## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2014 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2016

CASE NO. 2017-00003

## <u>ORDER</u>

On February 20, 2017, Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") filed a petition pursuant to KRS 61.878 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2), requesting that the Commission grant confidential protection to the identified portions of the following: Responses to Items 9, 22, and 25.b. of the Commission's Requests for Information contained in Appendix B to the Commission's Order dated February 6, 2017.

Specifically, KU seeks confidential treatment for: (1) its planned maintenance schedules (response to Item 9); 2) a copy of four settlement agreements with one of KU's coal suppliers (response to Item 22); and 3) bid analysis information (response to Item 25.b.).

As the basis for its request, KU states that public disclosure of its response to Item 9 regarding KU's planned maintenance schedules would make public information about KU's "down time." KU states that this would harm its ability to negotiate with contractors and vendors and could result in higher prices for KU's customers. KU requests that this information remain confidential for five years. Regarding its response to Item 22, KU states that disclosure of the settlement agreements could give an unfair advantage to current and potential coal suppliers in any future bidding process and could result in higher prices for KU's customers. KU requests that this information remain confidential indefinitely.

Finally, KU asserts that disclosure of the information in its response to Item 25.b. could also be detrimental to KU's customers and result in higher prices by revealing the business model the company uses for evaluating bids for coal supply. KU requests that this information remain confidential for five years.

Having considered the petition and the material at issue, the Commission finds that the designated material contained in KU's responses to Items 9, 22. and 25(b) is generally recognized as confidential or proprietary, and therefore meets the criteria for confidential treatment and is exempted from public disclosure pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1) and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. KU's petition for confidential protection for its response to Items 9, and 25.b. is granted, and the information shall not be placed in the public record or made available for public inspection for a period of five years or until further Orders of this Commission.

2. KU's petition for confidential protection for its response to Item 22 is granted, and the information shall not be placed in the public record or made available until further orders of this Commission.

3. Use of the material in question in any Commission proceeding shall be in compliance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(9).

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4. KU shall inform the Commission if the material in question becomes publicly available or no longer qualifies for confidential treatment.

5. If a non-party to this proceeding requests to inspect the material granted confidential treatment by this Order and the period during which the material has been granted confidential treatment has not expired, then KU shall have 20 days from receipt of written notice of the request to demonstrate that the material still falls within the exclusions from disclosure requirements established in KRS 61.878. If KU is unable to make such demonstration, the requested material shall be made available for inspection. Otherwise, the Commission shall deny the request for inspection.

The Commission shall not make the material available for inspection for
20 days following an Order finding that the material no longer qualifies for confidential
protection in order to allow KU to seek a remedy afforded by law.

By the Commission

## ENTERED

AUG 1 8 2017 KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST: Acting Executive Director \*Honorable Allyson K Sturgeon Senior Corporate Attorney LG&E and KU Energy LLC 220 West Main Street Louisville, KENTUCKY 40202

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