

OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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November 22, 2024

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

RE: Case No. 2024-00127 Ohio County Water District Response to Staff Report dated November 20, 2024

Dear Ms. Bridwell:

Ohio County Water District (the "District") submits the following comments concerning the Commission Staff Report dated November 20, 2024:

The District does not agree with Staff's removal of certain labor expenses from Salaries and Wages – Employees, as while those reductions will eventually occur, they will not happen in the next year while the newly formed Maintenance Department takes on additional responsibilities. The District respectfully requests that those labor expense reductions be restored to the revenue requirement.

The District does not agree with removal of a portion of employee medical benefits. The District submitted the ARF application with these reductions with respect to Commission precedent, but firmly believes that these benefits are absolutely necessary for recruiting and retaining qualified employees in this competitive labor market. The District respectfully requests that those benefits expense reductions be restored to the revenue requirement.

Although the District does not agree with the Staff's removal of certain labor expenses from nonrecurring charges, the District does not wish to contest that adjustment in this case. The District's failure to object to Staff's findings and recommendations concerning the reduction of certain Non-Recurring Charges shall not be construed to be a waiver of the District's right to contest a similar finding or recommendation in a future rate proceeding. The District expressly reserves its right to do so.

The District concurs with the remainder of findings presented in the Staff Report.

The District waives its right to request an informal conference or hearing in this case.

The District is concerned that these requested corrections may delay the release of the Final Order and respectfully requests that the Public Service Commission contact our office if any additional information from the District is needed to expedite implementation of the new rates.

Sincerely,

Eric Hickman, P.E.

General Manager