COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF NORTH	
HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT FOR A	
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE)
AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT A) CASE NO. 2020-00126
SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND)
AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE)
ISSUANCE OF SECURITIES PURSUANT TO)
KRS 278.023)

RESPONSE OF

NORTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT

TO

COMMISSION STAFF'S THIRD REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

DATED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

FILED: October 8, 2020

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RESPONSE OF NORTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT TO COMMISSION STAFF'S THIRD REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Comes North Hopkins Water District, for its Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information, and states as shown on the following pages.

Katelyn L. Brown

Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC

500 West Jefferson Street, Suite 2000

Louisville, Kentucky 40202 Telephone: (502) 568-5711

Fax: (502) 333-6099

katelyn.brown@skofirm.com

Counsel for North Hopkins Water District

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CERTIFICATION OF RESPONSE OF NORTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT TO COMMISSION STAFF'S THIRD REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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

Date: 10 - 9 20

Steve Oakley, Superintendent North Hopkins Water District

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8 and the Commission's March 16, 2020 and March 24, 2020 Orders in Case No. 2020-00085 regarding electronic filings, I certify that North Hopkins Water District's Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information was electronically transmitted to the Public Service Commission on October 8, 2020 and North Hopkins Water District will file original paper copies of this filing within 30 days of the lifting of the State of Emergency.

Katelyn L. Brown

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information Question No. 1

Responding Witness: Steve Oakley, Superintendent

- Q-1. Provide the status of the construction approved in the Commission's May 6, 2020 Order.
- A-1. There are four main portions of this Rural Development construction project ("RD Project"): (1) installation of 18,700 feet of new 8-inch water line for interconnection with the Webster County Water District ("Webster District"); (2) installation of a booster pump station to pump water from Webster District to North Hopkins District; (3) installation of flushing hydrants throughout the North Hopkins District system to improve water quality; and (4) the installation of an automated meter reading system, including the replacement of all meters, to allow more efficient meter reading and more accurate measurement of water usage.

The construction relating to the interconnection with Webster District is nearing completion. All of the line has been laid in the ground. The estimated completion date of the pump station is mid-November to early December. North Hopkins District has not yet begun the installation of the approximately

ten (10) flushing hydrants that will be located throughout its system. As discussed in the Response to Q-2, North Hopkins District has replaced approximately 1/3 of its current customer meters with the new automated meters.

Pursuant to Ordering Paragraph 11 of the Commission's May 6, 2020 Order, North Hopkins District will inform the Commission when construction is 50% complete. This construction milestone is expected in the next couple of weeks.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 2

- Q-2. Provide an explanation for how North Hopkins District will replace customers' meters that have not been tested in ten years, including how the replacement of the meters will be funded.
- A-2. North Hopkins District has purchased approximately 1,400 brand new meters that will replace all the customer meters in North Hopkins District's service territory. North Hopkins is making good progress on the replacement of the old meters and expects all customer meters to be replaced by the beginning of 2021. At the time of this Response, North Hopkins District has replaced over 400 meters with the new radio read drive-by Badger meters that have an Itron reading system. The cost of these new Badger meters is included in the RD Project.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information Question No. 3

- Q-3. Provide a detailed explanation of any disputes between North Hopkins District and the city of Madisonville.
- A-3. The City of Madisonville ("Madisonville") has been the sole supplier of water to North Hopkins District since North Hopkins District started serving water customers in November 1982. During the past few years, however, at least four (4) major issues have strained the relationship between Madisonville and North Hopkins District. These issues are:
- 1. Poor Water Quality;
- 2. 2017 Wholesale Rate Increase by Madisonville;
- 3. Lawsuit Filed by Madisonville Against North Hopkins District; and
- Failure to Negotiate a Contract Extension
 These issues will now be discussed individually.
- 1. Poor Water Quality. For years, the level of Disinfectant By-Products ("DBP") of water delivered by Madisonville to North Hopkins District was "marginal" at best and, sometimes, exceeded the maximum contaminate level

("MCL"). The repeated efforts by North Hopkins District to persuade Madisonville to reduce the levels of DBP were unsuccessful. On March 18, 2016, North Hopkins District was placed under an Agreed Order by the Division of Enforcement of the Department for Environmental Protection of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Energy and Environment Cabinet. It remained under the Agreed Order for three (3) years (See the Response to Q-4 for more information about this topic). Madisonville was also placed under an Agreed Order at some point during the time that North Hopkins District was operating under an Agreed Order. As a combination of the extra flushing by North Hopkins District and Madisonville's improved water quality, North Hopkins District was finally released from the Agreed Order on March 21, 2019. It is not known whether Madisonville is still under its Agreed Order.

