

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

AN ADJUSTMENT OF RATES OF )  
PARKSVILLE WATER DISTRICT )      CASE NO. 8365

O R D E R

The Commission, having considered the Petition filed October 9, 1981, and being advised, HEREBY ORDERS That the Parksville Water District ("Parksville") shall file with the Commission an Amended Application or Notice by November 23, 1981 pursuant to 807 KAR 5:067 (Appendix A) including the information required by the regulation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That in the event the rate adjustment sought by Parksville exceeds an offset or pass through of the cost of purchased water, Parksville shall so specify in its Amended Application or Notice and shall file the information required by 807 KAR 5:001E, Section 6 and Section 9 (Appendix B).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That should the Amended Application or Notice and required information not be received by the Commission by the close of business November 23, 1981, the case may be dismissed without prejudice.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 6th day of November, 1981.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

  
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For the Commission

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Secretary

RELATES TO: KRS Chapter 278

PURSUANT TO: KRS 13.082, 278.030(1), 278.040(3)

NECESSITY AND FUNCTION: KRS 278.030(1) provides that all rates received by a water utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission shall be fair, just and reasonable. This regulation prescribes the requirements under which a water utility may implement a purchased water adjustment clause designed to recover the increased costs of water purchased, where the water utility is not financially able to absorb an increase from its supplier.

**Section 1. Application for Change in Base Rate.** The rates a water utility is currently authorized to charge its customers are based upon the wholesale cost of water to that water utility pursuant to valid contracts or wholesale tariffs on file with the commission. For purposes of a purchased water adjustment clause, this wholesale rate shall be considered as the base rate for purchased water and any increase or decrease in the base rate shall be considered the changed rate.

(1) In the event there is a change in the base rate, the utility shall file with the commissioner the following information:

(a) A copy of the wholesale supplier's tariff effecting a change in the base rate and a statement from the wholesale supplier evidencing the effective date of the changed rate;

(b) A detailed statement of water purchased under the base rate for a twelve (12) month period ended within ninety (90) days of the filing date and showing billing both under such base rate and also under the changed rate;

(c) A detailed statement of water sold for the same twelve (12) month period.

(d) A balance sheet and statement of operating expenses and revenues for the most recent twelve (12) month period for which that information is available;

(e) In the event of an increase only, evidence that the water utility has notified its customers of the proposed rate revision;

(f) Revised tariff sheets reflecting the rates the applicant proposes to charge; and

(g) Such other information as the commission may request for a proper determination of the purchased water adjustment.

(2) The commission may require that the balance sheet and statement of expenses and revenues furnished pursuant to subsection (1)(d) of this section be updated to within ninety (90) days of the filing of an application and that the updated information corresponds to the same twelve (12) month period as the water purchased information furnished pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this section.

(3) Upon receipt of all the necessary information, the commission will review the effect of the changed rate upon the applicant's operations and if an increase is proposed determine whether all or a part of the increase can be absorbed by the applicant. An applicant shall not implement its proposed revised rates until the commission issues an order authorizing the applicant to adjust its rates. If an adjustment is authorized, the supplier's changed rate shall become the supplier's base rate for use in future applications.

(4) The maximum amount of the adjustment so ordered shall not produce revenue adjustments greater than the difference between the purchased water billed at the base rate and the purchased water billed at the changed rate.

(5) The notice required by subsection (1)(e) of this section may be accomplished by a bill insert.

**Section 2. Calculation of the Purchased Water Adjustment.** If a change is made in a base rate charged a water utility by its supplier(s), the unit charges of the wholesale tariff shall be increased or decreased by a purchased water adjustment calculated as follows:

(1) Water purchases shall be computed at the supplier's base rate and the supplier's changed rate using a period of twelve (12) calendar months ending within ninety (90) days preceding the month of the effective date of the supplier's rate change. The difference between these amounts shows the total change in the applicant's purchased water costs.

(2) The total change in purchased water costs shall be divided by the actual number of cubic feet or gallons sold, yielding the purchased water adjustment expressed in cents per cubic feet or gallons, unless the applicant's water loss exceeds fifteen (15) percent.

