## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF THE BUTLER COUNTY WATER SYSTEM, INC. TO ISSUE SECURITIES IN THE APPROXIMATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$840,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING CERTAIN OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF KRS 278.300 AND 807 KAR 5:001

CASE NO. 2021-00016

)

## <u>ORDER</u>

On March 12, 2021, the Commission issued an Order in this case that required Butler County Water System, Inc. (Butler County Water) to file an application for a general rate adjustment to its base rates or an application for an alternative rate filing (ARF) pursuant to 807 KAR 5:076 on or before March 12, 2024. On March 7, 2024, Butler County Water filed a motion requesting a ten-day extension of time, until March 22, 2024, to file its application for a rate adjustment.<sup>1</sup>

Butler County Water states that it initially contacted Kentucky Rural Water Association (KRWA) on September 1, 2023, to request assistance in preparing and filing an ARF application.<sup>2</sup> Butler County Water stated that KRWA's draft rate study, received a few days prior to filing this motion, resulted in a recommended increase to Butler County Water's rates of about 34 percent. Butler County Water requested that KRWA promptly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension of Time (filed Mar. 7, 2024) (Motion for Extension) at 1.<sup>2</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension at 2.

provide an alternative rate structure implementation plan that would phase in rates in two phases.<sup>3</sup> Butler County Water is unsure whether KRWA will be able to prepare the ARF application and all the necessary schedules by March 12, 2024.<sup>4</sup> In addition, Butler County Water states that it cannot prepare a customer notice to be published in *The Butler County Banner* newspaper until its Board of Directors decides on the rate structure.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, Butler County Water seeks an extension of the current ARF application deadline to March 22, 2024. Butler County Water states that its request is made in good faith, not for purposes of delay, and will not unduly prejudice the Commission.<sup>6</sup>

The information provided by Butler County Water indicates that it acted with some diligence and in good faith to prepare its application by contacting and working with working with KRWA since September 1, 2023. Further, Butler County Water has requested only a short delay to resolve some minor issues such that the requested extension will not materially modify the intent of the March 12, 2021 Order. Thus, the Commission finds that Butler County Water established good cause for its proposed extension and that Butler County Water's motion should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Butler County Water's motion for an extension of time is granted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension at 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension at 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Butler County Water's Motion for Extension at 4.

2. Butler County Water's application for an adjustment of its water rates shall be filed on or before March 22, 2024.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



ATTEST:

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**Executive Director** 

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