2. 2017 Wholesale Rate Increase by Madisonville. In February 2017, Madisonville served Notice to its wholesale water district customers that it was increasing its wholesale water rate from \$4.13 to \$5.01 per 1,000 gallons. In previous years, the wholesale customers, including North Hopkins District, had accepted the wholesale increases without questioning or challenging the increases. In 2017, however, this \$0.88 increase per 1,000 gallons, when coupled with the poor quality water being delivered by Madisonville, was just too much for North Hopkins to "swallow." North Hopkins District talked

with the Nebo Water District ("Nebo District"), which also purchases all its water from Madisonville. Together, Nebo District and North Hopkins District engaged the services of Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC ("SKO") to file a protest with the PSC. The Commission opened an investigation into the reasonableness of the proposed Madisonville rates (See PSC Case No. 2017-00133). Madisonville was shocked that tiny North Hopkins District and Nebo District had the audacity to "stand up to" Madisonville and challenge the proposed wholesale rate. The relationship between Madisonville and North Hopkins immediately went from "bad" to "worse."

SKO attorneys thoroughly reviewed the information that Madisonville provided the Commission. They discovered that Madisonville had "expensed" the cost of water filtration membranes rather than "capitalizing" this expense and depreciating it over the useful life of the membranes. As a result of this accounting error discovered by SKO, the wholesale rate dropped to \$4.39 per 1,000 gallons, a reduction of \$0.62 per 1,000 gallons from the proposed rate. North Hopkins District is convinced that Madisonville still "holds it against" North Hopkins District for challenging the wholesale rate before the Commission.

3. Lawsuit Filed by Madisonville Against North Hopkins District. North Hopkins District experienced cash flow problems in 2017 and 2018. It had made several large expenditures, including the following: (a) approximately \$23,000 to pay HMB Engineers to prepare and calibrate a hydraulic model of its distribution system ("KYPIPE Model") as required under the Agreed Order; (b) approximately \$50,000 for a new SCADA system to monitor its water storage tank levels and operate its pump stations; and (c) purchasing and flushing large volumes of water from Madisonville at \$4.39 per 1,000 gallons in an effort to lower its DBP levels. In January 2018, North Hopkins District representatives met with Madisonville officials and explained that it would not be able to fully pay its monthly water bills for the next few months. North Hopkins District requested Madisonville to establish a payment plan until North Hopkins District's cash flow situation improved. The North Hopkins District representatives left the meeting with the understanding that Madisonville was going to "work with them" and establish a payment plan. The next week, however, North Hopkins District read in the newspaper that Madisonville was going to file suit in Hopkins Circuit Court against North Hopkins District for these arrearages. Madisonville filed suit; North Hopkins had to hire an attorney to defend itself. The Circuit Judge ordered the parties to try to resolve this matter and held the case in abeyance while the parties

negotiated. Fortunately, a new Mayor came on the scene for Madisonville. He was willing to establish a payment plan and waive the Late Payment Fees. North Hopkins District made all the payments under the payment plan and has made all its monthly payments since then.

4. Failure to Negotiate a Contract Extension. The last major issue that has strained the relationship between Madisonville and North Hopkins District is Madisonville's unwillingness to even discuss, let alone negotiate, an extension of the existing water supply agreement between the parties. The current agreement expires in November 2022. Despite repeated efforts by North Hopkins District to engage Madisonville officials in contract discussions, Madisonville has refused to do so. The Mayor and City Administrator did briefly meet with North Hopkins District officials in October 2019 regarding this topic. The Mayor stated that a contract extension would be sent to North Hopkins within the next month. No contract extension was received by North Hopkins District. Madisonville has not communicated with North Hopkins District since then despite numerous phone calls to the Mayor's Office and to the City Administrator's Office. They refuse to take phone calls from, or return phone calls to, North Hopkins District officials. I have even gone to the Mayor's Office to see him, but he is always "in meetings."

