

# Rattlesnake Ridge Water District

Serving Areas of Carter, Elliott, Lawrence and Morgan Counties

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November 16, 2023

Ms. Linda C. Bridwell, P.E.

Executive Director

Kentucky Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Ky 40602-0615

Re: Case No. 2023-00338

Rattlesnake Ridge Water District

Alternative Rate Filing Adjustment

Dear Ms. Bridwell:

Enclosed for filing in the referenced case is Rattlesnake Ridge Water District ("District") application for an adjustment to its water rates. This ARF application is being filed pursuant to 807 KAR 5:076 and uses calendar year 2022 as the test year with appropriate adjustments to normalize revenue and expenses.

The district has made several operational changes in the past several months. The District recently changed auditors, which will resolve past reporting issues. The District hired a new manager in February of 2022. Included in the District's efforts to reduce line loss, volunteer fire departments are now required to file monthly water use reports, district personnel prepare monthly Flush Reports to better report use, the Field Foreman maintains a detailed list of leaks identified each month, field personnel have been trained to use leak detection equipment, and social media is being used to allow customers to report potential leaks. The District's Phase 12 project is nearing completion, which replaced over 4,000 meters and 700 service lines. Zone meters are projected to be in place by January 2024, which will allow the district to locate leaks quicker. The District monthly water loss reports demonstrate a steady reduction in water loss for 2023. The district's water loss for the month of October 2023 is 26.4 percent.

The District Board wishes to express their reluctance with this application. The application is filed to comply with the Public Service Commission Order ("PSC") in case No. 2021-00340. The Board is confident that the recent changes by the District will prove to lessen the magnitude of the rate increase determined in the present application. The Board appreciates the PSC and its staff and for all assistance provided with the District's efforts to improve its financial and operational condition.

Rattlesnake Ridge Water District is a small utility with limited resources. Considering the recent and ongoing improvements that are in progress the District requests the

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*"Rattlesnake Ridge Water District is an equal opportunity employer and provider."*

*"Hard of Hearing, Speech impaired, or Deaf users, call the Kentucky Relay Service at (800) 648-6056.*

*Give the Communications Assistant our phone number to contact us."*

Commission include in the procedural schedule of this case a field review by Commission Staff. A field review at the district's offices will provide Commission Staff the opportunity to gather needed information to process the application, reduce potential miscommunications, reduce the time to process the application, reduce the need for formal information requests and provide Commission Staff a clearer picture of the overall operations of the utility.

Rattlesnake Ridge Water District reads its meters on the first of the month for the billing cycle. In order, to facilitate the accurate billing of its customer's Rattlesnake Ridge Water District requests the Public Service Commission in its final order in this matter grant an effective date on the first of the month in which the adjustment in rates is approved.

The Attorney General's Office of Rate Intervention has also been provided a copy of this application by electronic mail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Gifford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

David Gifford

Manager

Enclosure