



Kenvirons

Civil & Environmental Engineering and Laboratory Services

April 18, 2024

Kentucky Public Service Commission

211 Sower Blvd

Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: Case No. 2023-00235 Black Mountain Utility District

Dear Commissioners:

I watched the video of the formal hearing conducted by the Commission on the above referenced case on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, and am compelled to submit these comments for the record.

During the hearing specific problem areas in Black Mountain Utility District's (BMUD) distribution system and Cawood Water District's (CWD) distribution system were discussed and I (and the firm I work for) was referred to as the engineer for both districts. While it is true that I am currently working with both districts and have for several years, we were not the engineers on four (4) of these areas and did not perform the construction inspection on the fifth.

The three (3) specific areas in the BMUD distribution system I am referring to are Wallins Creek, Green Hills/Bledsoe and Putney. We were not involved in the design/construction of the distribution systems in these areas. Furthermore, we were not consulted when the City of Wallins Creek dissolved and their water system was absorbed by BMUD nor when the Green Hills Water District merged with BMUD. We were working for BMUD on other areas when the distribution system was extended into the Putney area where the degrading copper service tubing was specified, however a different engineering firm was engaged by BMUD to design and inspect this extension. We never specified copper service tubing on any of the projects we designed for BMUD.

The two (2) specific areas in the CWD distribution system are the original facilities serving the community of Cawood and the relocated main line along US 421 in the Farmers Mill area. We were not the engineers on the initial Cawood system where problematic "Blue Max" service tubing was installed and did not start working for CWD until after these



facilities were already in service. We were the design engineers on the relocated water main along US 421, however we did not perform the construction inspection on this section of line. When US 421 was upgraded in 2000 the water line had to be relocated in conjunction with the road work so it was placed in the highway construction contract. The plans we provided them specifically state the relocated water line will have "adequate (0.75 m) but not excessive (2 m) cover upon completion of the project." The "m" stands for meter which translates to 2.5 – 6.5 feet. The construction details also call for appropriate bedding, haunching and backfill materials.

We would also like to point out that we have never had any type of management contract with either district.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this case. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the top of the "K".

Ken Taylor, PE

Sr. Project Engineer

Copy: Grant Cooper, BMUD

Ronnie Williams, CWD

From: [PSC Public Comment](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Case No. 2023-00235 Black Mountain Utility District
Date: Friday, April 19, 2024 9:11:00 AM

Case No. 2023-00235

Thank you for your comments on the application of Black Mountain Utility District. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2023-00235, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at [View Case Filings for: 2023-00235 \(ky.gov\)](#).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From: KENNETH D. TAYLOR [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 4:46 PM
To: PSC Public Comment <PSC.Comment@ky.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Case No. 2023-00235 Black Mountain Utility District

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please enter the attached into the record on the subject case. Thank you.

Ken Taylor, P.E.

Kenvirons

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]