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information Ouestion No. 4

Responding Witness: Steve Oakley and Jeff Reynolds, P.E., HMB Engineers

- Q-4. Provide a description of North Hopkins District's efforts to convince Madisonville to improve its water quality. Include descriptions of all meetings and provide all correspondence between North Hopkins District and Madisonville that concerns water quality issues.
- A-4. On March 18, 2016, North Hopkins District was placed under an Agreed Order from the Division of Enforcement of the Department for Environmental Protection of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Energy and Environment Cabinet for its failure to correct its previous violations related to MCLs in its system. Because North Hopkins District buys all its water from Madisonville, I met with representatives from Madisonville in person and requested help in order to get the contaminant levels under control. Madisonville took no action to help North Hopkins District and was not responsive to further communications by North Hopkins District.

As part of the remedial measures contained in the Agreed Order, North Hopkins District was ordered to determine if DBPs were being formed in the distribution system or elsewhere. To satisfy this requirement, North Hopkins District employed HMB Engineers to help develop a KYPIPE Model of its

system. The results of the KYPIPE Model showed that in some areas the water purchased from Madisonville remained in portions of North Hopkins District's distribution system for as long as 880 hours from the time it left the Madisonville master meter (The exact age of the water at the time it flowed through the Madisonville master meter is unknown, but it is already a few days old by the time it reaches the master meter). See Node J-232 on the attached map. The KYPIPE Model also simulated the age of the water if North Hopkins District decided to connect with the Webster District system. The KYPIPE Model showed water would remain in Webster District pipes for only 26 hours at Node J-234. When it was determined that Madisonville could not significantly decrease the age of the water and that Webster District's water would be much fresher, North Hopkins District began to seriously consider connecting to Webster District.

At each Node, the water to be purchased from Webster District will be significantly fresher when it reaches the customer than if the water had been purchased from Madisonville, according to the KYPIPE Model prepared by HMB Engineers. This information is depicted in the upper right corner of the attached map and is inserted below.

	WEBSTER WATER	MADISONVILLE WATER
NODE	AGE (HRS)	AGE (HRS)
J-107	118	394
J-113	241	469
J-141	499	634
J-154	265	562
J-167	529	727
J-219	519	626
J-232	781	880
J-234	26	367

North Hopkins District has since been released from the 2016 Agreed Order. In the attached letter dated March 21, 2019, the Division of Enforcement determined that North Hopkins District had complied with the terms and conditions of the Agreed Order and closed the case. North Hopkins District is back in compliance with its contaminant levels every month. During the past several years, the water delivered by Madisonville at the master meter was either out of compliance or it was just below the maximum level for DBPs. Eventually, Madisonville went under an Agreed Order. It is not known whether Madisonville is still under an Agreed Order. Although North Hopkins District is back in compliance, it has invested significant funds and time into the RD Project, which is almost 50% completed. Exceeding allowable contaminant levels could be a recurring problem; there is always a possibility that poor water quality from Madisonville could cause future problems for North Hopkins District.

KYPIPE MODEL

HMB ENGINEERS

Release from Agreed Order

March 21, 2019

MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR



CHARLES G. SNAVELY SECRETARY

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT CABINET DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ANTHONY R. HATTON
COMMISSIONER

300 SOWER BOULEVARD FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

March 21, 2019

North Hopkins Water District ATTN: Steve Oakley 316 Liberty Church Loop Madisonville, Kentucky 42431

Re: Case No. DOW150209

AI No. 33925

AI Name: North Hopkins Water District

Activity ID: DW ERF20150001

PWSID: KY0540138 Hopkins County

Dear North Hopkins Water District:

The Division of Enforcement has determined that North Hopkins Water District has complied with the terms and conditions of the Agreed Order, executed March 18, 2016. The Division considers Case No. DOW150209 resolved and closed. The Demand for Stipulated Penalty Letter issued February 7, 2019 is being rescinded with this closure. Please contact me at 1-502-782-0526 or camry.waters@ky.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Camry Waters

