

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

<b>In the Matter of:</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Electronic Application of</b>	)	
<b>Bluegrass Water Utility Operating</b>	)	
<b>Company, LLC for a Certificate of</b>	)	
<b>Public Convenience and Necessity for the</b>	)	<b>Case No. 2024-00170</b>
<b>Installation of a Drain Field at the</b>	)	
<b>Marshall Ridge System or an Order</b>	)	
<b>Declaring the Installation is an Extension in</b>	)	
<b>the Ordinary Course of Business</b>	)	

**AFFIDAVIT OF JAKE FREEMAN**

I, Jake Freeman, being first duly sworn, do hereby verify, state, and affirm that the following is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry.

1. I am employed as Director of Engineering by Central States Water Resources (“CSWR”), the Manager of Bluegrass Water Utility Operating Company, LLC (“Bluegrass Water” or “Company”).

2. In my role as Director, I have knowledge of the proposed installation of the drain field at the Marshall Ridge facility (“Marshall Ridge”) as well as the Company’s investigation of reasonable alternatives; and I have sponsored several of the Company’s responses to Commission staff’s requests for information.

3. As part of its due diligence, the Company evaluated, among other options, the possibility of connecting to the Paducah McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency (“JSA”) as an alternative to installing the drain field at Marshall Ridge. At that time, the nearest JSA manhole was located approximately 4,090 feet from Marshall Ridge.

4. The Company obtained a preliminary cost estimate for connecting to JSA and determined that it was more cost-effective to install a drain field.

5. On July 8, 2024, the Company filed its application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (“CPCN”) to install the drain field at Marshall Ridge (the “Application”).

**Case No. 2024-00170  
Application Exhibit 7  
Affidavit of Jake Freeman**

6. More than four months later, on November 19, 2024, the Director of JSA, John Hodges, filed public comments in this matter stating that a developer would be paying to extend the JSA sewer system to Arcadia Pines “very shortly.” Arcadia Pines is a subdivision near the Marshall Ridge facility. According to Mr. Hodges, the developer’s plans were in the comment and review process. JSA had not shared this information with the Company before filing its public comments.

7. Since JSA filed its public comments in this matter, Bluegrass Water and its outside engineering consultants, 21 Design Group, have communicated with JSA about the potential expansion as further described below.

8. In late November, 2024, Kyle Ruediger, PE, of 21 Design Group called Mr. Hodges to discuss JSA’s stated intent to extend the sewer line to Arcadia Pines. After several email exchanges, the parties discussed the matter in early December, with Bluegrass Water seeking more detailed information from JSA.<sup>1</sup>

9. On January 6, 2025, Mr. Ruediger emailed Mr. Hodges inquiring as to whether JSA intended to extend its sewer system in early 2025; Mr. Ruediger requested an approximate timeline from JSA.<sup>2</sup>

10. On January 16, 2025, Mr. Hodges responded by stating that he believed extension plans were on track for early 2025. He also stated, however, that he had not seen revised plans for the sewer but anticipated that he would within approximately thirty (30) days.<sup>3</sup>

11. On January 24, 2025, Mr. Ruediger requested an update on JSA’s development plans.<sup>4</sup>

12. On January 27, 2025, Mr. Hodges responded by stating that JSA was awaiting the developer’s submittal.<sup>5</sup>

13. On February 11, 2025, Bluegrass Water followed up with JSA and is awaiting an update on JSA’s expansion plans.

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<sup>1</sup> See Exhibit A attached to Bluegrass Water’s Supplemental Response to Request No. 2-1 e.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

14. In the meantime, and as the Company stated in its Application, the existing drain field suffers from continuing compliance issues that predate Bluegrass Water's acquisition of the facility. Because the drain field is not salvageable, the Company must implement a solution soon. Therefore, the timing of JSA's proposed expansion, along with the cost of connecting to it, will be key determinants in evaluating whether connecting to JSA is a reasonable alternative to installing the proposed drain field.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

  
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Jake Freeman, Affiant

STATE OF Tennessee )  
 ) ss:  
COUNTY OF Davidson )

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

My commission expires: 11/3/25

  
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Notary Public



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