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## NEWS RELEASE

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# **PSC Sets Public Meetings in Water Service Corp. Case**

## *Comments on proposed rate increase taken in Middlesboro, Clinton*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (June 1, 2011)** – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold public meetings this month in Middlesboro and Clinton to receive comments on a request for a rate increase by Water Service Corp. of Kentucky.

“This meeting will allow the PSC to hear directly from the public as it prepares to consider whether the proposed new rates are fair, just and reasonable,” PSC Chairman David Armstrong said.

The meetings are scheduled for:

### **Middlesboro**

**Wednesday, June 8, 2011, 6:30 p.m. EDT**

Middlesboro Community Center

705 North Petersborough Ave.

### **Clinton**

**Wednesday, June 22, 2011, 5:30 p.m. CDT**

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Courtroom

Hickman County Courthouse, Clinton

Water Service’s application and related documents are available on the PSC website, [psc.ky.gov](http://psc.ky.gov). The case number is 2010-00476.

Water Service Corp. has about 7,350 customers in Hickman and Bell counties. The PSC is holding the public meeting in response to requests from the company’s customers and elected officials.

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Water Service Corp. has proposed to increase its rates by about 22 percent. For Water Service Corp. customers in Middlesboro in Bell County, the average monthly residential bill would increase by \$4.37, from \$19.93 to \$24.30.

In the Clinton service area in Hickman County, the average monthly residential water bill would increase by \$5.97, from \$27.25 to \$33.22, a figure that includes school taxes. The sewer rates in Clinton, where the sewer system is operated by Water Service Corp. under a contract with the city, are not part of the rate case.

Water Service Corp. was last granted a rate increase in November 2009. The company says in its application that the new increase is needed to pay for modernization of information management systems at its parent company, which handles customer service and billing functions for the Kentucky operations.

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed rate increase may do so at the meeting. Depending on the number of people wishing to speak, the length of oral comments may be limited.

Written comments will be accepted at the meeting. Written comments also may be mailed to the PSC at P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, KY 40602, faxed to 502-564-9625 or e-mailed from the PSC website.

The evidentiary hearing in the case, at which Water Service Corp. will appear before the PSC, will be held at the PSC offices at 211 Sower Boulevard in Frankfort on Thursday, July 14 beginning at 10 a.m. EDT. It will be open to the public, but there will be only limited opportunity for public comments. Written comments will be accepted through the conclusion of the hearing.

The evidentiary hearing may be viewed live on the PSC website.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 100 employees.