Environmental Enforcement Specialist

Division of Enforcement



CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 5

- Q-5. Explain whether there were other motivations beyond the water quality issues described in the application for North Hopkins District to install a pipeline to Webster County Water District (Webster District).
- A-5. Although the water quality issues were the driving force behind the Webster District connection project, North Hopkins District also considered the upcoming expiration of its contract with Madisonville. The current contract was executed on April 15, 1980 for a 40-year term commencing upon the initial delivery of water by Madisonville. This occurred in November 1982. The November 24, 1982 Amendment reduced North Hopkins District's monthly minimum purchase from 1,000,000 gallons to 300,000 gallons. North Hopkins District currently purchases approximately 7,000,000 gallons of water per month from Madisonville. North Hopkins District has approached Madisonville, particularly the Mayor and City Administrator, numerous times regarding the upcoming expiration of the contract. Since October 2019, Madisonville has not returned North Hopkins District's phone

calls regarding the contract and has not entertained meetings with North Hopkins District when I physically visit the Mayor's office.

North Hopkins District expects to purchase approximately 3,000,000 gallons per month from Webster District and the balance of its water from Madisonville. Because Madisonville has not extended a new or amended contract to North Hopkins District, North Hopkins District might be forced to purchase all of its water from Webster District. Webster District has communicated that it has capacity to supply all of North Hopkins District's water.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 6

- Q-6. Provide a copy of the purchased water agreement between North Hopkins District and Webster District. If no formal document exists, provide an explanation containing the details of the agreement.
- A-6. The Water Purchase Contract between North Hopkins District and Webster District is attached. Paragraph 33 of the RD Letter of Conditions dated January 31, 2018 required North Hopkins District to have a 40-year water supply agreement in place. Without this contract from Webster District, RD would not have continued processing the loan.

Position 5 MAR 2 2 2018

Form RD 442-30 (Rev. 10-96)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MATERIA DEPONDE ACOMPO ACO

FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 0575-0015

WAIER FURCHASE	CONTRACT	_ A	
This contract for the sale and purchase of water is entered into as of the	8tc	_day of March	*
2018, between the Webster County Water District			,
P.O. Box 320, Dixon, KY 42409			,
(Address hereinafter referred to as the "Seller" and the North Hopkins Water $$			
316 Liberty Church Loop, Madisonville, KY 42431			
hereinafter referred to as the "Purchaser",			
WITNESSET	·H:		
Whereas, the Purchaser is organized and established under the proving Code of Kentucky Revised Statutes for the system serving water users within the area described in plans now on file the Purchaser will require a supply of treated water, and	e purpose of con	Chapter 74 structing and operating a withe Purchaser and to accom	of the ater supply distribution plish this purpose,
Whereas, the Seller owns and operates a water supply distribution system customers of the Seller's system and the estimated number of water user system now on file in the office of the Purchaser, and	s to be served by	the said Purchaser as show	
Whereas, by Resolution No. 2018-1 enacted on the	•		<u>, 2019</u> ,
by the Seller, the sale of water to the Purchaser in accordance with the p	rovisions of the s	aid Resolution	
was approved, and the execution of this contract carrying out the said r	Resolution		by the
Chairman , and attested by the Secr	retary, was duly a	uthorized, and	
Whereas, by Resolution of the Board o	f Directors		of the Purchaser,
enacted on the 8 ⁺¹ day of March	, 2018	, the purchase of water	from the Seller
in accordance with the terms set forth in the said Resolution		was approved, and the	execution of this
contract by the Chairman , an	d attested by the	Secretary was duly authorize	zed;
Now, therefore, in consideration of the foregoing and the mutual ag	reements hereina	fter set forth,	
A. The Seller Agrees:			
1. (Quality and Quantity) To furnish the Purchaser at the point of d	elivery hereinafte	or specified, during the term	of this contract or
any renewal or extension thereof, potable treated water meeting applica	ble purity standar	ds of the Kentucky Na	tural
Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet,	Division o	f Water	
in such quantity as may be required by the Purchaser not to exceed 12,	000,000 gall	ons per month.	

