COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF BEAR FORK GAS)
COMPANY FOR FARM TAP RATE) CASE NO. 2009-00207
INCREASE)

INITIAL DATA REQUEST OF COMMISSION STAFF TO BEAR FORK GAS COMPANY

Bear Fork Gas Company, LLC ("Bear Fork"), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, is to file with the Commission the original and six copies of the following information, with a copy to all parties of record. The information requested herein is due no later than 10 days from the date of this Order. Responses to requests for information shall be appropriately bound, tabbed and indexed. Each response shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to the questions related to the information provided.

Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or association or a governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

Bear Fork shall make timely amendment to any prior response if it obtains information which indicates that the response was incorrect when made or, though correct when made, is now incorrect in any material respect. For any request to which Bear Fork fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information,

Bear Fork shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention should be given to copied material to ensure that it is legible. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request. When applicable, the requested information shall be separately provided for total company operations and jurisdictional operations.

- 1. Provide the number of gas wells involved in serving the 83 farm tap customers.
- 2. Refer to the Gas Price Calculation provided on the first page of Bear Fork's application. Bear Fork has developed its gas cost based on the 12-month New York Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX") strip as of April 1, 2009 and the Appalachian Differential. What is the current 12-month NYMEX strip rate? Provide the source of the Appalachian Differential of \$.30 for 2007, 2008, and 2009.
- 3. Provide a list of any other indices that Bear Fork considered for pricing the gas.
- 4. Provide the total volumes sold by Bear Fork to non-farm tap customers in 2007 and 2008, along with the revenue per Mcf derived from these sales.
- 5. The Btu conversion rate used in Bear Fork's application is 1.2340 as provided by a Chesapeake billing statement. Provide the basis for this conversion rate as well as a gas analysis for the wells serving Bear Fork's farm tap customers.
 - 6. Explain the relationship between Chesapeake and Bear Fork.

- 7. Refer to Schedule 2-Administrative Personnel Cost in the revised application dated June 24, 2009.
- a. Explain the basis for the calculation of the base pay for Administrative Personnel.
- b. Provide a detailed explanation for the significant increase in the base pay amount from 2007 to 2008.
- 8. Refer to Schedule 3–Meter Replacement, Supplies, etc. in both the original application dated June 1, 2009 and the revised application dated June 24, 2009.
- a. Provide a detailed explanation for the difference in the amount of \$1,000 for pipeline repairs in the revised filing as opposed to \$225 in the original filing.
- b. Provide a detailed explanation for the difference in the amount of \$350 for paint, supplies, etc. in the revised filing as opposed to \$111 in the original filing.
- 9. Refer to Schedule 5-Postage & Office Supplies in both the original application dated June 1, 2009 and the revised application dated June 24, 2009. Provide a detailed explanation for the difference in the amount of \$1,075 for office supplies in the revised filing as opposed to \$50 in the original filing.
- 10. Is Bear Fork still assessing the charges as filed with the Commission in 2001 (10 percent late payment penalty; \$150 for new service tap; \$40 reconnect fee; \$100 deposit; \$50 for reconnect after customer has requested disconnection; \$25 returned check charge; \$15 collection fee)? Is Bear Fork proposing to continue assessing these charges in the same amounts? If Bear Fork is proposing to change any charge, provide cost support for each proposed change in special charge(s).

Executive Director

Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

DATED <u>JUL - 8 2009</u>

cc: All Parties

Sandra C Newsom President Bear Fork Gas Company P. O. Box 2227 Pikeville, KY 41502

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