

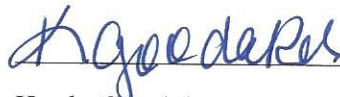
**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**VERIFICATION**

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

COUNTY OF HOPKINS

The undersigned, Kayla Goodaker, being duly sworn, deposes and states that she is the Office Manager of South Hopkins Water District and that she has personal knowledge of the matter set forth in the responses for which she is identified as the witness, and the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief.



Kayla Goodaker

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.



Notary Public

My commission expires: 01/22/26

Notary ID: KyNP43802

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**VERIFICATION**

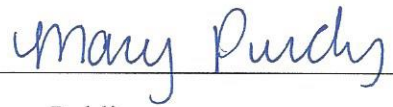
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

COUNTY OF HOPKINS

The undersigned, Jon Blalock, being duly sworn, deposes and states that he is the Superintendent of South Hopkins Water District and that he has personal knowledge of the matter set forth in the responses for which he is identified as the witness, and the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge, and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jon Blalock

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My commission expires: 01/22/24  
Notary ID: KYNP43802

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**In the Matter of:**

<b>ELECTRONIC SOUTH HOPKINS WATER</b>	)	
<b>UNACCOUNTED-FOR WATER LOSS</b>	)	<b>Case No.</b>
<b>REDUCTION PLAN, SURCHARGE AND</b>	)	<b>2023-00018</b>
<b>MONITORING</b>	)	

**RESPONSE OF**  
**SOUTH HOPKINS WATER DISTRICT**  
**TO**  
**COMMISSIONS STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 1

Responding Witness: Jon Blalock

1. **Provide an estimate of the percentage of water loss attributable to each of the following:**

- a. Existing water lines: 90%
- b. Storage facilities : 0%
- c. Pump stations: 3%
- d. Meters 7%

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 2

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

- 2. Explain what specific steps South Hopkins District will take in the next four years to reduce water loss to at least 15 percent.**

The biggest concern for the water loss are the main lines that run down 62E. Replacing these lines would greatly reduce the amount of water loss in the East. To also help reduce water loss, the main lines on HWY 112 and 41 could be replaced as well. Also, any side roads that have old lines could be replaced. Any breaks or leaks that pop up in these areas will be repaired as needed to also reduce water loss.

Purchasing new equipment such as listening devices to help locate service line leaks in the District could prove beneficial. Currently the District only has one listening device. If the District had more than one listening device, each maintenance worker could go out in the district in all different directions to search for leaks in problem areas.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO.3

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker and Jon Blalock

**3. Provide a detailed spending plan for the proceeds of the surcharge approved in Case No. 2022-00122.**

Spending the proceeds from the surcharge would consist of buying parts and materials for line leaks and for installation of new lines in problem areas. Spending money on the new listening devices would also be in the plans as well as possibly purchasing a drone that looks for leak from an aerial view. The District would like to start using these proceeds for these purchases within the next year. It is believed that these purchases would significantly help reduce the water loss issues in the District.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 4

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

4. Provide the number of miles of water line in South Hopkins Districts system composed of:
- a. Asbestos cement pipe: 283,413 feet or 53.7 miles
  - b. Polyethylene pipe: 310,000 feet or 58.7 miles
  - c. Polyvinyl Chloride: 1,283,845 feet or 243.2 miles
  - d. Cast iron: 600 feet or .1 of a mile
- Total feet and miles 1,877,258 feet or 355.7 miles

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 5

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

5. For each of the types of pipe in item 4 above, state to what extent South Hopkins Water District estimates the type of pipe that is contributing to water loss.
- a. Asbestos cement pipe – 35%
  - b. Polyethylene pipe -41% (service line)
  - c. Polyvinyl chloride- 20%
  - d. Cast iron- 4%



**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 6

Responding witness: Jon Blalock and Kayla Goodaker

6. Refer to the Water-Loss Reduction Plan filed on May 31, 2023, specifically the final page of the proposal.
  - a. Provide any reports created by Strand Engineering for South Hopkins District in relation to line replacement and water loss reduction. None have been provided yet.
  - b. Provide the source of funds for the water line replacement project involving Strand Engineering mentioned in the proposal. Most of the funds will be sourced from loans from the USDA and possible grant money received from the state for the cleaner water program.
  - c. Explain how South Hopkins District will determine the type of pipe used to replace the aging lines.

C900 will be used because it is more durable and longer lasting.
  - d. Describe any other maintenance or construction needed to address the issues of improper installation of waterlines. The construction needed would be to get the lines installed. For the size of this project, and the number of lines needed to be replaced, it would be best to have contractors do this work. There is no way for our maintenance crew of 5 to get done what needs to be done for the new lines.
  - e. Provide a time line for the waterline replacement project referenced in the proposal.

Still in the process of engineering, will update as soon as possible. Hoping to have project completed within two years of the start date. Not sure on start date yet.
  - f. Explain what methods South Hopkins District will use to determine the order of line replacement. Replace first the areas having the most significant amounts of water loss. The East area.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 7

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker and Jon Blalock

7. Clarify whether South Hopkins District is seeking approval to use surcharge proceeds to perform routine maintenance on pump stations.

