

**AFFIDAVIT**  
**of**  
**JESSICA FILIATREAU, P. E.**

The Affiant, Jessica Filiatreau, P. E., after first being duly sworn, states as follows:

1. My name is Jessica Filiatreau, P. E. I am the City Civil Engineer for the City of Bardstown, Kentucky (“Bardstown”). I have served in this capacity since I started working for Bardstown in May 2010. I am a licensed professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

2. A substantial portion of my duties as City Civil Engineer involve planning for both the short-term and long-range needs of Bardstown’s water system. This includes source of supply, treatment, storage, transmission, and distribution of the water to our retail and wholesale customers. Then, once the Bardstown City Council makes a decision on these proposed projects, I am responsible for implementing these plans and making sure that the projects are constructed and installed in a timely and cost-effective manner.

3. Bardstown provides water to residential, commercial, and industrial retail customers and wholesale water service to the City of Bloomfield, North Nelson Water District, LaRue County Water District No. 1, and the City of New Haven

(whose water system is now owned and operated by LaRue County Water District No. 1).

4. Bardstown operates a water treatment plant which draws water from Sympton Lake with supplemental withdrawal from Beech Fork River. Both of these sources are very susceptible to drought. As a result, Bardstown has had numerous raw water studies performed over the past four (4) decades dating back to 1989 to locate a supplemental source of supply. No raw water alternative provided a reliable and affordable solution to this problem. An alternative to purchase finished water from Louisville Water Company was considered in 2011 and revisited in 2021. In 2018 Bardstown made the switch to chloramine as its primary disinfection in part to be compatible when comingling finished water with LWC if that alternative water source was to be implemented. Bardstown has determined that an interconnection with the Louisville Water Company will be the best short-term and long-range source of supplemental water for Bardstown and its customers.

#### **Purpose of Affidavit**

5. The purpose of this Affidavit is to inform the Public Service Commission (“PSC”) of the critical need for the Nelson County Water Supply Project and to strongly encourage the PSC to approve the Water Supply Agreement dated September 25, 2024, between the Louisville Water Company and North

Nelson Water District (the “Louisville Water Agreement”) and the Water Supply Agreement dated September 17, 2024, between North Nelson Water District and Bardstown (the “Bardstown Agreement”) as expeditiously as possible . The Nelson County Water Supply Project cannot become a reality without the PSC’s approval of both the Louisville Water Agreement and the Bardstown Agreement.

### **Need for Supplemental Water**

6. Bardstown has a significant need for a supplemental water supply source to meet the current and future demands of the customers it serves. The residents, schools, businesses, and industrial plants located in Bardstown, Bloomfield, New Haven, Boston, Nelson County, substantial portions of LaRue County, Fredericktown in Washington County, and Youngers Creek in Hardin County, depend upon Bardstown Water to supply its current and future water needs. Bardstown is facing these **challenges**:

- A. **Limited Raw Water Supply.** Its raw water sources (Simpson Lake and Beech Fork River) cannot be expanded to supply the water demands of Bardstown’s increased population and its commercial, industrial (including distilleries), and wholesale customers.
- B. **Drought Susceptibility.** As stated above, both raw water sources for Bardstown – Beech Fork River and Simpson Lake are highly susceptible to drought.
- C. **Rapid Growth.** Bardstown has experienced and continues to experience a rapid growth in its industrial base, especially its distilleries, which use and plan to use even larger volumes of water.

- D. **Need for Supplemental Source of Water.** The proposed interconnection of Louisville Water’s infrastructure with Bardstown’s water system via the approximately 8.75 miles of 24-inch diameter water main to be constructed along Kentucky Highway 245 by the North Nelson Water District (“North Nelson”) will provide Bardstown with an adequate and reliable source of finished water to supplement the water treated by Bardstown at its existing water treatment plant. This project is known as the Nelson County Water Supply Project. This Project will solve Bardstown’s limited water supply and drought susceptibility problems which have plagued Bardstown for decades. It will also enable Bardstown to meet its current and future demands for water caused by the rapid growth and water demands of its industrial customers.
- E. **Compliance with America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (“AWIA”).** The AWIA requires water utilities to perform risk and resiliency assessments. The Nelson County Water Supply Project will reduce risk and improve resiliency issues identified by Bardstown.

