consisting of the meter itself, valves, and connections.
- **Service Line:** The pipe connecting the main water supply to the water meter and property.

4. Responsibilities

- **Distribution Operators:** Perform the installation according to this SOP and safety standards.
- **Distribution Manager:** Oversee the installation process and ensure compliance with regulations.
- **Distribution Manager:** Conduct post-installation inspections to verify accuracy and compliance.

5. Procedure

5.1 Pre-Installation Preparation

1. **Obtain Required Permits:**
 - Ensure all necessary permits are secured before beginning installation.
2. **Gather Materials and Tools:**
 - Prepare the following materials: water meter, meter box, valves, fittings, and necessary tools (wrenches, pipe cutter, etc.).
3. **Review Site Plan:**
 - Examine the site plan for the property to identify the location for the meter set.

5.2 Site Assessment

1. Evaluate Installation Location:

- Ensure the installation site is accessible and free from obstructions.
- Check for existing utility lines and mark them to avoid damage during installation.

5.3 Installation Process

1. Excavate Site:

- If necessary, dig a trench for the meter box and service line to ensure proper placement.

2. Install Meter Box:

- Place the meter box at the designated location, ensuring it is level and secure.

3. Connect Service Line:

- Cut and fit the service line to connect to the meter inlet.
- Corp stop and saddle install
- Ensure all connections are tight and leak-free using appropriate fittings and seals.

4. Install Water Meter:

- Insert the water meter into the meter box, ensuring it is oriented correctly for flow direction.
- Secure the meter.

5. Install Valves:

- Install shut-off valves on both the inlet and outlet sides of the meter for future maintenance.

5.4 Post-Installation

1. Pressure Test:

- Conduct a pressure test to check for leaks in the system.
- Address any leaks or issues immediately.

2. Check Meter Calibration:

- Verify that the meter is calibrated correctly and functioning accurately.

3. Restore Site:

- Backfill the excavation site, ensuring proper compaction to avoid settling.
- Clean up the work area, removing any debris or materials.

5.5 Documentation

1. Record Installation Details:

- Complete all necessary documentation, including installation date, meter serial number, and any relevant notes. Distribution Manager to assign account number.

2. Notify Customer:

- Inform the property owner of the completed installation and provide them with any necessary information regarding meter operation and maintenance.

6. Safety Considerations

- Always wear appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) during installation.
- Follow lockout/tagout procedures where applicable.
- Be aware of potential hazards in the excavation area, including utility lines.

OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
CASE No. 2023-00249
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Question No. 3

Responding Witness: Chad Smith – Distribution Manager hire date 6/3/21

- Q-3. Explain how the pressure information Ohio District submitted in response to Commission Staff's First Request of Information demonstrated that Ohio District had not exceeded 150 psi at 856 Buford Road.
- A-3. OCWD Distribution personnel found the pressure at an outside hydrant near the premises to be near 150 psi on April 21, 2023 while investigating the original work order pressure complaint. At that time, in an abundance of caution, a regulator was installed and set to a maximum pressure of 90 psi well below 150 psi threshold on April 21, 2023. A pressure chart was installed on July 18, 2023 through July 24, 2023 after the regulator was installed which showed an average pressure equivalent to 130.7 psi upstream of the regulator as noted in the first request for information. This 130.7 closely correlates with the hydraulic study of 130.8 psi.

OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
CASE No. 2023-00249
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

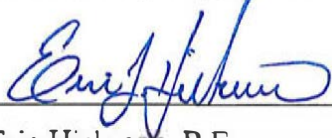
Question No. 4

Responding Witness: Eric Hickman, P.E. – General Manager hire date 12/28/20,
Renetta Romero – Finance & Administrative Manager hire date 3/15/21,
Chad Smith – Distribution Manager hire date 6/3/21

Q-4. State whether or not on any day from December 1, 2022, to the date of the issuance of this request for information that water pressure at the service pipe at 856 Buford Road exceeded 150 psi.

A-4. The original meter was set on April 9, 2008 which is over sixteen years ago. There are no records that this location was noted as a high-pressure area. Our hydraulic model completed in November 2021 shows this property is between two nodes that are a total of 4,300 linear feet apart of which also provides evidence that this location was less than 150 psi. Refer to answer A-1 regarding the average pressure at meter should be 130.8 psi. OCWD has not received any complaints from the customer since April 19, 2023 regarding pressure. To our knowledge, the issue has been resolved. We are unable to go back in time to determine if the pressures exceeded 150 psi prior to the regulator being installed.

Ohio County Water District



Eric Hickman, P.E.
General Manager
124 East Washington Street
Hartford, KY 42347
270-298-7704
ehickman@ocwdky.org
www.ocwdky.com

2/4/25

Date

VERIFICATION

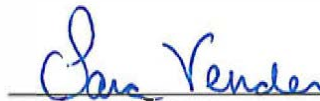
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)
)SS:
COUNTY OF OHIO)

The undersigned, Eric Hickman, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the General Manager of Ohio County Water District, and that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the response for which he is identified as the witness, and the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.



Eric Hickman, P.E.
General Manager
Ohio County Water District

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, this 4 day of FEBRUARY, 2025.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 10/18/2025

Notary Public ID No.: KYNP38919