

Madison County Utilities District

Response for PSC Questions from Madison County Fiscal Court in relation to Water Project

**1. Explain whether Madison District's infrastructure will be or is being used to expand broadband infrastructure in Madison County and, if so:**

**a. Confirm if any broadband wires have been installed in existing Madison District's water lines. If so, provide a list of the owners of the pipe as well as the broadband wires.**

- i. No fiber optic cable has been installed in any Madison District water lines; Madison County Fiscal Court does have the intentions of deploying fiber optic cables through certain water lines in the Madison District. The use of Madison District's water line greatly reduces the cost of deploying fiber as compared to the traditional methods of directional boring or ariel deployment.

Madison County Fiscal Court and Madison County EMA/CSEPP needs a cost-effective way to deploy fiber optic cable to enhance the backbone network of the Madison County Public Safety Radio System and to support Madison County, University of Kentucky, and Scott County/Georgetown's efforts to build a Regional Public Safety Radio System to enhance interoperability of law enforcement, fire protection and lifesaving services in the Blue Grass Region.

This regional system will allow public safety users to talk on the regional radio system from the northern end of Scott County through Madison County. The expanded radio coverage also benefits hospitals, they can now have prearrival information delivered over the radio from emergency medical vehicles engaged in transport between hospitals in neighboring communities, greatly enhancing the safety of citizens in the Bluegrass Region.

**b. Identify the parties involved in the project.**

- i. If Madison County Fiscal Court deploys fiber into the Madison District water lines the involved parties will be as follows:
1. Madison County Fiscal Court – Project Management, installation.
  2. Madison County EMA/CSEPP – Paying all cost, agency needing fiber.
  3. Madison County Utilities District – Assisting with shutoff and testing.
  4. Kirksville Water Association – Assisting with shut off and testing.
  5. CRALEY Group Limited - Provider of the solution.

**c. Describe the status of the project.**

- i. At this time the project has been approved by the Kentucky Division of Water, Madison County Fiscal Court, Madison County Utility District, and the Kirksville Water Association. All parties agree that the method is in the best interest of Madison County Citizens.
- ii. Madison County has completed a final study from the CRALEY Group that provided the pricing to complete two separate fiber optic runs through water lines. [See Attachment One – Madison Full Study and Attachment Two – Kirksville Full Study](#) for the full study documentation that provides detail of the lines wanting to be used and specific locations of CRALEY fittings, along with other pipe data.
- iii. Madison County Fiscal Court has signed a contract with the CRALEY Group to provide the needed materials to complete the project. These products are current on a ship from the United Kingdom with an anticipated date of the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> week of October. Items will need to arrive on US soil and be inspected by Madison County Fiscal Court for damage. [See Attachment Four – CRALEY Contract.](#)
- iv. Madison County Fiscal Court and Madison County Utilities have had several working meetings to discuss implementation, maintenance and cost surrounding these projects.

**d. Provide the cost of the project to Madison District and who is paying the costs.**

- i. There will be zero cost to the Madison District or Kirksville Association. Madison County EMA/CSEPP will be paying all cost associated with the deployment and maintenance of the fiber optic lines. Madison County EMA/CSEPP will be paying Madison Utilities and the Kirksville Association for the use of their employees as they assist Madison County in deploying the fiber optic cable. Madison District and the Kirksville Association will be assisting by closing water valves and performing the required testing of the water.
- ii. Madison County will continue to pay for the maintenance of the fiber optic cable for as long as the fiber optic is in place and in use. If there are line breaks or leaking CRALEY fittings, Madison County will pay all cost associated with either the leaking CRALEY fitting or re-deploying the fiber optic cable through a repaired line if needed.
- iii. [Attachment Three is a draft MOU](#) between Madison County Fiscal Court and Madison District, it explains the agreement (draft) between the two entities as it pertains to ownership, maintenance, and cost. This same MOU would be

presented to the Kirksville Water Association for approval once a successful deployment in the Madison District is completed.