(3) In instances where the water loss exceeds fifteen (15) percent, the actual water sales shall be divided by eighty-five (85) percent yielding the maximum allowable water purchases. The maximum allowable water purchases shall then be multiplied by the change in cost per cubic foot or gallons, yielding the total allowable change. The total allowable change shall then be divided by the actual number of cubic feet or gallons sold, yielding the purchased water adjustment expressed in cents per cubic feet or gallons.

**Section 3. Procedure for Distribution of Refunds from Suppliers.** In the event a water utility receives a refund from its supplier for amounts previously paid, the water utility shall immediately apply to the commission for authority to make adjustments on the amounts charged customers' bills under this regulation as follows:

(1) The total refund received by the water utility shall be divided by the number of cubic feet or gallons of water the water utility estimates it will sell to its customers during the two (2) month period beginning with the first day of the month following receipt of the refund, yielding the refund factor to be applied against each cubic foot of water sold thereafter.

(2) Effective with meter readings taken on and after the first day of the second month following receipt of the refund, the water utility will reduce by the refund factor any purchased water adjustment that would otherwise be applicable during the period. The period of reduced purchased water adjustment shall be adjusted, if necessary, in order to most nearly approximate the total amount to be refunded. The water utility shall make full distribution of the refund within two (2) months.

(3) In the event a water utility receives a large or unusual refund, the water utility may apply to the commission for a deviation from the procedure for distribution of refunds specified herein.

**Section 4. Water Utility Tariffs.** Every water utility that makes an application under Section 1 shall have a tariff on file with the commission containing a purchased water adjustment clause conforming to this regulation.

MARLIN M. VOLZ, Chairman

ADOPTED: March 13, 1981

APPROVED:

H. FOSTER PETTIT, Secretary

RECEIVED BY LRC: March 13, 1981 at 11:15 a.m.

SUBMIT COMMENT OR REQUEST FOR HEARING

TO: Richard D. Heman, Jr., Secretary, Public Service Commission, 730 Schenkel Lane, Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

(2) The relevant and material matter offered in evidence by any party is embraced in a book, paper or document containing other matter not material or relevant the party must plainly designate the matter so offered. If such immaterial matter unnecessarily encumbers the record, such book, paper or document will not be received in evidence, but may be worded for identification, and if properly authenticated, the relevant and material matter may be read into the record, or if the commission, or commissioner conducting the hearing, so directs, a true copy of such matter in proper form shall be received as an exhibit, and like copies delivered by the parties offering same to opposing parties, or their attorneys, appearing at the hearing, who shall be offered opportunity to examine such book, paper or document, and to offer evidence in like manner other portions thereof if found to be material and relevant.

(3) Whenever practicable the sheets of each exhibit and the lines of each sheet shall be numbered and if the exhibit consists of two (2) or more sheets, the first sheet or title page shall contain a brief statement of what the exhibit purports to show, with reference by sheet and line to illustrative or typical examples contained in the exhibit. Wherever practicable, rate comparisons and other such evidence shall be condensed into tables.

(4) Except as may be expressly permitted in particular instances, the commission will not receive in evidence or consider as a part of the record any book, paper or other document for consideration in connection with the proceeding after the close of the testimony.

(5) Upon motion of any party to a proceeding, any case in the commission's files or any document on file with the commission, at the discretion of the commission may be made a part of the record by "reference only." By reference only, the case or document made a part of the record will not be physically incorporated into the record. Upon action in the Franklin Circuit Court, excerpts from any case or part only of any document may be made, at the instance of any party, a part of the record before such court.

**Section 6. Financial Exhibit.** Whenever in these rules it is provided that a financial exhibit shall be annexed to the application, the said exhibit shall cover operations for a twelve (12) month period, said period ending not more than ninety (90) days prior to the date the application is filed. The said exhibit shall disclose the following information in the order indicated below:

(1) Amount and kinds of stock authorized.

(2) Amount and kinds of stock issued and outstanding.

(3) Terms of preference of preferred stock whether cumulative or participating, or on dividends or assets or otherwise.

