COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC TARIFF FILING OF OHIO COUNTY) WATER DISTRICT TO ESTABLISH NEW) CHARGES AND REVISED CONDITIONS OF) SERVICE AND ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF) OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT FOR A) DEVIATION FROM 807 KAR 5:011, SECTION) 8(2) FOR TARIFF FILING TFS 2024-00151)

CASE NO. 2024-00124

<u>COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION</u> <u>TO OHIO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT</u>

Ohio County Water District (Ohio 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 May 29, 2024. The Commission directs Ohio 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 governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or the

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).

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.

Ohio District shall make timely amendment to any prior response if Ohio 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 Ohio District fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Ohio 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, Ohio 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. Refer to the April 1, 2024 letter from Gerald E. Wuetcher to Linda Bridwell in which it is stated that an unmetered fire sprinkler system water usage charge will be based upon reasonable estimates of water usage. Also refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 1, Unmetered Fire Protection. Finally, refer to 807 KAR 5:095, Section 5(1), which states that utilities shall not assess a rate for private fire protection service

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that includes a component for water usage unless that component is based upon a customer's actual usage.

a. Explain the apparent conflict between the proposed policy and the regulation in regard to the unmetered fire sprinkler system water usage charge.

b. Explain how the water usage charge and the estimation of water usage is not in conflict with the regulation.

c. Identify any other PSC-jurisdictional water utilities in Kentucky that charge both a monthly charge and a water usage charge for unmetered fire sprinkler systems.

2. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 7. Also refer to Ohio District's current tariff, Original Sheet No. 43.

a. Explain the reasoning for the proposed revisions to the credit/debit card language.

b. Explain whether the processing fee goes directly to the card processing company or if Ohio District collects the fee and then remits it to the card processing company.

3. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 9.

a. Provide the average monthly usage for residential customers for calendar year 2022, calendar year 2023, and 2024 to date.

b. Confirm that Ohio District will not charge an additional deposit to a residential customer unless the customer has failed to maintain a satisfactory payment record. If confirmed, explain what Ohio District considers a satisfactory payment record. If not confirmed, explain why not.

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c. Regarding interest on customer deposits, explain why no annual credit will be provided for interest if the customer's bill is delinquent on the anniversary date of the deposit.

4. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 10. Confirm that subsections (e) and (f) say the same thing. If not confirmed, explain why not.

5. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 13 and 14. Explain whether Ohio District will still give notice within a certain amount of time for the items listed in (3)(a)-(i).

6. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 20. Explain what steps Ohio District will take to determine if existing water service connections are compliant with the proposed cross-connection requirement.

7. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 21, which indicates that Ohio District can discontinue service to a property by providing a physical break in the service line if Ohio District learns of violations of the proposed cross-connection requirements. Confirm that this policy is referring to a physical break for the service line that runs from the main to the meter, which is Ohio District's property. If not confirmed, explain.

8. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 22, which indicates that Ohio District can remove the service line to a premises if the customer engages in repeated acts of theft of service. Confirm that this policy is referring to removing the service line that runs from the main to the meter, which is Ohio District's property. If not confirmed, explain.

9. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 25. Subsection (c) of the Monitoring of Customer Usage section explains the procedures Ohio District will use

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when monitoring usage for customers with an average monthly use of 4,000 gallons or more. Explain the procedures Ohio District will employ when monitoring usage for customers with an average monthly use of 4,000 gallons or less.

10. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 31, which indicates that a customer's account will be considered current while the leak adjustment request is under review if the customer continues to make undisputed payments and stays current on subsequent bills. Also refer to the proposed Leak Adjustment Form, page 2 of 2, which states until the customer's request for an adjustment if approved, the customer is responsible for the amount billed for water service and the customer's failure to pay the bill by the due date may result in the discontinuance of water service. Explain this apparent discrepancy.

11. Refer to the proposed tariff, Original Sheet No. 32.

a. Explain whether the proposed bill format shows the class of service.

b. Explain whether it is possible for the bill to indicate whether the meter readings are actual or estimated.

Midwell

Linda C. Bridwell, PE Executive Director Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

DATED <u>MAY 09 2024</u>

cc: Parties of Record

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