- iv. Supplied as supporting documentation will be the Contract with CRALEY (See Attachment Four) to purchase the solution and we have also included the additional labor and infrastructure that are needed to complete the project.

Noted on the attachment near the bottom we provide the total cost using the CRALEY method versus the traditional boring method. The boring cost is assuming there is no rock hit along the route, we are certain there would be a large amount of rock hit along the route which would significantly increase the cost using the traditional method. The traditional boring method is about \$32 a foot, once rock is encountered the cost rises to \$100 a foot. Added to the cost is the anticipated deployment time, the traditional boring method is significantly longer. **See Attachment Five – Cost Break Down.**

**e. Describe the impact of the project on Madison District's infrastructure.**

- i. Several meetings with the Kentucky Division of Water and the CRALEY group have taken place where there have been deep discussions about the impact to water flow to Madison District. It was determined that Madison District would see extremely limited loss of flow where fiber optic cable will be deployed.

**f. State how many access and egress points are required for the project.**

- i. Madison County will install a CRALEY fitting at the beginning of a run, just before and after each valve on the line in which we will deploy fiber. There are 75 communication vaults that will be installed in the right of way next to each CRALEY fitting, this vault will be used to bypass the valve and allow for a service loop to be maintained for repairs and service. This number is not anticipated to change but may have to be modified if during deployment there is something that presents itself as a barrier to completion.

Barriers to completion would be if there is a valve on the line that was not identified correctly, hard 90 degree turns that prove to be impassable with the CRALEY product, etc. In these instances, it may require Madison County to add additional CRALEY fittings and communication vaults to complete the run.

- ii. There is a second planned deployment that will utilize Madison District infrastructure, the first portion of the run is in Madison District and the second position is in the Kirksville Water Association District. This project is estimated to have 54 communication vaults and fittings.

**g. If the project has begun, explain why Madison District did not request Commission approval of a certificate of public convenience of necessity (CPCN) prior to the construction in accordance with KRS 278.020.**

i. The project has not started construction. Madison County Fiscal Court has completed the final studies with CRALEY and signed a contract with CRALEY to provide the solution and we have purchased the other related items needed for completion. Approval was granted by the Kentucky Division of Water. Madison County is currently drafting a Memorandum of Understanding with the Madison District for deployment options.

**h. If the project has not begun, state whether Madison District will request a CPCN from the Commission and what date Madison District expects to file the application for a CPCN as well a detailed description including:**

i. **(1) A complete description of the project including how the wires will be installed. Attachment Six - Installation Overview.**

ii. **(2) What party will own the mains.**

Madison District maintains ownership of the mains.

iii. **(3) What party will own the wires.**

The fiber optic cable will be owned by Madison County EMA/CSEPP until the completion of the CSEPP Mission (estimated 2024) at which time the fiber optic cable becomes the possession of Madison County Fiscal Court.

iv. **(4) What party will be responsible for maintenance on the water mains.**

Madison District.

v. **(5) What party will be responsible for maintenance on the wires.**

Madison County EMA/CSEPP until the completion of the CSEPP Mission (estimated 2024) at which time Madison County Fiscal Court will be responsible.

vi. **(6) Copies of any contracts or agreements between parties spelling out costs, ongoing expense allocations, revenues, and operations.**

All cost will be paid by Madison County EMA/CSEPP to deploy the solution and in the future for maintenance of the fiber.

The hope is that in the future the fiber may be a catalyst to improve communications for various other functions. At this time no revenue is expected to be realized and at some point, if revenue is realized, Madison County Fiscal Court, Madison Utilities District and Kirksville Association will enter into an agreement on the disbursement of revenue should any exist. Realized revenue would not be to water customers through rate increases, it would be realized from outside entities using the fiber.

**3. Provide copies of all documentation provided to the Kentucky Division of Water regarding a proposal or project to install broadband wires within the water mains.**

**See Attachment Seven – Division of Water Project**, also refer to **Attachments One and Two** for detail that was also sent with the letter. **See Attachment Eight – DOW Approval** for the approval letter from Kentucky Division of Water.