

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF THE WESTERN)	
MASON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT FOR THE)	
ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC)	
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO)	CASE NO.
CONSTRUCT A WATER SYSTEM)	2024-00107
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AND AN ORDER)	
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SECURITIES)	
PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF KRS)	
278.020, 278.300, AND 807 KAR 5:001)	

COMMISSION STAFF'S SECOND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION
TO WESTERN MASON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Western Mason County Water District (Western Mason District), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, shall file with the Commission an electronic version of the following information. The information requested is due on June 3, 2024. The Commission directs Western Mason District to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085¹ regarding filings with the Commission. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked.

Each response shall include the question to which the response is made and 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

¹ Case No. 2020-00085, *Electronic Emergency Docket Related to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19* (Ky. PSC July 22, 2021), Order (in which the Commission ordered that for case filings made on and after March 16, 2020, filers are NOT required to file the original physical copies of the filings required by 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8).

governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or the person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Western Mason District shall make timely amendment to any prior response if Western Mason District obtains information that indicates the response was incorrect or incomplete when made or, though correct or complete when made, is now incorrect or incomplete in any material respect.

For any request to which Western Mason District fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Western Mason District shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention shall be given to copied and scanned 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 applicable, the requested information shall be separately provided for total company operations and jurisdictional operations. When filing a paper containing personal information, Western Mason District 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 expected useful life of the meters being replaced by the 825 new meters, and identify the meters being replaced by brand, model, and year of installation.
2. State when the meters being replaced were last tested.

3. Explain in detail how Western Mason District determined that the Master Meter Allegro is the reasonable least cost alternative.

4. Provide any cost comparisons that were completed with any other meters considered including either capital costs, operation, and maintenance costs, or both.

5. Provide the projected operation and maintenance savings from the installation of the 825 new meters and explain how the operation and maintenance savings were calculated.

6. State whether Western Mason District considered upgrading the two underground pump stations in lieu of installing a new pump station, and if so, explain Western Mason District's reasoning for electing to install the new pump station, including any cost justifications or operational concerns that led Western Mason District to choose to install new pump stations over upgrading the existing pump stations.

7. If cost justifications lead Western Mason District to choose to install a new pump station over upgrading the two underground pump stations:

a. Explain how Western Mason District determined that installing the new pump stations was the least cost alternative;

b. Provide the expected capital costs for upgrading the two underground pump stations; and

c. Identify any expected differences in operation and maintenance expense between installing a new pump station as compared to upgrading the two underground pump stations.

8. State whether the above ground pump station replace either or both of the existing pump stations.

9. Refer to Western Mason District's response to Commission Staff's First Request for Information, Item 7. State the expected remaining useful life of the two existing pump stations.

10. State the expected useful life of the above ground pump station.

11. If Western Mason District did not consider any alternatives, state how Western Mason District determined that installing a new above ground pump station was the reasonable least cost alternative for assuring adequate service to its customers.

12. Identify any projected operation and maintenance savings from the installation of the new above ground pump station and explain how the operation and maintenance savings were calculated.

13. State if Western Mason District, including its third party engineers, considered any alternative equipment for the pump station, such as a different make and model of pump, and state the difference in capital cost and operation and maintenance cost between the alternatives and the equipment selected.

14. Provide any documentation or communications regarding the Cleaner Water Grant Funds.

15. State whether the Cleaner Water Grant Funds are required to be used for any specific purpose, such as only for water line replacement, new meter purchase and installation, or installation of the above ground pump house, i.e., if a CPCN for one or more of those projects was denied would it effect Western Mason District's ability to receive the grant.

16. State whether the loan from the Rural Water Financing Agency could be issued for a lesser amount if the Commission only approved the application in part.

17. Explain why the terms of the loan from Rural Water Financing Agency needs to be approved by the Commission prior to a loan offer being made.

18. Explain whether the interest rate on the Rural Water Financing Agency loan will be fixed or variable once the loan is issued.

19. Describe the loan process with the Rural Water Financing Agency loan, including the process and anticipated time frames associated with Rural Water Financing Agency issuing bonds, Western Mason District's loan agreement and receipt of loan funds.

20. State how much time Western Mason District will have between receiving a loan offer from Rural Water Financing Agency and having to accept the terms without the offer expiring.

21. State the source of the \$76,002 that Western Mason District stated is available for contribution for the project.



Linda C. Bridwell, PE
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Public Service Commission
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DATED MAY 24 2024

cc: Parties of Record

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