



OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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July 30, 2024

Ms. Linda Bridwell  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Blvd  
Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: Case No. 2024-00127  
Ohio County Water District  
Additional Information Regarding Request to Modify Expenses in ARF Application

Dear Ms. Bridwell:

Ohio County Water District submitted a letter to Kentucky Public Service Commission on July 16, 2024 titled "Request to Modify Expenses in ARF Application". Since that time, the Board of Commissioners of Ohio County Water District met on July 22, 2024 to authorize items included in that letter (see Motion #3 and #4 in attached minutes). During that Board meeting, I presented these highlights:

- *The six Distribution Operators of Ohio County Water District manage the 8<sup>th</sup> largest distribution system out of 127 water districts across the state. They have put in countless overtime hours repairing aging or improperly installed infrastructure. We are now facing the consequences of past decisions and inaction. We do not want the next generation of workers to encounter the same issues.*
- *In recent years, the Distribution Department has been overwhelmed with work orders, new meter installations, and service line breaks. At times, we are understaffed for emergency repairs, as we only have one operator on-call while the others are free to take vacations or leave town. After analyzing the Department's operations over the past several years, I recommended to add at least one additional Distribution Operator to the staff to better handle the workload and improve our levels of service to our customers.*
- *A comprehensive analysis of the workforce at each water district throughout the state shows that, out of the 127 water districts, we rank 87<sup>th</sup> in terms of staff size per miles of water line we manage, yet we are the 6<sup>th</sup> largest when considering the volume of water produced and the total miles of water line in our system. We maintain a very lean staff given the scale of the system we operate. Our organization has a total of 17 employees*

*responsible for 679 miles of waterline, with 5 employees in the Administration Department and 6 employees at the Treatment Plant.*

- *Other Utility Examples For Comparison:  
Columbia/Adair Utilities Water District - 24 employees, 537 miles of waterline  
Edmonson County Water District – 27 employees, 669 miles of waterline  
Barkley Lake Water District – 17 employees, 495 miles of waterline  
Green River Valley Water District – 32 employees, 733 miles of waterline  
Mountain Water District – 51 employees, 741 miles of waterline  
Muhlenberg County Water District – 21 employees, 417 miles of waterline*

Please take note that the Board unanimously approved the request for two new positions and was willing to add even more positions if the need was there. This information is submitted for filing with this Case to support the “Request to Modify Expenses in ARF Application”.

Sincerely,



Eric Hickman, P.E.  
General Manager