

## **807 KAR 5:071. Sewage.**

RELATES TO: KRS Chapter 278

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 278.280(2)

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 278.280(2) provides that the commission shall prescribe rules for the performance of any service or the furnishing of any commodity by any utility. This administrative regulation establishes general rules which apply to sewage utilities.

Section 1. General. The purpose of this administrative regulation is to provide standard rules and administrative regulations governing the service of sewage utilities operating under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission.

Section 2. Definitions. The following terms when used in these rules, shall have the meaning indicated:

- (1) "Commission" means the Public Service Commission.
- (2) "Collecting sewers" means sewers, including force lines, gravity sewers, interceptors, laterals, trunk sewers, manholes, lampholes and necessary appurtenances and including service wyes, which are used to transport sewage and are owned, operated, or maintained by a sewage disposal utility.
- (3) "Customer" means any person, partnership, association, corporation or governmental agency being provided with sewage disposal service by a utility.
- (4) "Customer's service pipe" means any sewer pipe extending from the customer's residence or other structure receiving and transporting sewage to the utility's collecting sewer, but excluding service wyes.
- (5) "Lift station" means that portion of the sewage system which is used to lift the sewage to a higher elevation.
- (6) "Premises" means a tract of land or real estate including buildings and other appurtenances thereon.
- (7) "Sewage" means ground garbage, human and animal excretions, and all other domestic type waste normally disposed of by a residential, commercial, or industrial establishment, through the sanitary sewer system.
- (8) "Sewage treatment facilities" includes all pipes, pumps, canals, lagoons, plants, structures and appliances, and all other real estate, fixtures and personal property, owned, operated, and controlled or managed in connection with or to facilitate the collection, carriage, treatment and disposal of sewage for the public, or other beneficial or necessary purpose.
- (9) "Sewage utility" means any person except a city, who owns, controls or operates or manages any facility used or to be used for or in connection with the treatment of sewage for the public, for compensation, if the facility is a subdivision treatment facility plant, located in a county containing a city of the first class or a sewage treatment facility located in any other county and is not subject to regulation by a metropolitan sewer district. (KRS 278.010(5)(c))

Section 3. Filings with this Commission. In addition to all filing requirements provided by 807 KAR 5:001, Rules of procedure, the following requirements must also be met for all formal applications (outlined below) by sewage utilities before this commission:

- (1) Application for certificates of public convenience and necessity. In addition to the filing requirements provided by 807 KAR 5:001, Sections 14 and 15, the applicant shall submit with its application, the following:
  - (a) A copy of a valid third-party beneficiary agreement guaranteeing the continued operation of the sewage treatment facilities or other evidence of financial integrity such

as will insure the continuity of sewage service.

(b) A copy of a preliminary approval issued by the Division of Water Quality of the Kentucky Department for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection approving the plans and specifications of the proposed construction.

(c) A detailed map of the sewage treatment facilities showing location of plant, effluent discharge, collection mains, manholes, and utility service area.

(d) A detailed estimated cost of construction which should include all capitalized costs (construction, engineering, legal, administrative, etc.).

(e) A financial exhibit as described in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 12.

(f) The manner in detail in which it is proposed to finance the new construction, specifically stating amount to be invested, recouped through lot sales, or contributions (to be) received, etc.

(g) An estimated cost of operation after the proposed facilities are completed.

(h) An estimate of the total number of customers to be served by the proposed sewage treatment facilities, initially and ultimately the class of customers served (i.e., residential, commercial, apartments, recreational, institutional, etc.) and the average monthly water consumption for each class of customer.

(i) A copy of the latest tax returns (federal and state, if applicable) filed by the applicant.

(j) A detailed depreciation schedule of all treatment plant, property and facilities, both existing and proposed, listing all major components of "package;" treatment plants separately.

(k) The proposed rates to be charged for each class of customers and an estimate of the annual revenues derived from the customers using the proposed rate schedules.

(l) A full and complete explanation of corporate or business relationships between the applicant and a parent or brother-sister corporation, subsidiary(ies), a development corporation(s), or any other party or business to afford the commission a full and complete understanding of the situation.

(m) If the establishment of rates is not sought by the applicant, omit paragraphs (i), (j), and (k) of this subsection.

(2) Application for authority to adjust rates. In addition to the filing requirements provided by 807 KAR 5:001, Sections 12, 14, and 17, the applicant shall submit with its application, the following:

(a) A copy of a valid third-party beneficiary agreement guaranteeing the continued operation of the sewage treatment facilities or other evidence of financial integrity such as will insure the continuity of sewage service.

(b) A comparative income statement (PSC Form) showing test period; per books, revenues and expenses, pro forms adjustments to those figures, and explanations for each adjusted entry.

(c) A detailed analysis of any expenses contained in the comparative income statement which represent an allocation or proration of the total expense.

(d) A detailed depreciation schedule of all treatment plant properties and facilities, listing all major components of "package;" treatment plants separately.

(e) Copies of all service contracts entered into by the utility for outside services, such as but not limited to: operation and maintenance, sludge hauling, billing, collection, repairs, etc., in order to justify current contract services and charges or proposed changes in said contracts.

(f) A description of the applicant's property and facilities, including a statement of the net original cost (estimate if not known), the cost thereof to the applicant, and a current breakdown of contributed and noncontributed property and facilities owned by the applicant ("contributed property" means property paid for by others).

