



# Breathitt County

## Water District

*Making Breathitt County*

*A Better Place One Drop at a Time.*

November 9, 2023

Linda C. Bridwell, Executive Director  
Public Service Commission of Kentucky  
211 Sower Boulevard  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

RE: Rate Adjustment Timing  
Case No.- 2022-00136

Dear Ms. Bridwell,

Please accept this letter as a written comment and a request made by the Breathitt County Water District regarding the timing of the initiation and implementation of the rate adjustment recommended by the Public Service Commission on October 27, 2023.

1. Although Breathitt County does not agree with the Staff's removal of labor expenses from certain nonrecurring charges, Breathitt County does not wish to contest that adjustment in this case. The district's failure to object to Staff's findings and recommendations concerning the reduction of certain Non-Recurring Charges shall not be construed as a waiver of Breathitt County's right to contest a similar finding or recommendation in a future rate proceeding. Breathitt County expressly reserves its right to do so.
2. Breathitt County concurs with the findings presented in the Staff Report regarding water rates.
3. Breathitt County waives its right to request an informal conference or hearing in this case.



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As the P.S.C. knows, Breathitt County was struck by a devastating flood in July 2022. The flooding caused hundreds of homes to be destroyed and local aid groups and government officials tell us it could be nearly a decade before the homes and local infrastructure could return to normalcy in the worst affected areas of the county. Breathitt County has suffered a significant decline in population due to the flood due to citizens being forced to relocate to other parts of the state to find homes. Currently many infrastructure, job creation, and tourism projects are being proposed, and grant funding is being sought to fund those projects. The county population, governing bodies, including the Breathitt County Water District are working hard to try and restore life to a semblance of normalcy.

The Breathitt County Water District Board met recently and discussed the proposed rate adjustment as recommended by the P.S.C. The Board members voted unanimously to ask the P.S.C. to approve the rate increase, but to spread implementation of the increase over a period of four (4) years.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. The Board respectfully requests that the P.S.C. grant their request for a staged implementation of the proposed rate increase.

Sincerely,

BOBBY THORPE, CHAIRMAN  
BREATHITT COUNTY WATER DISTRICT