### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF HARRISON COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF SEWER DISCONNECT CONTRACTS AND DEVIATION FROM 807 KAR 5:006 (14) AND (15)

CASE NO. 2025-00181

### <u>order</u>

On June 6, 2025, Harrison County Water Association, Inc. (Harrison County Water) filed an application requesting the approval of sewer disconnect contracts and deviation from 807 KAR 5:006, Sections 14 and 15.<sup>1</sup> The application seeks Commission approval of two separate sewer disconnect contracts—the first between Harrison County Water and Harrison County Sanitation District (Harrison County Sanitation) and the second between Harrison County Water and the city of Berry, Kentucky (Berry) (collectively, the Agreement(s))—that would allow Harrison County Water to disconnect water service to Harrison County Sanitation and Berry customers for failure by the customer(s) to pay their monthly sewer bill.<sup>2</sup> Both Harrison County Sanitation and Berry would pay Harrison County Water \$50.00 for each reconnection of water service.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Application at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Application.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Application at 2.

Additionally, the application requests Commission approval of the proposed water service reconnection amounts and authorization for a deviation from 807 KAR 5:006(14).<sup>4</sup>

In support of the application, Harrison County Water also filed a copy of each proposed Agreement,<sup>5</sup> an affidavit from Nathan Fields, Manager of Harrison County Water,<sup>6</sup> a copy of the resolution from the Harrison County Water Board of Commissioners approving the proposed disconnection rates,<sup>7</sup> and a copy of the Service Agreement currently on file with the Commission that allows Harrison County Water to disconnect water service to Harrison County Sanitation customers for failure to pay their monthly sanitation sewer bill that became effective on September 15, 2016.<sup>8</sup>

Pursuant to KRS 278.180(1), changes to any rate by any utility is prohibited except upon 30 days' notice to the Commission. Therefore, since the application was received on June 6, 2026, the earliest date that Harrison County Water's proposed disconnection rates can be effective is July 6, 2025. Having reviewed Harrison County Water's application, the Commission finds that an investigation is necessary to determine the reasonableness of the proposed application, Agreements, and disconnection rates, and that an investigation cannot be completed by July 6, 2026. Therefore, pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), the Commission will suspend the effective date of the proposed rates for five months, up to and including December 5, 2025.

- <sup>5</sup> Application, Exhibit A and Exhibit B.
- <sup>6</sup> Application, Exhibit C.
- <sup>7</sup> Application, Resolution.
- <sup>8</sup> Application, Service Agreement/Contract.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Application at 2.

The Commission directs Harrison County Water to the Commission's July 22, 2021, Order in Case No. 2020-00085<sup>9</sup> in which the Commission mandated the use of electronic filing procedures listed in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8. Consistent with the filing procedures set forth in Case No. 2020-00085, the Commission finds that electronic filing procedures should be used.

The Commission further finds that a procedural schedule is necessary to review the reasonableness of the proposed rates. Therefore, the Commission establishes the procedural schedule attached as an Appendix to this Order. In addition, the Commission directs the Executive Director to send a copy of this Order to Harrison County Sanitation and Berry.

Additionally, any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing may be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing. Hearings are held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room at the offices of the Public Service Commission at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information are expected to participate in person at a hearing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 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).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. This proceeding is established to investigate the reasonableness of Harrison County Water's application and proposed Agreements.

2. Harrison County Water's proposed rates are suspended for five months, up to and including December 5, 2025.

3. The procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix to this Order shall be followed.

4. The Executive Director shall send a copy of this Order to Harrison County Sanitation and Berry.

5. Harrison County Water shall respond to all requests for information propounded by Commission Staff, whether identified on the procedural schedule or otherwise, as provided in those requests.

6. Any party filing a paper with the Commission shall file an electronic copy in accordance with the electronic filing procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8. Electronic documents shall be in portable document format (PDF), shall be searchable, and shall be appropriately bookmarked. The Commission directs the parties to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-00085<sup>10</sup> regarding filings with the Commission.

7. As set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11)(a), a person requesting permissive intervention in a Commission proceeding is required to demonstrate either (1)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 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).

a special interest in the proceeding that is not adequately represented in the case, or (2) that the person requesting permissive intervention is likely to present issues or develop facts that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter without unduly complicating or disrupting the proceedings. Therefore, any person requesting to intervene in a Commission proceeding must state with specificity the person's special interest that is not otherwise adequately represented, or the issues and facts that the person will present that will assist the Commission in fully considering the matter. A mere recitation of the quantity of utility service consumed by the movant or a general statement regarding a potential impact of possible modification of rates will not be deemed sufficient to establish a special interest.

8. Any motion to intervene filed after the date established in the procedural schedule shall also show good cause for being untimely. If the untimely motion is granted, the movant shall accept and abide by the existing procedural schedule.

9. Harrison County Water shall give notice of the hearing in accordance with the provisions set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2). In addition, the notice of hearing shall include the following statement: "This hearing will be streamed live and may be viewed on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov" and "Public comments may be made at the beginning of the hearing. Those wishing to make oral public comments may do so by following the instructions listing on the PSC website, psc.ky.gov." At the time publication is requested, Harrison County Water shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

10. At any public hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimonies shall be permitted.

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11. Any hearing scheduled in this matter shall be held on the designated day or days and continued until called from the bench by the presiding officer. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 2, if the hearing is not concluded on the designated day, the hearing shall be continued upon verbal announcement by the presiding officer. A verbal announcement made by the presiding officer shall be proper notice of the continued hearing.

12. Witnesses who sponsor schedules, testimony, or responses to requests for information shall participate in person at any hearing scheduled in this matter.

13. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video recording shall be made of the hearing.

14. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions for continuance. Accordingly, motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

15. The Commission does not look favorably upon motions to substitute witnesses or excuse witnesses from testifying at Commission hearings. Accordingly, motions to substitute witnesses or excuse a witness from testifying at a Commission hearing or from testifying in person at a Commission hearing shall be made in writing at least 14 days prior to the hearing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

16. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the Commission from entering further Orders in this matter.

Case No. 2025-00181

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Vice Chairman

<u>cap</u> 6 Commissioner

ATTEST:

dwell RP

**Executive Director** 



## APPENDIX

# APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2025-00181 DATED JUL 2 2025

Last day for intervention requests to be accepted	07/16/2025
All initial requests for information to Harrison County Water shall be filed no later than	07/30/2025
Harrison County Water shall file responses to initial requests for information no later than	08/13/2025
All supplemental requests for information to Harrison County Water shall be filed no later than	08/27/2025
Harrison County Water shall file responses to supplemental requests for information no later than	09/10/2025
Intervenor testimony, if any, in verified prepared form shall be filed no later than	09/17/2025
All requests for information to Intervenors shall be filed no later than	10/01/2025
Intervenors shall file responses to requests for information no later than	10/15/2025
Harrison County Water shall file, in verified form, its rebuttal testimony no later than	10/29/2025

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