## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF MOUNTAIN	)	CASE NO.
WATER DISTRICT FOR A GENERAL ADJUSTMENT OF WATER RATES	)	2022-00366

## ORDER

On December 6, 2023, Mountain Water District (Mountain District) filed a motion requesting that the Commission schedule an informal conference (IC) for the purpose of discussing the wholesale rate recently established for Elkhorn City, Kentucky (Elkhorn).

By Order issued October 31, 2023, the Commission established new rates for water service for Mountain District, including a single wholesale rate of \$8.74 per 1,000 gallons of water that applied to all wholesale customers. In its motion, Mountain District stated the newly established wholesale rate represents a significant increase in Elkhorn's cost of water, increasing the average monthly bill from \$13,835.45 to \$40,442.07, or 202 percent, with an increase in Elkhorn's annual water bill from \$166,025.40 to \$485,304.84, and an increase in the average monthly customer bill by \$44.24, or an annual increase of \$530.88. Mountain District further stated that Elkhorn officials have expressed concerns of the financial hardship on Elkhorn and its residents as well as Elkhorn's ability to pay for water service at the new wholesale rate.

Mountain District requested in its motion for an IC with Commission Staff to discuss how the wholesale rate for Elkhorn was derived, the effect of the proposed wholesale rate on Elkhorn and its residents, and possible means to reduce the wholesale rate while

allowing Mountain District the opportunity to continue to earn the revenue requirement set forth in the Order of October 31, 2023. Mountain District stated it intends to invite Elkhorn officials to participate in the videoconference.

Based upon the motion, the Commission finds that Mountain District established good cause to schedule an IC, and therefore the motion should be granted. However, the Commission finds that participation in the IC is limited only to the parties to this proceeding. Elkhorn did not request to intervene, and was not made a party to this proceeding; therefore, Mountain District's request for Elkhorn officials to participate in the IC is denied.

An IC is scheduled on January 3, 2024, at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Commission Staff will contact participants by electronic mail to provide details for joining the conference by video link.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. Mountain District's motion for an IC is granted.
- 2. Mountain District's request for representatives of Elkhorn to attend the IC is denied.
  - 3. An IC is scheduled on January 3, 2024, at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.
- 4. Commission Staff will contact participants by electronic mail to provide details for joining the conference by video link.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

**ENTERED** 

DEC 22 2023

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KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

**Executive Director** 

FOR

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