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average I hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer STOP 7602, 1400 Independence Avenue, S. W. Washington, D. C. 20230-7602. Please DO NOT RETURN this form to this address. Forward to the local USDA office only. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

2. (Point of Delivery and Pre	ssure) That water will	be furnished at a	reasonably constant press	sure calculated at	
70 psi	from an existing_	ten (10)		inch main supply at a point located	
pressure shall be borne by the fire and use of water to fight of time as may be necessary	t normally available at e Purchaser. Emergene fire, earthquake or oth to restore service.	the point of deli cy failures of pre er catastrophe si	very is required by the Purssure or supply due to mainall excuse the Seller from	rchaser, the cost of providing such greate in supply line breaks, power failure, floo this provision for such reasonable perio of delivery, the necessary metering	d,
equipment, including a meter to the Purchaser and to calibr	r house or pit, and requested rate such metering equ	aired devices of ipment whenever	standard type for properly or requested by the Purchas	measuring the quantity of water deliverences but not more frequently than once ever test result shall be deemed to be accurate	егу
amount of water furnished di immediately prior to the failt	rdance with the percen uring such period shall ure, unless Seller and l	tage of inaccura be deemed to b	cy found by such tests. If a e the amount of water deli	ne 6 months any meter fails to register for any period, vered in the corresponding period unt. The metering equipment shall be rea	
3rd week of each mo	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	An appropriate	official of the Purchaser a	it all reasonable times shall have access t	0
4. (Billing Procedure) To with an itemized statement of	o furnish the Purchase of the amount of water	r at the above ac furnished the Pu	dress not later than the receding the preceding	day of each monthing month.	h,
B. The Purchaser Agrees:					
1. (Rates and Payment I accordance with the following	Date) To pay the Selleng schedule of rates:	r, not later than t	he 15th	day of each month, for water delivered	in
a. \$	3700 for the first 1	,000,000 g	allons, which amount shall	l also be the minimum rate per month.	
b. \$ gallons.	3.70 cents per 100	0 gallons for wa	ter in excess of 1,000,0	gallons but less than 12,000,00	<u>o</u> .
c. \$	3.70 cents per 100	0 gallons for wa	ter in excess of 12,000,	000 gallons.	
2. (Connection Fee) To	pay as an agreed cost,	a connection fee	to connect the Seller's sys	stem with the system of the Purchaser,	
the sum of \$0.00	dollars which	shall cover any	and all costs of the Seller i	for installation of the metering equipmen	iŧ
and (See Attached Ame	endment)				

, , ,

C. It is further mutually agreed between the Seller and the Purchaser as follows:

- 1. (Term of Contract) That this contract shall extend for a term of 45 years from the date of the initial delivery of any water as shown by the first bill submitted by the Seller to the Purchaser and, thereafter may be renewed or extended for such term, or terms, as may be agreed upon by the Seller and Purchaser.
- 2. (Delivery of Water) That 30 days prior to the estimated date of completion of construction of the Purchaser's water supply distribution system, the Purchaser will notify the Seller in writing the date for the initial delivery of water.
- 3. (Water for Testing) When requested by the Purchaser the Seller will make available to the contractor at the point of delivery, or other point reasonably close thereto, water sufficient for testing, flushing, and trench filling the system of the Purchaser during construction, irrespective of whether the metering equipment has been installed at that time, at a flat charge of \$\frac{3.70}{3.70}\$ which will be paid by the contractor or, on his failure to pay, by the Purchaser.
- 4. (Failure to Deliver) That the Seller will, at all times, operate and maintain its system in an efficient manner and will take such action as may be necessary to furnish the Purchaser with quantities of water required by the Purchaser. Temporary or partial failures to deliver water shall be remedied with all possible dispatch. In the event of an extended shortage of water, or the supply of water available to the Seller is otherwise diminished over an extended period of time, the supply of water to Purchaser's consumers shall be reduced or diminished in the same ratio or proportion as the supply to Seller's consumers is reduced or diminished.
- 5. (Modification of Contract) That the provisions of this contract pertaining to the schedule of rates to be paid by the Purchaser for water delivered are subject to modification at the end of every 1 year period. Any increase or decrease in rates shall be based on a demonstrable increase or decrease in the costs of performance hereunder, but such costs shall not include increased capitalization of the Seller's system. Other provisions of this contract may be modified or altered by mutual agreement.
- 6. (Regulatory Agencies) That this contract is subject to such rules, regulations, or laws as may be applicable to similar agreements in this State and the Seller and Purchaser will collaborate in obtaining such permits, certificates, or the like, as may be required to comply therewith.
- 7. (Miscellaneous) That the construction of the water supply distribution system by the Purchaser is being financed by a loan made or insured by, and/or a grant from, the United States of America, acting through Rural Development of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the provisions here of pertaining to the undertakings of the Purchaser are conditioned upon the approval, in writing, of the State Director of Rural Development.
- 8. (Successor to the Purchaser) That in the event of any occurrence rendering the Purchaser incapable of performing under this contract, any successor of the Purchaser, whether the result of legal process, assignment, or otherwise, shall succeed to the rights of the Purchaser hereunder.