- (g) A detailed customer listing showing number of customers in each customer class and average water consumption for each class of customers.
  - (h) If the utility has billing and collection services provided by the Louisville Water Company, remittance advices from the Louisville Water Company showing revenues and collection charges should be submitted for the test period.
  - (i) A copy of the latest tax returns (federal and state, if applicable) filed by the applicant.
  - (j) A full and complete explanation of corporate or business relationships between the applicant and a parent or brother-sister corporation, subsidiary(ies), a development corporation(s), or any other party or business, to afford the commission a full and complete understanding of the situation.
- (3) Application for authority to issue securities, notes, bonds, stocks, or other evidences of indebtedness. In addition to the filing requirements, provided by 807 KAR 5:001, Sections 12, 14, and 17, the applicant shall submit with its application the following:
- (a) Copy of amortization schedules of present and proposed indebtedness.
  - (b) A full and complete explanation of any corporate or business relationships between the applicant and a parent or brother-sister corporation, subsidiary(ies), a development corporation(s), or any other party or business to afford the commission a full and complete understanding of the situation.

#### Section 4. Information Available to Customers.

- (1) System maps or records. Each utility shall maintain up-to-date maps, plans, or records of its entire force main and collection systems, with such other information as may be necessary to enable the utility to advise prospective customers, and others entitled to the information, as to the facilities available for serving any locality.
- (2) Rates, rules, and regulations. A schedule of approved rates for sewage service applicable for each class of customers and the approved rules and regulations of the sewage utility shall be available to any customer or prospective customer upon request.

#### Section 5. Quality of Service.

- (1) General. Each utility shall maintain and operate sewage treatment facilities of adequate size and properly equipped to collect, transport, and treat sewage, and discharge the effluent at the degree of purity required by the health laws of the State of Kentucky, and all other regulatory agencies, federal, state, and local, having jurisdiction over such matters.
- (2) Limitations of service. No sewage disposal company shall be obliged to receive for treatment or disposal any material except sewage as defined by Section 2(7) of this administrative regulation. In compliance with the administrative regulation, the utility shall make all reasonable efforts to eliminate or prevent the entry of surface or ground water, or any corrosive or toxic industrial liquid waste into its sanitary sewer system. A utility may request assistance from the appropriate state, county, or municipal authorities in its efforts, but such a request does not relieve the utility of its aforementioned responsibilities.

#### Section 6. Continuity of Service.

- (1) Emergency interruptions. Each utility shall make all reasonable efforts to prevent interruptions of service and when such interruptions occur shall endeavor to reestablish service with the shortest possible delay consistent with the safety of its customers and the general public.
- (2) Scheduled interruptions. Whenever any utility finds it necessary to schedule an interruption of its service, it shall notify all customers to be affected by the interruption stating the time and anticipated duration of the interruption. Whenever possible,

scheduled interruptions shall be made at such hours as will provide least inconvenience to the customers.

(3) Record of interruptions. Each utility shall keep a complete record of all interruptions on its system. This record shall show the cause of interruption, date, time, duration, remedy, and steps taken to prevent recurrence.

#### Section 7. Design, Construction, and Operation.

(1) General. The sewage treatment facilities of the sewage utility shall be constructed, installed, maintained and operated in accordance with accepted good engineering practice to assure, as far as reasonably possible, continuity of service, uniformity in the quality of service furnished, and the safety of persons and property.

(2) Design and construction requirements. The design and construction of the sewage utility's collecting sewers, treatment plant and facilities, and all additions thereto and modifications thereof, shall conform to the requirements of the Kentucky Department for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality.

(3) Adequacy of facilities. The capacity of the sewage utility's sewage treatment facilities for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and sewage effluent must be sufficiently sized to meet all normal demands for service and provide a reasonable reserve for emergencies.

(4) Inspection of facilities. Each sewage utility shall adopt procedures for inspection of its sewage treatment facilities to assure safe and adequate operation of its facilities and compliance with commission rules. These procedures shall be filed with the commission. Unless otherwise authorized in writing by the commission, the sewage utility shall make inspections of collecting sewers and manholes on a scheduled basis at intervals not to exceed one (1) year, unless conditions warrant more frequent inspections and shall make inspections of all mechanical equipment on a daily basis. The sewage utility shall maintain a record of findings and corrective actions required, and/or taken, by location and date.

#### Section 8. Service Pipe Connections.

(1) Sewage utility's service pipe. The sewage utility shall install and maintain that portion of the service pipe from the main to the boundary line of the easement, public road, or street, under which such main may be located.

(2) Customer's service pipe.

(a) The customer shall install and maintain that portion of the service pipe from the end of the sewage utility's portion into the premises served.

(b) Requirements for customer's service pipe. That portion of the service pipe installed and maintained by the customer shall conform to all reasonable rules of the utility. It shall be constructed of materials approved by the sewage utility and installed under the inspection of the sewage utility.

(3) Restriction on installation. A sewer service pipe shall not be laid in the same trench with a water pipe.

(4) Inspection. If a governmental agency requires an inspection of the customer's plumbing, the sewage utility shall not connect the customer's service pipe until it has received notice from the inspection agency certifying that the customer's plumbing is satisfactory.

(8 Ky.R. 833; eff. 4-7-1982; TAm 1-30-2013; Crt eff. 3-27-2019; Crt eff. 3-23-2026.)