## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION IN BORROWING PROGAM

CASE NO. 2000-189

## <u>ORDER</u>

On May 5, 2000, Kentucky-American Water Company ("Kentucky-American") filed an application for Commission approval to participate in a borrowing program. This program has been made available to Kentucky-American through its parent corporation, American Water Works Company, Inc. ("American Water Works"). As a participant in the program, Kentucky-American must enter into a Financial Services Agreement with American Water Works Financing Corporation. On May 12, 2000, Kentucky-American amended its application to reflect the change in the name of American Water Works Financing Corporation to American Water Capital Corporation ("AWCC").

Kentucky-American seeks to enter into this agreement in conjunction with each of American Water Works' subsidiaries as well as American Water Works. It is anticipated that AWCC could obtain more advantageous funding for the individual participants by utilizing the borrowing power and combined borrowing efficiency of all of the participants in the borrowing program. AWCC, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water Works, will obtain its funds primarily from two sources. It will arrange for a syndicated bank credit line to provide shortterm loans and it will register its own debt securities for sale in the public market by filing a shelf registration with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. Based on estimated borrowing requirements provided by each program participant for the coming year as well as future needs, AWCC will arrange borrowing commitments and borrowing programs to provide funds necessary to meet those requirements.<sup>1</sup>

As a participant in the borrowing program, Kentucky-American will obtain short-term and long-term loans from AWCC. Kentucky-American expects to periodically issue, prior to December 31, 2005, securities in the form of notes or debentures for the purpose of refunding/refinancing certain outstanding debt in the aggregate principal amount of \$41,500,000. Kentucky-American also intends to borrow funds from AWCC to finance its construction program and the acquisition of other utility systems.

The Commission, having reviewed the evidence of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds that:

1. Kentucky-American's entry into the Financial Services Agreement and participation in the borrowing program with AWCC is for a lawful object within the corporate purposes of its utility operation, is necessary and appropriate for and consistent with the proper performance of the utility's service to the public and will not impair its ability to perform that service, and is reasonable, necessary, and appropriate for such purposes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For a complete description of the financial arrangements between AWCC and the American Water Works subsidiaries who are parties to the Financial Services Agreement and who participate in the borrowing program and the benefits that these arrangements confer, see <u>Illinois-American Water Company</u>, Docket No. 00-0306 (III. C.C. May 18, 2000) at 2-5.

2. Kentucky-American's proposed issuance of securities in the form of notes or debentures in an aggregate amount of \$41,500,000 for the purpose of refunding/refinancing existing short-term and long-term debt is reasonable and consistent with the performance of its service to the public and should be approved.

3. The specific terms and conditions of each issuance under the borrowing program set forth in the Agreement are not known at this time. Therefore, Kentucky-American should be required to inform the Commission of the terms and conditions of each issuance covered by the borrowing program.

4. Kentucky-American should obtain Commission approval prior to the issuance of any security or long-term evidence of indebtedness not specifically set forth in its application and included in the \$41,500,000 refunding/refinancing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Kentucky-American is authorized to enter into the Financial Services Agreement with AWCC and to participate in its borrowing program.

 Kentucky-American is authorized to issue securities in the form of notes or debentures in an aggregate amount of \$41,500,000 from time to time prior to December
31, 2005 for the purpose of refunding/refinancing existing short-term and long-term debt.

3. The proceeds from the financing authorized herein shall be used only for the lawful purposes set out in the application.

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4. For all securities or evidences of indebtedness that have a term exceeding 2 years and that are issued under the Financial Services Agreement's borrowing program, Kentucky-American shall file a report detailing the terms and conditions of the particular securities issued. Kentucky-American shall include an analysis showing that the interest rate for the securities was the most reasonable under the circumstances at the time of issuance. This report shall be filed with the Commission within 10 days of the completion of the issuance.

5. Kentucky-American shall obtain approval from the Commission prior to the issuance of any security or long-term evidence of indebtedness not specifically identified in its application and included in the \$41,500,000 refunding/refinancing approved herein.

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed a warranty of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, or any agency thereof, of the financing herein accepted.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2000.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Deputy Executive Director