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April 21, 2011

Sullivan, Mountjoy, Stainback & Miller  
Attention: James M. Miller  
100 St. Ann Street  
P.O. Box 727  
Owensboro, Kentucky 42302-0727

Re: Big Rivers Electric Corporation  
Petition for Confidential Treatment received 3/18/11  
PSC Reference – Case No. 2011-00036

Dear Mr. Miller:

The Public Service Commission has received the Petition for Confidential Treatment you filed on March 18, 2011 on behalf of Big Rivers Electric Corporation, ("Big Rivers") to protect certain information filed with the Commission as confidential pursuant to Section 7 of 807 KAR 5:001 and KRS 61.870. The information you seek to have treated as confidential is identified as Responses to Commission Staff's First Information Request, Item Nos. 25 and 26. More specifically, Item No. 25 is the compensation paid to members of the Board of Directors; and Item 26 is the salaries and other compensation paid to executive officers.

Your justification for having the Commission handle this material as confidential is that the public disclosure of the information would result in an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

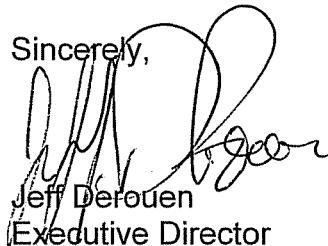
Based on a review of the information and pursuant to KRS 61.878 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, as well as the response in opposition by the Attorney General's Office and your reply, the Commission has determined that the compensation paid to directors and executive officers fails to meet the criteria for confidentiality, and therefore is **DENIED**.

The Commission's decision to deny confidential protection is based on the fact that Big Rivers has requested to include the compensation paid to directors and executive officers as an expense in base rates. As a result, the three owner members of Big Rivers, and in turn their retail owner members, are required to pay this compensation

through their rates. The documentation filed to support an increase in rates should be open and transparent, and all ratepayers have a right to review this documentation to ensure that the utility's expenses are reasonable. Only through the open and transparent disclosure of these expenses will ratepayers have confidence in the utility's decisions on compensation and in the Commission's process for determining rates that are fair, just, and reasonable. Denial of confidential protection is consistent with the Commission's prior decisions in the following rate cases: Jackson Energy Cooperative, Case No. 2007-00333, letter dated December 5, 2007; Kentucky Utilities, Case No. 2008-00251, letter dated September 2, 2008; and Louisville Gas & Electric Company, Case No. 2008-00252, letter dated September 2, 2008.

The information denied confidentiality will be withheld from public inspection for 20 days from the date of this letter. If you disagree with the Commission's decision, you may seek rehearing with the Commission within 20 days of the date of this letter under the provisions of KRS 278.400

Sincerely,



Jeff Derouen  
Executive Director

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cc: Parties of Record