	<u></u>
In witness whereof, the parties hereto, acting under authority of the	heir respective governing bodies, have caused this contract to be du
executed in three (3) counterparts, each o	f which shall constitute an original.
	Seller:
	Webster County Water District
	By Charles Enchances
Attest:	Title Chairman
Secretary	
	Purchaser:
	By Marie Clam
Attest:	Title_Chairman
Jamaia Hunter Secretary	
This contract is approved on behalf of Rural Development this	day of
······································	
	Ву
	Title

AMENDMENT No. 1 to the WATER PURCHASE CONTRACT between WEBSTER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT and NORTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT

- I. This AMENDMENT shall amend the WATER PURCHASE CONTRACT as follows:
 - Webster County Water District agrees to furnish the Metering Equipment, including meter vault and required devices of standard type for properly measuring the quantity of water delivered.
 - North Hopkins Water District agrees to install the Metering Equipment furnished by Webster County Water District.
 - North Hopkins Water District agrees to relinquish ownership to Webster County Water District the water line from the connection point at the intersection of KY 41 and Slaughters Elmwood Road to the Master Meter.
 - Webster County Water District agrees that the relinquished water line shall be solely dedicated the North Hopkins Water District and no other services can utilize this water line.
- III. All other sections of the basic WATER PURCHASE CONTRACT, as Amended, shall remain in force except those modified by this AMENDMENT.

e and executed this AMENDMENT this 3.
Purchaser:
NORTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT
David Adams Chairman

RESOLUTION FOR AGREEMENT FOR WATER PURCHASE CONTRACT WITH NORTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the North Hopkins Water District of Kentucky has committed to improve and enhance community livability for the citizens they serve:

WHEREAS, assistance is available through USDA Rural Development Program; and

WHEREAS, the North Hopkins Water District desires to provide water to residence in northern Hopkins County and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Webster County Water District, Dixon, Kentucky, in an effort to support the North Hopkins Water District effort shall be entered into said contract attached hereto and incorporated by reference;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman and Board members are in support of said contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman is authorized to enter into and execute attached contract.

Done this 8th day of March, 2018.

Charles Buchanan, Chairman
Webster County Water District

Date

Attest:

limmy Goff/Secretar

Webster County Water District

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 7

- Q-7. Provide a list of alternatives to connecting to Webster District that North Hopkins District considered to resolve its water quality problems.
- A-7. North Hopkins District determined that connecting to Webster District was the only feasible option because all the other water utilities surrounding the North Hopkins District purchase water from Madisonville. Therefore, connecting to another utility would not solve the poor water quality issues relating to Madisonville water. Connecting to another utility would likely exacerbate the poor water quality issues because the water would have to flow from Madisonville to another utility and then to North Hopkins District.

 Purchasing water from McLean County Regional Water Commission at Calhoun would be a large undertaking and expensive because the water line would have to be at least 15 miles long and it would have to cross under Green River.

North Hopkins District also considered adding a mixing system and an aerator system to its tanks, but this would not change the age of the water once it reached North Hopkins District's distribution system.