(4) Brief description of each mortgage on property of applicant, giving date of execution, name of mortgagor, name of mortgagee, or trustee, amount of indebtedness authorized to be secured thereby, and the amount of indebtedness actually secured, together with any sinking fund provisions.

(5) Amount of bonds authorized, and amount issued, giving the name of the public utility which issued the same, describing each class separately, and giving date of issue, face value, rate of interest, date of maturity and how secured, together with amount of interest paid thereon during the last fiscal year.

(6) Each note outstanding, giving date of issue, amount, date of maturity, rate of interest, in whose favor, together with amount of interest paid thereon during the last fiscal year.

(7) Other indebtedness, giving same by class and describing security, if any, with a brief statement of the devolution or assumption of any portion of such indebtedness upon or by person or corporation if the original liability has been transferred, together with amount of interest paid thereon during the last fiscal year.

(8) Rate and amount of dividends paid during the five (5) previous fiscal years, and the amount of capital stock on which dividends were paid each year.

(9) Detailed income statement and balance sheet.

**Section 7. Applications.** (1) Contents of application. All applications must be by petition in writing. The petition must set forth the full name and post office address of the applicant, and must contain fully the facts on which the application is based, with a request for the order, authorization, permission or certificate desired and a reference to the particular provision of law requiring or providing for same.

(2) Number of copies. At the time the original application is filed, ten (10) additional copies must also be filed, and where parties interested in the subject matter of the application are named therein, there shall be filed an additional copy for each named party and such other additional copies as may be required by the secretary.

(3) Articles of incorporation. If the applicant is a corporation, a certified copy of its articles of incorporation, and all amendments thereto, if any, shall be annexed to the application. If applicant's articles of incorporation and amendments thereto, if any, have already been filed with the commission in some prior proceeding, it will be sufficient if this fact is stated in the application and reference is made to the style and case number of the prior proceeding.

**Section 8. Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity.** (1) Application to bid on a franchise pursuant to KRS 278.020(3). Upon application to the commission by the utility for a certificate of convenience and necessity authorizing applicant to bid on a franchise, license or permit offered by any governmental agency, the applicant shall submit with its application, the following:

(a) A copy of its articles of incorporation. (See Section 7(3).)

(b) The name of the governmental agency offering the franchise.

(c) The type of franchise offered.

(d) A statement showing the need and demand for service. Should the applicant be successful in acquiring said franchise, license or permit, it shall file a copy thereof with the commission.

(2) New construction or extension. When application is made by the utility, person, firm, or corporation for a certificate that the present or future public convenience or necessity requires, or will require, the construction or extension of any plant, equipment, property or facility, the applicant, in addition to complying with Section 7, shall submit the following data, either in the application or as exhibits attached thereto:

(a) The facts relied upon to show that the proposed new construction is or will be required by public convenience or necessity.

(b) Copies of franchises or permits, if any, from the proper public authority for the proposed new construction or extension, if not previously filed with the commission.

(c) A full description of the proposed location, route, or routes of the new construction or extension, including a description of the manner in which same will be constructed, and also the names of all public utilities, corpora-

tions, of persons with whom the proposed new construction or extension is likely to compete.

(d) Three (3) maps to suitable scale (preferably not more than two (2) miles per inch) showing the location or route of the proposed new construction or extension, as well as the location to scale of any like facilities owned by others located anywhere within the map area with adequate identification as to the ownership of such other facilities.

(e) The manner in detail in which it is proposed to finance the new construction or extension.

(f) An estimated cost of operation after the proposed facilities are completed.

(g) All other information necessary to afford the commission a complete understanding of the situation.

(3) Extensions in the ordinary course of business. No certificate of public convenience and necessity will be required for extensions that do not create wasteful duplication of plant, equipment, property or facilities, or conflict with the existing certificates or service of other utilities operating in the same area and under the jurisdiction of the commission that are in the general area in which the utility renders service or contiguous thereto, and that do not involve sufficient capital outlay to materially affect the existing financial condition of the utility involved, or will not result in increased charges to its customers.

(4) Renewal applications. Insofar as procedure is concerned, applications for a renewal of a certificate of convenience and necessity will be treated as an original application.

