

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY

IN THE MATTER OF:

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|---------------------------------------|---|------------|
| ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION INTO |) | |
| COMPLIANCE WITH EXCAVATOR LOCATE |) | CASE NO. |
| REQUESTS PURSUANT TO KRS 367.4909 AND |) | 2022-00363 |
| KRS 367.4917(7) |) | |

RESPONSE

Southeastern Water Association, as a non-municipal utility, files this response to the Kentucky Public Service Commission Case Number 2022-00363. In response to case number 2022-00363, the Association states as follows:

- a. Since January 1st, 2022, Southeastern Water Association has received 221 locate requests. Of these 221 locate requests, 206 were for normal excavation locate requests, 4 were for design, 5 were for fiber-to-the-premises, and 6 were for a large project request.
- b. There was one subsequent request for the same locate request on a normal excavation notice.
- c. Since January 1st, 2022, Southeastern Water Association responded to and completed all locate requests within the allotted time. The average response time for all locate requests is 1.5 days. The large project request was completed the same day as the request was received. The fiber-to-the-premises locate requests are completed within one business day. The normal excavation locate requests are completed within one to two days of the request.
- d. Since January 1st, 2022, there has been no need to reach an agreement with an excavator or contractor to complete a locate request outside the statutory time limits.

- e. Since January 1st, 2022, all locate requests have been performed by Southeastern Water Association. No third-party contractors are used.
- f. Since January 1st, 2022, no records have been kept showing the number of underground facilities accurately versus inaccurately. There have been no underground facilities hit after a locate request.
- g. The method to determine whether an underground facility has been located accurately versus inaccurately begins with reviewing record drawings and project plans for the location request then utilize tracer wire and/or probing methods to improve the accuracy.
- h. To prevent inaccurately located lines, SWA uses a combination of the following devices including tracer wire, the probing method of the pipe, or excavation of the line in the ground. All new lines are installed with a tracer wire, if it is discovered a tracer wire has broken it is immediately repaired. Additional tracer wire connections are added during new service connections and additions to the distribution system. SWA maintains accurate maps of its facilities and has implemented a geographic information system. SWA maintains a positive presence with local utilities, contractors, and customers to portray the importance of accurately located facilities to minimize the impact on work and prevent interruption of service.

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