7. Bardstown’s average daily water sales total approximately 4.2 million gallons per day (MGD). As shown in **Appendix A** to this Affidavit, Bardstown’s average daily demand is rapidly increasing because of the increased water demands of its current distilleries. The demand from these distilleries alone is rapidly approaching 1.0 MGD and will exceed 1.5 MGD by 2028. By 2030, this demand will exceed 2.0 MGD. The increased demand will cause Bardstown’s average daily water sales to approach 6.0 MGD, which is an increase of 1.8 MGD or over a 40 percent increase over the next five (5) years.

### **Regional Project**

8. The Nelson County Water Supply Project is truly a regional solution for a regional problem. The Nelson County Fiscal Court and all the water utilities

in Nelson County recognized the critical need for Bardstown to obtain an adequate and reliable supplemental water source. This realization caused the Nelson County Fiscal Court and all the water utilities in Nelson County to reach an agreement that the entire cleaner water grant funds allocated to Nelson County by the Kentucky General Assembly for 2021 (Grant 21CWW168 for \$1,697,955) and 2022 (Grant 22CWW203 for \$2,839,085) would be used for the Nelson County Water Supply Project. These grants total \$4,537,040. In addition, the Nelson County Fiscal Court contributed \$3,300,000 of the funds which it received from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) toward this Project. To further emphasize the importance of this Project, the 2022 Kentucky General Assembly appropriated \$10,000,000 toward this Project. As a result, North Nelson will be able to construct the Nelson County Water Supply Project without using any of its own funds or without borrowing any money whatsoever.

### **Bardstown System Improvements**

9. Once the funding was in place to construct the Nelson County Water Supply Project, Bardstown immediately undertook two (2) major capital improvement projects to enable it to “receive” the new supplemental supply of water and “move” or convey this water to the locations within its distribution system where this water would be consumed. One of these projects, the North Nelson Interconnect Project has already been completed at a cost of **\$2,873,515**. This Project consisted

of constructing 3,641 linear feet of 24-inch diameter ductile iron pipe, 640 linear feet of 16-inch diameter ductile iron pipe, and a 1,600 gallon per minute pump station. This Project starts at the master meter location where North Nelson will deliver the water it purchases from Louisville Water to Bardstown. **Bardstown would not have constructed this Project and used its own financial reserves, but for the assurance that the Nelson County Water Supply Project would be constructed by North Nelson.**

10. The second major capital improvement project is identified as the East Bardstown Water Improvement Project. This Project will cost a total of **\$9,966,000**. The City has entered into two separate KIA Fund B loan agreements to fund this expenditure. It consists of approximately 9,200 linear feet of 16-inch diameter ductile iron pipe, a 2,000 gallon per minute pump station, and a 1.5-million-gallon elevated water storage tank. This Project is currently under construction and will be completed by the time the Nelson County Water Supply Project is finished.

11. The total cost of these two (2) major capital improvement projects undertaken by Bardstown with no state or federal grant assistance is **\$12,839,715**.

### **Critical Timeline**

12. Distilleries in Bardstown's water service area made requests for additional water for new distilleries and major expansion at existing plants beginning in 2021 with requests stepping up in 2025 through 2030. Bardstown has been

working with the water utilities as described above for the last three (3) years to get additional water to the community to meet these requests. Private development happens at a much faster pace. Between 2016 and 2021 (5years) distillery water usage increased 138%. In January of 2025 (just a few months away), **distillery water demand is expected to double from the 2021 usage (an increase of 100% in 4 years)**. This is over 200% increase in usage in less than a decade. Bardstown has moved as quickly as it can to meet its customers needs, but will still be susceptible to drought and peak daily demands until the NN & LWC projects are complete. These projects need to be online as soon as practical to meet the water demands in the Bardstown/Nelson County community. Bardstown needs to be able to provide and sell water to meet the growth of the community and generate much needed revenue to cover its capital expenses without burdening its rate payers.

### **Conclusion**

13. For the foregoing reasons, Bardstown strongly urges the PSC to expeditiously approve the Louisville Water Agreement and the Bardstown Agreement so North Nelson can construct the Nelson County Water Supply Project in a timely manner. Otherwise, Bardstown will not be able to receive the supplemental supply of treated water which it desperately needs.

Jessica Filiatreau  
Jessica Filiatreau, P. E.

City Civil Engineer  
City of Bardstown  
220 N. Fifth St.  
Bardstown, KY 40004

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY    )  
  ) SS  
COUNTY OF NELSON    )

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Jessica Filiatreau, on this 8 day of  
November, 2024.

Stephanie Holbert  
Notary Public

Notary No. KYNP 53589

My Commission expires: June 15, 2026



# APPENDIX A



# BARDSTOWN

## Distillery Water Usage & Projections

