# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### In the Matter of:

<b>ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION</b>	)
INTO THE MEASURING,	)
RECORDING, AND REPORTING OF	) CASE NO. 2018-00394
WATER LOSS BY KENTUCKY'S	)
JURISDICTIONAL WATER	)
UTILITIES	)

### **RESPONSE OF**

SOUTHEASTERN WATER ASSOCIATION

TO

COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

DATED DECEMBER 18, 2018

FILED: January 14, 2019

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# CERTIFICATION OF RESPONSE OF SOUTHEASTERN WATER ASSOCIATION TO COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

This is to certify that I have supervised the preparation of Southeastern Water Association's Response to the Commission's Request for Information. The response submitted on behalf of Southeastern Water Association is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Date: 1/14/2019

Norris Vaughn, Manager

Southeastern Water Association

### **CASE NO. 2018-00394**

### Response to Commission's Request for Information

### **Question No. 1**

- Q-1. Explain in detail the manner in which you measure, calculate, and track water loss, and:
  - a. Identify whether you use any manual form (including Excel spreadsheet) or electronic or mechanized system to calculate and track water loss.
  - b. Provide a copy of any form used (including Excel spreadsheet).
  - c. Identify the source of any form or system used.
- A-1. Southeastern Water Association is a distribution system only. We purchase all our water from Somerset City Water. We measure monthly purchased water by reading our master meters daily. From these readings we calculate the overall water loss by subtracting (a) the number of gallons sold to residential, commercial, and industry customers (as provided by our billing software), (b) gallons of water used for system flushing and fire department use, (c) any other water used (such as customer leak adjustments, tank overflows, line leaks and any other approved usages).
  - a. We currently use a monthly water loss spreadsheet.
  - b. A copy of the aforementioned spreadsheet is attached to the end of this document.

The spreadsheet was provided by Kentucky Rural Water Association. c.

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### Response to Commission's Request for Information

### **Question No. 2**

- Q-2. Explain in detail your understanding of the information to be provided in each of the categories on the Water Statistics page (reference page 30) of the annual report required of jurisdictional water utilities, accessed through the Commission's website.
- A-2. The water statistics page requires entries in thousands of gallons for annual totals. Out understanding of each line is as follows:
  - 1. N/A
  - 2. N/A
  - 3. Water purchased from City of Somerset.
  - 4. Total water purchased from City of Somerset.
  - 6. Header
  - 7. Residential (total water sold to residential customers)
  - 8. Commercial (total water sold to commercial customers)
  - 9. Industrial (total water sold to industrial customers)
  - 10. N/A
  - 11. Resale (water sold to Burnside City)
  - 12. N/A
  - 13. Total water sales (total of all water sold)

- 15. N/A
- 16. N/A
- 17. N/A
- 18. System flushing (all water used for system flushing including stage II rule)
- 19. Fire department use (all water used by fire departments)
- 20. N/A
- 21. Total other water used (total of 17 and 18)
- 23. Water loss header
- 24. Tank overflows (water lost due to malfunctioning telemetry and valve failure)
- 25. Line breaks (leaks due to aging infrastructure)
- 26. Line leaks (known leaks undetected due to non-surfacing)
- 27. Other (leaks due to construction or other loss due to line damage)
- 28. Total line loss (lines 23 through 27)
- 32. Water loss percentage (divide total line loss by total water purchased)
- 33. Line 28 divided by line 4

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### Response to Commission's Request for Information

### **Question No. 3**

- Q-3. State any questions you have regarding how to use the updated Commission Form described and attached as Appendix A to this Order.
- A-3. No questions.

### **CASE NO. 2018-00394**

### Response to Commission's Request for Information

### Question No. 4

- Q-4. State any suggestions or improvements you have for the updated Commission Form described and attached as Appendix A to this Order.
- A-4. No improvements detected.

### CASE NO. 2018-00394

### Response to Commission's Request for Information

### Question No. 5

- Q-5. State any questions you have regarding how the information in the updated Commission Form described and attached as Appendix A to this Order is to be incorporated into annual reports.
- A-5. No questions.

### CASE NO. 2018-00394

### **Response to Commission's Request for Information**

### **Question No. 6**

- Q-6. State any concerns you have regarding the use of the updated Commission Form described and attached as Appendix A to this Order.
- A-6. I feel that a one size fits all 15% water loss standard for the entire state is very questionable considering the topographical difference. I feel that a case by case basis could justify water loss in some areas to be higher than 15% and others in the lower category.

### CASE NO. 2018-00394

### Response to Commission's Request for Information

### **Question No. 7**

- Q-7. State whether you believe it is reasonable, proper, and appropriate for the Commission to require jurisdictional water utilities to maintain and use the updated Commission Form described and attached as Appendix A to this Order. Fully explain your answer
- A-7. We believe it is reasonable, proper, and appropriate for the Commission to require jurisdictional water utilities to maintain and use the updated Commission Form described and attached as Appendix A to this Order. However, we would ask the Commission to consider the water loss on a regional basis rather than a one fits all sole decision.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, I certify that Southeastern Water Association's electronic filing of this Response is a true and accurate copy of the same document being filed in paper medium; that the electronic filing was transmitted to the Public Service Commission on January 14, 2019; that there are currently no parties that the Public Service Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding; and that an original paper medium of this Response will be delivered to the Public Service Commission within two business days.

Morris Vaughn

### **Monthly Water Loss Report**

	Water Company:	TOTAL
	For the Month of:	Year:
Wat	er Produced this month: er Purchased this month:	gallons gallons
A: Tota	l Water Produced and Purchased =	0 gallons
Solo	d: Residential Commercial BURNSIDE	gallons gallons gallons
Tota	al Sold =	0 gallons
B: Diffe	erence: (Produced+Purchased) - Sold	= 0 gallons
% D	ifference =	#DIV/0! % total water loss
Gall	ons of Water Accounted For: Breaks (Estimated Total) Hydrant Flushing Storage Tank Overflow Water Treatment Plant Use BURNSIDE Fire Department Use Net Computer Adjustment + / - Other	gallons
Los	I Gallons Accounted For = s: Unaccounted-for Water: (B-C) = oss: Unaccounted-for Water: (B-C)/A %	0 gallons 0 gallons 5= #DIV/0! % unaccounted - for loss
	lons / Day Loss = lons / Minute Loss =	days in month #DIV/0! gallons/day #DIV/0! gallons/min.

This spreadsheet is a product of the Technical Assistance Center for Water Quality at Western Kentucky University and the Kentucky Rural Water Association. Feel free to contact us at (270) 745-5948 or at http://water.wku.edu/ . This spreadsheet may be freely distributed. Please let us know if you use it, like it, or have suggestions for improvement!