In summary, North Hopkins District knew that the proposed connection point with Webster District would result in excellent water quality because the City of Slaughters purchases water from Webster District. The City of Slaughters' interconnection with Webster District is very close to North Hopkins' interconnection with Webster District. The City of Slaughters' water quality is consistently in compliance.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 8

Responding Witness: Steve Oakley

- Q-8. Provide a detailed explanation for how installing the new pipeline to Webster District will correct North Hopkins District's deficiency with its master meters.
- A-8. North Hopkins Water District has just one master meter in Madisonville, located along Brown Road. The Commission's Division of Inspections last inspected North Hopkins District on January 16, 2020 and noted that North Hopkins District was not testing its master meter as required by 807 KAR 5:006, Section 16(1). North Hopkins District has not tested its master meter because Madisonville informed North Hopkins District in April 2020 that Madisonville had purchased a replacement master meter. Unfortunately, Madisonville has not yet replaced the master meter.

Pursuant to the Water Purchase Contract between North Hopkins District and Madisonville executed on April 15, 1980, Madisonville is responsible for installation, operation, and maintenance of metering equipment, including the master meter. Amendment No. 1 to the Water Purchase Contract between

North Hopkins District and Madisonville executed on November 24, 1982 states that North Hopkins District, as Purchaser, is responsible for paying the cost of master meter testing. North Hopkins District recognizes its responsibility to pay for meter testing and has made arrangements to get the master meter tested. On Tuesday afternoon, October 6, 2020, I called Keith Browning, who is the Assistant Water Superintendent for Madisonville, and inquired when Madisonville was planning to install the new master meter. Keith said he did not know when this would occur, but he said that he would talk to his boss and let me know on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. That was two (2) days ago and I still have not heard anything from Keith or anyone else at Madisonville. Meanwhile, I have contacted Jim Doyle, who tested the master meter when it was last tested in 2016. He plans to test the master meter in late November 2020.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 9

- Q-9. Explain whether North Hopkins District's decision to install a pipeline to Webster District will have any effect on North Hopkins District's water loss issues.
- A-9. The interconnection to Webster District will help North Hopkins District better determine where water leaks are occurring so that we can effectively and efficiently fix the leaks. When the RD Project is complete, approximately 60% of North Hopkins District's water lines will be located in an area served by Webster District, and approximately 40% of North Hopkins District's water lines will be located in an area served by Madisonville. Because there will be three (3) separate zones (two (2) served by Webster District and one (1) served by Madisonville), North Hopkins District will be able to more accurately determine which zone to inspect for leaks when a leak is detected.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 10

Responding Witness: Steve Oakley

Q-10. Explain why North Hopkins District has failed to file a monthly water

loss report for the past two years.

A-10. North Hopkins District is **not** aware of any Order from the Commission

requiring the filing of a monthly water loss report. Also, legal counsel has

advised us that there is no law nor Commission regulation which requires a

water district to file monthly water loss reports with the Commission. North

Hopkins District does, however, complete a monthly water loss report for

internal purposes and analyses using the recommended Commission format.

North Hopkins District is attaching the three most recently completed

Monthly Water Loss Reports for June through August 2020.

June: 21.3%

July: 16.5%

August: 18.0%

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Monthly Water Loss Report

Wate	r Utility:	North Hopk	ins Water District			
For th	ne Month of:		June	Year:	2020	
LINE :		HOED BURGH	ITEM		ALLONS (Omit 000's)	
1 2	Water Produce		ASED & DISTRIBU	IED		Ì
3	Water Purchas				7 711 000	
3 4	Water Furchas		L PRODUCED AND	DIDCHASED	7,711,000 7,711,000	
5		IOIA	L FRODUCED AND	FUNCTIAGED	7,711,000	
6	WATER SALE	3				
7	Residential				5,370,410	
8	Commercial				122,030	
9	Industrial				203,750	
10	Bulk Loading S	tations			-	
11	Wholesale				-	
12	Other Sales				217,300	
		IDEN	NTIFY OTHER SALES			
13			TOTAL V	VATER SALES	5,913,490	76.7%
14						•
15	OTHER WATE					ı
16	Utility and/or W		Plant			
17	Wastewater Pla					
18	System Flushin				157,410	
19	Fire Departmer	t				
20	Other					
21			TOTAL OTHER	WATER USED	157,410	2.0%
22						
23	WATER LOSS					1
24	Tank Overflows	i				
25	Line Breaks				4 040 400	
26	Line Leaks				1,640,100	
27	Other					
28			тот	AL LINE LOSS	1,640,100	21.3%
29						
30	Note: Line 13 -	- Line 21 + Line	28 Must Equal Line	4		
31	WATER LOCO	DEDCENTAGE				
32 33		PERCENTAGE	: 28 divided by Line 4)		21.3%	
33	Unaccounted-F	oi vvalei (Liile 2	20 divided by Line 4)		21.3%	