Section 9. Application or Notice for Authority to Adjust Rates. (1) When the utility seeks to adjust any rate, toll, charge, or rental, so as to alter any classification, contract, practice, rule or regulation as to result in any change in any rate, toll, charge, or rental, the applicant, in addition to complying with the provisions of Section 7, shall submit the following data either in the application or attached thereto as exhibits:

(a) Financial exhibit. (See Section 6.)

(b) A schedule of the present rates, tolls, charges, or rentals, in effect, and the changes which it is desired to make, shown in comparative form.

(c) A description of applicant's property, including a statement of the net original cost of the property (estimated if not known) and the cost thereof to applicant.

(d) A statement in full of the reason why the adjustment is required.

(e) A statement setting forth estimates of the effect that the new rate or rates will have upon the revenues of the utility, the total amount of money resulting from the increase or decrease, the percentage of increase or decrease, and the effect upon average consumer bills.

(f) A statement certifying that the utility's annual reports, including the report for the most recent calendar year, are on file with the commission in accordance with 807 KAR 5:006E, Section 3(1).

(2) In all cases involving a general increase in rates, in addition to the information required in subsection (1) above, complete financial data for the twelve (12) months corresponding to the test period used by the utility in its case shall be submitted at the hearing or prior thereto unless such information is contained in reports on file with the commission. Such data shall include:

(a) Total amount of interest charged to construction.

(b) An analysis of customer's bills in such detail that the revenues from the present and proposed rates can be readily determined.

(c) Details of any apportionment used.

(d) Monthly revenues and operating expenses.

Section 10. Application for Authority to Issue Securities, Notes, Bonds, Stocks or Other Evidences of Indebtedness. (1) When application is made by the utility for an order authorizing the issuance of securities, notes, bonds, stocks or other evidences of indebtedness payable at periods of more than two (2) years from the date thereof, under the provisions of KRS 278.300, said application, in addition to complying with the requirements of Section 7, shall contain:

(a) A general description of applicant's property and the field of its operation, together with a statement of the original cost of the same and the cost to the applicant, if it is impossible to state the original cost, the facts creating such impossibility shall be stated.

(b) The amount and kinds of stock, if any, which the utility desires to issue, and, if preferred, the nature and extent of the preference; the amount of notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, if any, which the utility desires to issue, with terms, rate of interest and whether and how to be secured.

(c) The use to be made of the proceeds of the issue of such securities, notes, bonds, stocks or other evidence of indebtedness with a statement indicating how much is to be used for the acquisition of property, the construction, completion, extension or improvement of facilities, the improvement of service, the maintenance of service and the discharge or refunding of obligations.

(d) The property in detail which is to be acquired, constructed, improved or extended with its cost, a detailed description of the contemplated construction, completion, extension or improvement of facilities set forth in such a manner that an estimate of cost may be made, a statement of the character of the improvement of service proposed, and of the reasons why the service should be maintained from its capital. Whether any contracts have been made for the acquisition of such property, or for such construction, completion, extension or improvement of facilities, or for the disposition of any of the securities, notes, bonds, stocks or other evidence of indebtedness which it proposes to issue or the proceeds thereof and if any contracts have been made, copies thereof shall be annexed to the petition.

(e) If it is proposed to discharge or refund obligations, a statement of the nature and description of such obligations including their par value, the amount for which they were actually sold, the expenses associated therewith, and the application of the proceeds from such sales. If notes are to be refunded, the petition must show the date, amount, time, rate of interest, and payee of each and the purpose for which their proceeds were expended.

(f) Such other facts as may be pertinent to the application.

(2) The following exhibits must be filed with the application:

(a) Financial exhibit. (See Section 6.)

(b) Copies of trust deeds or mortgages, if any, unless they have already been filed with the commission, in which case reference should be made, by style and case number, to the proceeding in which the trust deeds or mortgages have been filed.

(c) Maps and plans of the proposed property and constructions together with detailed estimates in such form that they can be checked over by the commission's engineering division. Estimates must be arranged according to the uniform system of accounts prescribed by the commission for the various classes of utilities.