# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

#### In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY	)	
POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A	)	
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE	)	
AND NECESSITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL	)	CASE NO.
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION AT THE	)	2021-00004
MITCHELL GENERATING STATION, AN	)	
AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE	)	
PLAN, AND REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL	)	
SURCHARGE TARIFF SHEETS	)	

### ORDER

On March 26, 2021 Kentucky Power Company (Kentucky Power) filed a motion, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, and KRS 61.878, requesting that the Commission grant confidential treatment for ten years for attachments to documentation pertaining to data request responses. The particular content of these attachments is vendor and supplier pricing information, cost and generating unit-specific information, non-public Projected Capacity Factors through 2040, variable rate operations and management (O&M) forecast for Mitchell and Big Sandy used to calculate variable O&M through 2050, and forecasted nominal delivered cost of coal for Mitchell through 2040.

In support of its motion, Kentucky Power argues that public disclosure of vendor pricing will provide an unfair competitive advantage to Kentucky Power's competitors as they will be able to calculate bids made by vendors and reduce the number of qualified bidders on Kentucky Power projects.

Kentucky Power also asserts that release of the following information would hamper Kentucky Power's competitive ability in the market and provide competitors an unfair economic advantage, including diminishing Kentucky Power's bargaining ability: supplier designs; generation investment decisions; plant operational data; project, plant, and fuel costs, including projected fixed costs through 2040, transmission costs through 2050, projected ongoing capital through 2040, and average fuel costs through 2040; projected non-fuel O&M through 2040, projected variable production costs through 2040, planning peak loads through 2050, emissions costs through 2050; and margins through 2050.

Kentucky Power argues release of Projected Capacity Factors through 2040, variable O&M rates for Mitchell and Big Sandy, and delivered cost of coal for Mitchell through 2040 would permit an unfair commercial advantage to Kentucky Power's competitors and suppliers and allow for formulations of strategies that would hinder Kentucky Power's ability to be competitive in the market. Kentucky Power also indicates this information is proprietary and used in pricing of products.

Lastly, Kentucky Power states all of the information referenced above is available only on a need-to-know basis within Kentucky Power and not disclosed in any form to persons outside of Kentucky Power, AEP, or its affiliates.

Having considered the motion and the material at issue, the Commission finds that vendor and supplier pricing information, cost and generating unit-specific information, non-public Projected Capacity Factors through 2040, variable rate operations and management (O&M) forecast for Mitchell and Big Sandy used to calculate variable O&M through 2050, and forecasted nominal delivered cost of coal for Mitchell through 2040 is

-2-

generally recognized as confidential or proprietary; and therefore meets the criteria for confidential treatment and is exempted from public disclosure pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, and KRS 61.878(1)(a), (c), and (k).

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. Kentucky Power's motion for confidential treatment is granted.
- 2. The designated material granted confidential treatment by this Order shall not be placed in the public record or made available for public inspection for ten years or until further Order of this Commission.
- 3. Use of the designated material granted confidential treatment by this Order in any Commission proceeding shall comply with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(9).
- 4. Kentucky Power shall inform the Commission if the designated material granted confidential treatment by this Order becomes publicly available or no longer qualifies for confidential treatment.
- 5. If a nonparty 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, Kentucky Power shall have 30 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 Kentucky Power is unable to make such demonstration, the requested material shall be made available for inspection. Otherwise, the Commission shall deny the request for inspection.
- 6. The Commission shall not make the requested material available for inspection for 30 days from the date of service of an Order finding that the material no

longer qualifies for confidential treatment in order to allow Kentucky Power to seek a
remedy afforded by law.
[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

## By the Commission

ENTERED

MAY 13 2021 rcs

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Executive Director

\*Angela M Goad Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601-8204

\*Kentucky Power Company 1645 Winchester Avenue Ashland, KY 41101

\*Christen M Blend American Electric Power Service Corporation 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor Post Office Box 16631 Columbus, OHIO 43216 \*Katie M Glass Stites & Harbison 421 West Main Street P. O. Box 634 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40602-0634

\*Jennifer J. Frederick American Electric Power Service Corporation 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor Post Office Box 16631 Columbus, OHIO 43216 \*Larry Cook Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601-8204

\*Jody Kyler Cohn Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OHIO 45202 \*J. Michael West Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601-8204

\*Joe F. Childers Childers & Baxter PLLC 300 Lexington Building, 201 West Sho Lexington, KENTUCKY 40507 \*Honorable Michael L Kurtz Attorney at Law Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OHIO 45202

\*John G Horne, II Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601-8204 \*Honorable Mark R Overstreet Attorney at Law Stites & Harbison 421 West Main Street P. O. Box 634 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40602-0634

\*Honorable Kurt J Boehm Attorney at Law Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OHIO 45202 \*Tanner Wolffram American Electric Power Service Corporation 1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor Post Office Box 16631 Columbus, OHIO 43216