

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION INTO EXCESSIVE)	CASE NO.
WATER LOSS BY KENTUCKY'S JURISDICTIONAL)	2019-00041
WATER UTILITIES)	

COMMISSION STAFF'S SECOND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
TO WATER UTILITIES THAT REPORT OVER 35 PERCENT WATER LOSS

Big Sandy Water District, Cawood Water District, Estill County Water District, Farmdale Water District, Hyden-Leslie County Water District, Milburn Water District, Morgan County Water District, North Manchester Water Association, Inc., Rattlesnake Ridge Water District, Southern Water & Sewer District, West Carroll Water District (water utilities), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, are to file with the Commission the original in paper medium and an electronic version of the following information. The information requested is due on or before May 31, 2019. Responses to requests for information in paper medium shall be appropriately bound, tabbed, and indexed. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable and shall be appropriately bookmarked.

Each response shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided. Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or association or a governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or the person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the enti

that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

A party shall make timely amendment to any prior response if it obtains information that indicates that the response was incorrect when made or, though correct when made, is now incorrect in any material respect. For any request to which a water utility fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, it shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention shall be given to copied material to ensure that it is legible. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request. When filing a paper containing personal information, a water utility shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that personal information cannot be read.

1. State the effective date of the water utility's last rate increase, either through the alternative rate filing procedure, through a general adjustment of rates, or through a purchased water adjustment, and provide the Board Resolution approving the rate increase.

2. State whether the water utility's board of commissioners or directors has discussed applying for a rate increase since January 1, 2018, utilizing either the alternative rate filing procedure or through a general adjustment of rates. If the utility can state this affirmatively, provide the board minutes where this was discussed.

3. Provide a list of the top three obstacles the water utility believes are preventing or slowing the progress of the water utility in reducing line loss.

4. Provide the water utility's most recent monthly water loss report.
5. Provide the name and occupation, if any, of each of the water utility's current commissioners including the highest level of education attained by each.
6. Provide the following training information:
 - a. State whether the water utility allocates funds in its annual operating budget to provide training to its water personnel.
 - b. If so, state the amount allocated in the last three calendar years.
 - c. Identify any training programs, free of charge or otherwise, that water personnel have taken and individuals, agencies, or suppliers providing the training program.
7. Provide the following system information in a formatted and tabulated Excel spreadsheet for each applicable asset:
 - a. For transmission and distribution lines, provide the diameter size, length in miles, type of material, and average age of the lines. When PVC is used, provide the specific type of PVC used.
 - b. For service connection lines, provide the service connection size, number, type of material, and average age of the lines. When PVC is used, provide the specific type of PVC used.
 - c. For customer meters, provide the customer meter size, number, manufacturer/model, and the average age of the customer meters.
8. Provide the water utility's closest approximate number of service lines and transmission and distribution lines that were made with Blu-Max tubing within its distribution system and the dates they were installed.

9. State whether the water utility has considered hiring a consulting firm for leak detection rather than using in-house labor, and if not explain why not.

10. State whether an employee dedicated to leak detection would be a worthwhile investment for the water utility, and if not state why not.

11. Refer to the water utility's response to Commission Order of March 12, 2019, Appendix C (March 12 Order), Item 8. Provide a copy of the most recent written and completed inspection report done at the water utility's plant, pump, and storage facilities. If no written and completed inspection report exists, then state in specific detail all tasks performed by the water utility during the water utility's most recent inspection of its plant, pump, and storage facilities.

12. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 14.

a. Provide the cost and purchase date of all equipment the water utility identified in its response.

b. State how frequently the identified leak detection equipment items are utilized by the water utility.

13. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 16. For water utilities that responded that they have no written policy to identify errors that result in missed customer billings or under billings of customer accounts, state whether writing and adopting a formal written policy regarding this would be considered by its board of commissioners or directors, and if not state why not.

14. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 17. For water utilities that responded that they cannot accurately verify through testing how much

water they produce at their water treatment plant, state how the water utility can accurately assess its water loss with an unverified production meter.

15. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 18.

a. For water utilities that provided test results and had master meters that failed tests, state whether those master meters were replaced or repaired and provide the dates when they were replaced or repaired.

b. For water utilities that could not provide test results, provide any previous test results of the water utility's master meters or those from the wholesale provider from any previous date.

16. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 19. Provide the total number of customer meters that are greater than ten years old that a water utility currently has in service, if any, and provide any previous tests for each of these meters. If the meter has not been tested, please state in the affirmative and state why it has not been tested.

17. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 22. For water utilities that do not utilize supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) technology within its system, state the reasons why the water utility does not utilize SCADA technology within its system.

18. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 23. For water utilities that do not utilize telemetry within its system, state the reasons why the water utility does not utilize telemetry within its system.

19. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 26.

a. For water utilities that currently utilize master meter zones in leak detection, state how the data from the zone meters is used to reduce water loss and whether the water utility has a sufficient number of zone meters to monitor its entire system.

b. For water utilities that currently do not utilize master meter zones in leak detection, state with specific detail whether doing so would assist in the water utility's water loss reduction efforts or why it would not.

20. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 31.

a. Provide the approximate hourly rate for the water utility's general manager/superintendent for the calendar years 2017 and 2018 utilizing actual hours worked, or if by salary by dividing the monthly salary by the standard 173.3 hours worked per month.

b. Provide the job title and job description for the general manager/superintendent from the water utility's handbook, if such a handbook exists. If the water utility does not currently have a handbook, provide the job title and a detailed job description for the general manager/superintendent that includes job duties.

21. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 35. For water utilities that have not mapped their distribution area for service lines and connections, provide specific detail of the process of how the water utility locates its service lines and connections.

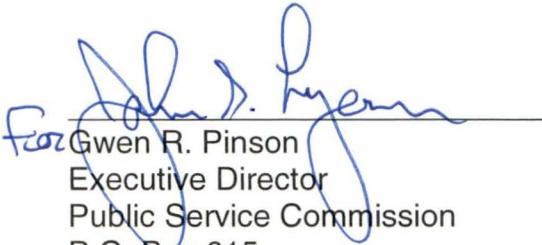
a. State the process for water utility responses to 811 calls for line locates.

b. Provide an approximate date of completion for the water utility to map their entire distribution system for service lines and connections.

22. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 37a. For water utilities that have not requested prosecution of water theft (a.k.a. theft of services) by either the county attorney or commonwealth attorney's office, state the reasons why such requests have not been made.

23. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 38. For a water utility that has stated in the affirmative that a leak adjustment is permitted, provide the current leak adjustment rate and applicable tariff page from the water utility's tariff on file with the Commission.

24. Refer to the water utility's response to the March 12 Order, Item 44. For utilities that responded that they currently do not have flushing equipment, state whether its board of commissioners or directors has ever discussed the purchase of flushing equipment to improve the water utility's system. Provide any applicable board minutes as an attachment to this request.


Gwen R. Pinson
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Public Service Commission
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DATED: MAY 03 2019

cc: Parties of Record

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