

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF CUMBERLAND	)	
COUNTY WATER DISTRICT FOR AN	)	CASE NO.
ADJUSTMENT OF RATES PURSUANT TO 807	)	2025-00226
KAR 5:076	)	

ORDER

On June 26, 2025, Cumberland County Water District (Cumberland District) filed an application with the Commission, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:076, requesting an adjustment to its water rates.¹ The Commission established a procedural schedule by Order dated July 17, 2025, that, among other things, requires Commission Staff (Staff) to file with the Commission and serve upon all parties of record a written report (Staff Report) containing its findings and recommendations regarding Cumberland District's requested water rate adjustment, no later than November 7, 2025.

In its application, Cumberland District proposed an adjustment to employee benefits based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) national average employer share of health insurance premiums, stating:

Cumberland District pays 80 percent of its employees' health insurance premiums. The Public Service Commission (PSC) requires that expenses associated with this level of employer-funded premiums be adjusted to be consistent with the Bureau of Labor Statistics' national average for an employer's

¹ Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:076, Section 7(2), if the Commission has not issued an order after six months from the date an alternative rate filing, the application is deemed filed and the utility may place the proposed rates into effect, subject to refund, pending the Commission's order upon filing written notice with the Commission of its intent to do so. Otherwise, an applicant using the alternative rate filing procedure may not place the proposed rates into effect until the Commission has issued an order approving the rates. 807 KAR 5:076, Section 7(1).

share of health insurance premiums. Average employer shares from BLS are currently 78 percent for single coverage and 67 percent for families. Applying those percentages to premiums to be paid in the current year results in an addition to 2024 benefits expense of \$49,816.²

However, due to a recent Franklin Circuit Court Order,³ Staff seeks clarification as to whether Cumberland District would continue to propose such an adjustment, in light of the provisions of 807 KAR 5:076 Section 8. The Commission, on its own motion, finds that the procedural schedule established on July 17, 2025, should be amended to afford Staff the necessary time to request information, prepare, and file the Staff's Report. Specifically, the Commission finds that the date for filing the Staff's report should be extended to November 14, 2025. The amended procedural schedule is attached as Appendix A.

In addition, Cumberland District shall respond fully to the Staff's Third Request for Information attached as Appendix B by the date set forth in the amended procedural schedule.

After the Staff Report is filed on or before the amended deadline of November 14, 2025, Cumberland District will have 14 days to file a written response to the Staff Report.⁴ If Cumberland District does not file written objections to a finding contained in the Staff Report within 14 days after the date of the filing of the Staff Report, it shall be deemed a waiver of all objections to that finding.⁵

² Application, Attachment #4, References, Adjustment C.

³ *Oldham County Water District v. Public Service Commission of Kentucky*, Franklin Circuit Court, Civil Action No. 24-CI-00725, Order (Sept 25, 2025).

⁴ 807 KAR 5:076, Section 11(3)(a).

⁵ 807 KAR 5:076, Section 11(3)(c).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. The procedural schedule established on July 17, 2025, is amended.
2. The amended procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix A to this Order shall be followed.
- 3.. The Staff Report shall be filed no later than November 14, 2025.
4. No later than 14 days after the date of service of the Commission Staff's Report, each party of record shall file with the Commission:
 - a. Its written comments on and any objections to the findings contains in the Staff's Report; and
 - b. Any additional evidence for the Commission to consider.
5. On or before the date set forth in the procedural schedule, Cumberland District shall file its responses to the Staff's Third Request for Information, attached to this Order as Appendix B.
6. All provisions of the Commission's July 17, 2025 Order, that are in conflict with the provisions of this Order are vacated, and all other provisions not in conflict with the provisions of this Order shall remain in effect.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director



Case No. 2025-00226

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2025-00226 DATED OCT 20 2025

Requests for information to Cumberland District
shall be filed no later than10/21/2025

Cumberland District shall file responses to Staff's
Third Request for information filed no later than.....10/28/2025

Commission Staff's Report shall be filed no later than.....11/14/2025

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2025-00226 DATED OCT 20 2025

COMMISSION STAFF'S THIRD REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO CUMBERLAND COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Cumberland County Water District (Cumberland 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 October 28, 2025. The Commission directs Cumberland District to the Commission's July 22, 2021 Order in Case No. 2020-000851⁶ 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 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.

Cumberland District shall make timely amendment to any prior response if Cumberland District obtains information that indicates the response was incorrect or

⁶ 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).

incomplete when made or, though correct or complete when made, is now incorrect or incomplete in any material respect. For any request to which Cumberland District fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Cumberland 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, Cumberland 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 Application, Attachment #4, References, Adjustment C and the supporting documentation regarding the proposed adjustment to employee health insurance expenses based on Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) employer contribution percentages.

- a. Confirm Cumberland District would propose the same adjustment to employee health insurance premiums based on BLS data as it did in the Application if the precedent for the Commission to authorize base employee health insurance premiums based on BLS data did not exist. If not confirmed, explain what adjustment would be requested.

b. If Cumberland District no longer proposes a BLS adjustment, provide the revised calculation of employee benefits expenses that removes the BLS adjustment and reflects the district's proposed employer paid portion of premiums.

c. Provide all supporting documentation, calculations and Workpapers used to develop the revised amount, including identification of the current employer contribution rate for both single and family coverage.

*Robert K. Miller
Straightline Kentucky LLC
113 North Birchwood Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206

*Cumberland County Water District
133 Lower River Street
Burkesville, KY 42717-9622

*Troy Norris
Cumberland County Water District
133 Lower River Street
Burkesville, KY 42717-9622