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NEWS RELEASE

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Siting Board Local Hearing on Proposed Vectren Transmission Line Still Set For Thursday in Henderson *Legal deadlines do not allow postponement due to death of board member*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Aug. 31, 2010) – A public hearing on a proposed electric transmission line in Henderson and Webster counties will be held as scheduled Thursday despite the death of Henderson County Judge/Executive Sandy Lee Watkins last week.

“Unfortunately, deadlines established in Kentucky statutes make it impossible to delay the hearing in response to this tragic event,” Kentucky Public Service Commission Chairman David Armstrong said.

Armstrong also serves as chairman of the Kentucky State Board on Electric Generation and Transmission Siting. The board is considering an application by Vectren Corp. to construct about 15 miles of 345-kilovolt transmission line in Henderson and Webster counties.

Watkins represented Henderson County on the Siting Board in the Vectren case.

“I knew Judge Watkins for more than two decades,” Armstrong said. “He was a good man and a dedicated public servant. Our thoughts are with his family, his friends, and his constituents.

“I know that I and the other members of the Siting Board were very much looking forward to his wise counsel in this matter,” Armstrong said. “Judge Watkins’ unexpected death is a loss to the board, to his community, and to the Commonwealth.”

The hearing will begin at 5:30 p.m. CDT on Thursday, Sept. 2, at the Henderson Fine Arts Center on the campus of Henderson Community College, 2660 S. Green Street.

The Kentucky statute that established the Siting Board requires that any local public hearing be held within 60 days of the filing of an application and that the meeting be announced at least 20 days in advance. Vectren filed their application on July 15, making it impossible to reschedule the local hearing.

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Vectren’s proposed line is to connect the company’s A.B. Brown power plant in Posey County, Ind., to a Big Rivers Electric Corp. substation at its Reid power plant near Sebree. It is part of a 70-mile line that also will extend from the Brown plant to Duke Energy Indiana’s Gibson power plant northwest of Evansville. Nearly the entire Kentucky portion is in Henderson County.

Vectren will provide a brief overview of the project at the beginning of the hearing. Other parties to the case also will be allowed to make brief presentations. Members of the public then will have an opportunity to make comments.

The application (case number 2010-00223) and related documents are available on the Siting Board website: http://psc.ky.gov/efs/efs_search.aspx?case=2010-00223

Anyone wishing to submit written comments on the Vectren proposal may do so at the meeting in Henderson. Written comments also may be mailed to the Siting Board at P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Ky. 40602, faxed to 502-564-9625 or e-mailed via the PSC website, psc.ky.gov. Comments should cite the case number (2010-00223).

By law, the Siting Board consists of the three members of the PSC, the secretary of the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet or his designee, the secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development or his designee and two local members. The local members serve on the Siting Board only for the specific case for which they were appointed.

In addition to the PSC commissioners, the Siting Board members for the Vectren case are Robert Amato, designated by Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Leonard Peters; and Ken Robinson, designated by Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet Secretary Larry Hayes. Judge Watkins and Tommy Chandler, a resident of Webster County, were the local members. Until Governor Steve Beshear appoints a new judge/executive for Henderson County, Acting Henderson County Judge/Executive Hugh McCormick will serve on the Siting Board.

The PSC’s 100 employees provide staff and administrative support to the Siting Board.

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NOTE REGARDING PARKING: DUE TO CONSTRUCTION, THE MAIN PARKING LOT FOR THE FINE ARTS CENTER WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON SEPT. 2. THOSE ATTENDING THE SITING BOARD MEETING SHOULD USE EITHER THE PARKING LOT NEAR THE LIBRARY OR THE ONE BEHIND THE ACADEMIC AND TECHNICAL BUILDING. IT IS A SHORT WALK FROM THOSE LOTS TO THE FINE ARTS CENTER.

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