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Monthly Water Loss Report

Wate	r Utility: North Hopkins Water District	
For th	ne Month of: July	/ear: 2020
LINE #		GALLONS (Omit 000's)
1	WATER PRODUCED, PURCHASED & DISTRIBUTED	
2	Water Produced	
3	Water Purchased	7,925,900
4	TOTAL PRODUCED AND PURCHA	ASED 7,925,900
5		
6	WATER SALES	
7	Residential	5,920,950
8	Commercial	208,080
9	Industrial	314,830
10	Bulk Loading Stations	-
11	Wholesale	-
12	Other Sales	11,980
4.0	IDENTIFY OTHER SALES	
13	TOTAL WATER SA	ALES 6,455,840 81.59
14	OTHER WATER HOER	
15	OTHER WATER USED	
16	Utility and/or Water Treatment Plant	
17	Wastewater Plant	400.057
18	System Flushing	162,657
19	Fire Department	
20	Other	
21	TOTAL OTHER WATER U	JSED 162,657 2.1%
22		102,001
23	WATER LOSS	
24	Tank Overflows	
25	Line Breaks	
26	Line Leaks	(6,618,497)
27	Other	7,925,900
	IDENTIFY OTHER LOSS	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
28	TOTAL LINE L	-OSS 1,307,403 16.59
29		
30	Note: Line 13 + Line 21 + Line 28 Must Equal Line 4	
31	•	
32	WATER LOSS PERCENTAGE	
33	Unaccounted-For Water (Line 28 divided by Line 4)	16.5%

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Monthly Water Loss Report

Wate	r Utility:	North Hopkins Water District		
For th	e Month of:	August	Year:	2020
LINE #	4	ITEM	GALL	ONS (Omit 000's)
1		UCED, PURCHASED & DISTRIBUTE		
2	Water Produce			
3	Water Purchase	ed		7,761,100
4		TOTAL PRODUCED AND P	URCHASED	7,761,100
5				
6	WATER SALES	3		
7	Residential			5,438,010
8	Commercial			181,820
9	Industrial			560,030
10	Bulk Loading St Wholesale	ations		19,930
11 12	Other Sales			
12	Other Sales			
13		TOTAL WA	TER SALES	6,199,790 79.9%
14				
15	OTHER WATE	R USED		
16	Utility and/or W	ater Treatment Plant		
17	Wastewater Pla			
18	System Flushin			162,657
19	Fire Departmen	t		
20	Other			
21		TOTAL OTHER W	ATER USED	162,657 2.1%
22				
23	WATER LOSS			
24	Tank Overflows			
25	Line Breaks			
26	Line Leaks			1,398,653
27	Other		<u></u>	
28		TOTAL	LINE LOSS	1,398,653 18.0%
29				10.070
30	Note: Line 13 +	Line 21 + Line 28 Must Equal Line 4		
31	-			
32	WATER LOSS	PERCENTAGE		
33	Unaccounted-F	or Water (Line 28 divided by Line 4)		18.0%

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information Ouestion No. 11

- Q-11. Explain the impact that changing suppliers has on North Hopkins District's purchase water expense.
- A-11. North Hopkins District is not entirely changing suppliers. North Hopkins District still expects to purchase a portion of its water from Madisonville. The water it purchases from Webster District, however, will be much cheaper than the water it purchases from Madisonville. North Hopkins District is currently paying \$4.52 per 1,000 gallons for the water it purchases from Madisonville, while the price it will pay Webster District, pursuant to the Water Purchase Contract attached to Q-6, is only \$3.70 per 1,000 gallons. North Hopkins District expects to purchase approximately 60-65% of its water from Madisonville and 35-40% from Webster District once the RD Project is complete.

CASE NO. 2020-00126

Response to Commission Staff's Third Request for Information

Question No. 12

- Q-12. Explain whether North Hopkins District has been approached by any other entity seeking to acquire it or merge with it.
- A-12. North Hopkins District has not been approached to merge with or be acquired by any other entity.