

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF BIG)	
SANDY WATER DISTRICT FOR AN)	CASE NO. 2022-00044
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS WATER RATES)	
PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5:076)	

MOTION TO AMEND ORDER OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Pursuant to KRS 278.400, Big Sandy Water District (“Big Sandy District”) moves to amend the Public Service Commission’s Order of September 28, 2022 to correct inconsistencies within that Order.

In support of its motion, Big Sandy District states:

1. On September 16, 2022, Big Sandy District moved to amend the Public Service Commission’s Order of September 13, 2022 to modify the effective date of rates set forth in Appendix B of that Order (“First Motion to Amend”). In its Order of September 28, 2022, the Public Service Commission described the relief sought in that motion as follows:

Big Sandy District requested that the Commission amend the September 13, 2022 Order and **make the new rates effective for meter readings after October 31, 2022**. The new rates will be reflected on all bills issued in November 2022 and be **assessed for all service received during the October 2022 billing cycle**.¹

2. Big Sandy District made its motion because of significant obstacles to implementing the ordered rate adjustment in the middle of a billing cycle. Big Sandy District reads its meters on the first workdays of the month and then issues bills based upon those readings. Under the Order of September 13, 2022, the approved rates became effective on September 13,

¹ Order at 2-3 (emphasis added).

2022 and would have been reflected on bills for water service issued in October. Because of its billing system's limited capabilities, Big Sandy District cannot bill the new rates for the time they would be effective in the current (September) billing cycle.

3. If the relief requested in the First Motion to Amend was granted, Big Sandy District's bills issued in early November 2022 for service rendered during the October 2022 billing cycle would reflect the new rates. The new rates would apply throughout the entirety of the billing cycle and avoid the problems identified in the First Motion to Amend.

4. In its Order of September 28, 2022, the Public Service Commission found good cause to grant the First Motion to Amend. That order states:

Based upon the motion and case record, the Commission finds that Big Sandy District established good cause to grant rehearing to amend the September 13, 2022 Order, and therefore **Big Sandy District's motion is granted**. This is because the Commission has approved placing new rates into effect based upon a utility's billing cycle in prior cases because it allows for an orderly and less costly transition under the facts presented regarding the timing of the billing cycle and limitations of the utility's billing software.²

5. The relief granted in the Order of September 28, 2022, however, does not grant the relief requested in the First Motion to Amend but instead directs as follows:

1. The monthly water rates for Phase 1 set forth in Appendix B of the September 13, 2022 Order [are] approved **for services rendered by Big Sandy District on and after October 31, 2022**.

2. The monthly water rates for Phase 2 rates set forth in Appendix B of the September 13, 2022 Order are approved **for services rendered by Big Sandy District on and after October 31, 2023**.³

6. As currently written, Ordering Paragraph 1 will again result in the effective date for the new rates falling within a billing cycle rather than at the start of a billing cycle and thus result

² *Id.* at 3 (emphasis added) (footnote omitted).

³ *Id.* at 3-4 (emphasis added).

in the same problems that the First Motion to Amend sought to avoid.⁴ (Meter readings will be performed on the first workdays of November.) More importantly, it will effectively delay the full implementation of the new rates for an additional month. The new rates will not be fully reflected on customer bills until bills based upon December 2022 meter readings are issued. This result is not consistent with the relief requested in the first Motion to Amend or the findings contained in the Order of September 28, 2022.

7. To correct this inconsistency, Big Sandy District requests that Ordering Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Order of September 28, 2022 be amended to read as follows:

1. The monthly water rates for Phase 1 set forth in Appendix B of the September 13, 2022 Order are approved **for meter readings performed by Big Sandy District after October 31, 2022.**

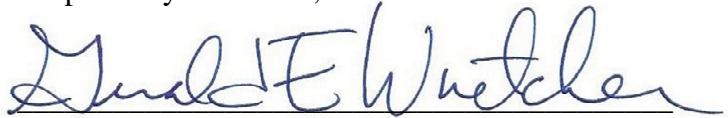
2. The monthly water rates for Phase 2 rates set forth in Appendix B of the September 13, 2022 Order are approved **for meter readings performed by Big Sandy District after October 31, 2023.**

WHEREFORE, Big Sandy Water District requests the Public Service Commission amend its Order of September 28, 2022 to provide that the new rates for water service set forth in the Order of September 13, 2022 will become effective for meter readings performed after October 31, 2022.

⁴ Admittedly the number of days in which the new rates will be in effect during the October billing cycle will be less than if the new rates became effective for service rendered on and after September 13, 2022. Bills issued for meter readings occurring on the first workdays of November 2022 will reflect no more than three days of service at the new rates.

Dated: September 28, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

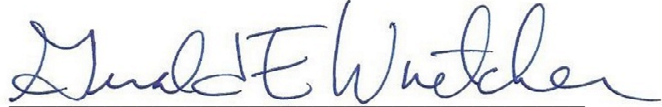


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, and the Public Service Commission's Order of July 22, 2021 in Case No. 2020-00085, I certify that this document was transmitted to the Public Service Commission on September 28, 2022 and that there are currently no parties that the Public Service Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding.



Gerald E. Wuetcher