# RE: ELECTRONIC FILING OF THE HARRISON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION, INC. QUALIFIED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIIP)

# CASE NUMBER 2023-00355

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (KY PSC) FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 Filed electronically, 807 KAR 5:001

HCWA, Inc. Attn: Mr. Nathan Fields P.O. Box 215 Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031

Jesse Melcher Law Office, PLLC Attn: Mr. Jesse P. Melcher, Esq. P.O. Box 345 Mount Olivet, Kentucky 41064

# HCWA NOTICE OF QUALIFIED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIIP)

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

# **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

# In the Matter of: ELECTRONIC FILING OF THE HARRISON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION, INC. ("HCWA") AS TO A QUALIFIED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIIP)

#### CASE NUMBER 2023-00355

# HCWA NOTICE OF QUALIFIED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIIP)

Comes now the Harrison County Water Association, Inc., by and through their counsel, Mr. Jesse P. Melcher, Esq., attested to by manger, Nathan Fields, and hereby files The QUALIFIED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLAN, as follows:

A. See Attached Qualified Infrastructure Improvement Plan (QIIP), which is fully incorporated herein, and approved by the Board of the Harrison County Water Association, Inc., at its regular meeting on March 20, 2024.

### **CERTIFICATION/VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION**

I, Nathan Fields, Manager, for the Harrison County Water Association, Inc., hereby certify that I have read over the foregoing information being submitted to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, and that all averments and statements herein are true and accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief.

NATHAN FIELDS, MANAGER

We, Heather KUSS ((print name) and Tracy Brinkweiger (print name) as two witnesses, state that Nathan Fields, did in our presence execute their signatures, and affirm and acknowledge their certification to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, concerning Harrison County Water Association Inc.'s, reporting requirements as to a (QIIP) pursuant to KY Public Service Commission, Case No.'s 2023-00154 and 2023-00355

RUGPI Harrynar ESS # 1 (Print Name) Name

Respectfully submitted,

s/ MR. JESSE P. MELCHER, ESQ. HARRISON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATON, INC. ATTORNEY JESSE MELCHER LAW OFFICE, PLLC MR. JESSE P. MELCHER, ESQ. P.O. BOX 345 MOUNT OLIVET, KY 41064 606-724-5322 (phone) jpmecher@yahoo.com

#### Harrison County Water Association

# **Qualified Infrastructure Improvement Plan**

In Case No. 2023-00154 Harrison County Water Association (Harrison County) was ordered to file with the Public Service Commission a qualified infrastructure improvement plan (QIPP) including a comprehensive unaccounted-for water loss reduction plan that establishes priorities and a time schedule for eliminating each source of unaccounted-for water loss and provides a detailed spending plan for the proceeds of a surcharge.

#### Proposed Use of Water Loss Surcharge Proceeds

Harrison County strives to reduce the non-revenue water volume that is the result of leaks. The distribution system is separated into ten hydraulic zones and HCWA plans to use the water loss surcharge budget to install a flow meter on the outlet side of each of the ten water storage tanks and tie the real time usage into its SCADA system to have a daily usage for each of its zones. Staff have become accustomed to the average sales of their customers and can use a rise in usage to a particular zone to concentrate its leak detection efforts to a particular zone.

Harrison County has older main line valves that are difficult to turn or may not seal well and proposes to purchase a hydro excavator with a valve exerciser that can be towed behind a truck to exercise the valves. With the hydro excavating option, it can clean out valve boxes, meter boxes and excavate service lines in a less intrusive manner than traditional excavating equipment. Further, being a rural water system, some of its main water lines are remote and difficult to reach by vehicle. HCWA plans an additional purchase of a portable valve exerciser that would allow its staff to exercise its valves in the difficult areas of its water system. By exercising the valves and determining if the valves need to be replaced, this will allow Harrison County to isolate more of its water system for leak detection and cause less customer interruptions. The addition of a metal detector would aid staff in finding valves and meters that are covered up or in fields with vegetation.

Once a zone is determined to be using more water than what its calculated demand factor calls for, Harrison County can then start isolating the zone and with the use of a portable flow meter to reduce the affected area even further and then implement an acoustic listening device to pinpoint where the leak is.

Some of Harrison County's radio read water meters have been in service close to ten years and may be losing accuracy. Although the meter may still be accurate, the battery for the radio read is failing. Therefore, it is more efficient and a cost savings to replace the battery than the entire meter. Implementation and assurance of accurate meters will allow Harrison County to better account for its water. With the purchase of a meter test bench staff could test the meters to determine if the meters are still accurate and replace the register and node at a reduced cost.

Lastly, when Harrison County reads its residential meters, it does not match the reading date of the wholesale providers reading date of the master meters. This is causing misrepresented unaccounted for water loss reports. Going forward, Harrison County will read the master meters when Harrison County's residential meters are read each month in order to have a more accurate representation of unaccounted for water loss.

# **Estimated Costs**

Ten Zone Meters	\$90,000
Upgraded SADA	\$185,000
Hydro Excavator with Valve Turner	\$70,000
Portable Valve Turner	\$5,000
Metal Detector	\$1,000
Portable Flow Meter	\$6,000
Acoustic Listening Device	\$4,000
Meter Test Bench	\$65,000

### Total

\$426,000

The purchase of the items listed above will be implemented as the water loss surcharge proceeds are collected. Harrison County has worked with Kentucky Rural Water Association on how to effectively use the water loss surcharge proceeds to reduce water loss. As the water loss plan is implemented, the timing and procedures of this plan may change. The current plan is to purchase the portable flow meter, acoustic listening device and metal detector first. Purchase of the hydro excavator with valve turner and also the portable valve turner would follow. Third, the installation of the ten zone meters tied to the upgraded SCADA. Lastly if funds permit a meter test bench.

Harrison County currently has a line replacement project approved by the Ky Division of Water and currently in application for funding by the USDA. As this plan is executed and line evaluations are performed as part of the leak detection effort, line replacement projects will be analyzed and prioritized according to the data collected.