No.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO.8

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

8. Explain how South Hopkins currently performs routine maintenance to pump stations to address unaccounted water loss.

Check list

Go everyday to assess the checklist

See attachment

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
Question NO. 9

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

9. Explain how South Hopkins District plans to improve maintenance of pump station to address water loss.

Water loss at pump station is minimal. Old service lines and improper installations throughout the District is the cause of water loss.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO 10

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

10. Explain what environmental issues each of the six pump stations face and how these issues affect water loss.

None

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 11

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

11. State when each pump station was placed into service and the useful life of each station.

109 – 1967

62E – one was 1967 one was 1995

62W – 1982 or 1983

Grapevine pump and pressure pump station- 1995

Good Hope pressure pump – 1985

The stations should have another 10 years of life expectancy on the buildings, electrical and motors of the pumps will probably be fixed or replaced.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO 12

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

12. Explain whether South Hopkins District has retained professional services to conduct condition assessments to pump stations and storage facilities.

No

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO 13

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

13. State how many customer meters are in South Hopkins District System; of this number how many are radio read meters.

There are currently 2937 active meters and there are no radio read



**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO 14

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker and Jon Blalock

14. State whether South Hopkins District is seeking Commission approval to use water loss surcharge funds for meter replacement purposes.  
Not at this time.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 15

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker and Jon Blalock

15. If South Hopkins District is seeking Commission approval to fund meter replacement using water loss surcharge funds, provide details of the replacement such as meter type, model, and cost.

This isn't applicable at this time.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO, 16

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

16. Explain how South Hopkins District would decide between hiring an individual staff and contracting a company to detect leaks.

The District would have to determine which route conserves the most money and go with that.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 17

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

17. State whether South Hopkins District has reached out to any companies or consulting firms regarding leak detection.

No

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 18

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

18. State whether South Hopkins District is seeking Commission approval to use water loss surcharge funds to hire additional staff.

The District is not currently seeking approval for the use of surcharge funds to hire additional staff.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 19

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

19. State whether South Hopkins District is seeking Commission approval to engage the services of a water loss specialist using water loss surcharge proceeds.

If the District decides to hire out contractually for a water loss specialist, the District would seek approval to use the water loss surcharge funds.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 20  
Responding witness: Jon Blalock

20. Refer to page 4 of the Water-loss Reduction plan filed on May 31, 2023, and provide the following:

a. The age for each of the vehicles and equipment listed;

F150 2013 189785 miles Fair shape  
F150 2014 148872 miles Fair shape  
F150 2014 126271 miles Fair shape  
F150 2015 116238 miles Fair shape  
F650 2000 72325 miles Fair shape  
Backhoe Tractor 2005  
Backhoe 1995 37560 hours fair shape  
100 KW generator 2007 1 HR good shape  
Bushhog tractor 1981  
Dump truck 1991 destroyed

b. State whether the equipment is no longer able to be safely operated

Dump truck is the only piece of equipment that can not be safely operated.

c. Provide the useful life for each vehicle and equipment item listed.

\*approximate years left\*

F150 2013 2 years left  
F150 2014 3 years left  
F150 2014 3 years left  
F150 2015 3 years left  
F650 2000 4 years left  
Backhoe Tractor 2005 4 years left  
Backhoe 1995 2 years left  
100 KW generator 2007 10 years left  
Bushhog tractor 5 years left  
Dump truck 1991 none

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 21

Responding witness Kayla Goodaker

21. Provide the insurance policy for the Ford F-250 destroyed in the 2021 tornado. If not possible, provide an explanation.

Please see the attached document.

a. Provide the amount received in insurance compensation due to the destruction of the F-250.

\$14,350.00

b. If no insurance compensation was received, explain why not.

N/A



**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO 22  
Responding witness: Jon Blalock

22. State whether any insurance policy covered the backhoe damage in an accident. If not, provide an explanation.

The backhoe is insured; however, we did not choose to use insurance to cover the damages incurred.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 23  
Responding Witness: Jon Blalock

23. Explain how the replacement of vehicles as proposed by South Hopkins District would result in the reduction of water loss.

Each maintenance employee would be able to ride the district out in different directions to search for leaks.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 24

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

24. Explain what, if any, plan there is for the replacement of the three storage facilities that are 55 years old.

Not currently. In the last 10 years all have been sandblasted and repainted. The inside of 109 has had the inside redone but not the outside.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 25

Responding witness: Jon Blalock

25. Provide the age and condition of current leak detection equipment, including the listening device.

20 years old and poor condition

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 26

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

26. State whether South Hopkins District is seeking commission approval to use water loss surcharge proceeds to purchase leak detection equipment.

Yes.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 27

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

27. If South Hopkins District is seeking Commission approval to use surcharge proceeds to purchase leak detection equipment, provide a description of such equipment and its cost.

Listening devices can be purchased for around \$1200 to \$3000 a piece

The District has also been looking into possibly purchasing a drone. After speaking to another water service provider that has purchased and used a drone, they have found leaks this way and the price was around \$7000.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Question NO. 28

Responding witness: Kayla Goodaker

28. Explain what, if any, funding South Hopkins District has applied for or received in the last three years to address its aging infrastructure.

Currently applying for a USDA loan and waiting to receive grant money from the state for the Cleaner-Water program.