Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky **Public Service Commission** 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Fax: (502) 564-3460 psc.ky.gov

September 8, 2010

PARTIES OF RECORD

RE: Informal Conference for Case No. 2010-00241 Case No. 2010-00242

Enclosed please find a memorandum that has been filed in the record of the above-referenced cases. Any comments regarding the contents of the memorandum should be submitted to the Commission within seven days of receipt of this letter. Any questions regarding this memorandum should be directed to Ron Handziak of the Commission Staff at 502-564-3940, extension 230.

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Attachment

David L. Armstrong Chairman

James W. Gardner Vice Chairman

Charles R. Borders Commissioner

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Kentu

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INTRA-AGENCY MEMORANDUM

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TO: Main Case File - Case No. 2010-00241 Main Case File - Case No. 2010-00242

FROM: Ronald Handziak, Team Leader

DATE: September 8, 2010

RE: Informal Conference of September 1, 2010

Pursuant to the Commission's July 13, 2010 Order, on September 1, 2010, representatives of Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E"), Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") and Commission Staff ("Staff") met at the Commission's offices to discuss LG&E and KU's testimony and responses to the first round of data requests in the current examination of the companies' environmental surcharge mechanism. A list of attendees is attached to this memorandum as Attachments 1 and 2

Representatives of LG&E and KU distributed a handout that provided an overview of their filing and their responses to information requested in Appendix B of the Commission's July 13, 2010 Order. LG&E and KU discussed the information contained in the handout, including the determination that there was an under-recovery of the surcharge for the billing period under review for both LG&E and KU. The handout is attached to this memorandum as Attachment 3.

Commission Staff asked a few clarifying questions related to information included in the handout and the response to the data request. LG&E and KU agreed to provide, within ten business days, further information regarding the tax rate used in a response to the data request. Because there are no intervenors in either case, LG&E and KU requested that the proceedings be submitted for decision based on the record. There being no other questions, the meeting adjourned.

cc: Parties of Record

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

CASE NO. 2010-00241

AN EXAMINATION BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE MECHANISM OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR THE SIX-MONTH BILLING PERIOD ENDING APRIL 30, 2010

SIGN IN

PERSON REPRESENTING Lead ÝSC m VAN Ô Le Kμ GLE

September 1, 2010

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

CASE NO. 2010-00242

AN EXAMINATION BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE MECHANISM OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR THE SIX-MONTH BILLING PERIOD ENDING APRIL 30, 2010

<u>SIGN IN</u>

PERSON m 105

September 1, 2010

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Case Nos. 2010-00241 and 2010-00242

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Louisville Gas and Electric Company Kentucky Utilities Company September 1, 2010

Review Cases

- Review Period
 - Six-month period for expense months of September
 2009 through February 2010
- Modification of ECR Mechanism
 - Revenue Requirement method implemented in the December 2009 expense month
 - Transition Period
- 2009 ECR Compliance Plan
 - Plans approved in December 2009
- Out-of-Period Correction
 - February 2010 expense month corrected in April 2010

Operation of the ECR

- Components that make up the under-collections:
 - Updating overall rate of return for the ECR Plan (overall rate of return including return on equity)
 - BESF-related issues
 - Use of 12-month average revenues to determine the billing factor
 - Transition months to implement revenue requirement method
 - Out-of-period correction for the February 2010 expense month corrected in April 2010

Over/(Under) Reconciliation

Combined Over/(Under) Recovery

(\$4,490,751) (\$5,714,763)

KU

(840, 943)(262,553)Due to BESF Calculation Differences Due to Use of BESF % (1,460,847)(344, 185)(146, 360)Due to Change in Rate of Return 728,316 10,290,045 62,884 Use of 12-Month Average Revenues Feb-10 Expense Month Correction (3,913,660)(941, 134)**Transition Months** (9,293,661) (4,083,414) (\$5,714,763) Subtotal (\$4,490,751)

Unreconciled Difference

(-)

(-)

LG&E

ECR Review Cases Technical Conference September 1, 2010 4

Modification of ECR Mechanism

- Commission approved modifications to the ECR Mechanism in its December 2, 2009 Orders, including:
 - Use of a revenue requirement method to calculate monthly billing factor in place of the percentage method (BESF method)
 - Elimination of two-month true-up
 - Revised ES Forms
- December 2009 Expense Month filing made on January 15, 2010 incorporated new forms and methodology
- Transition period includes December 2009 and January 2010 expense months

Transition Period

| | | Percentage Method in Use | | | Revenue Requirement Method in Use | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| | Expense Month | Sep-09 | Oct-09 | Nov-09 | Dec-09 | Jan-10 | Feb-10 |
| hod | PERCENTAGE METHOD (BESF) | | | | | | |
| Method | Collected thru Base Rates (Estimate) | Nov-09 | Dec-09 | Jan-10 | | | |
| Filing] | Collected thru Billing Factor | Nov-09 | Dec-09 | Jan-10 | | | |
| | REVENUE REQUIREMENT METHOD | | | | | | |
| Monthly | Collected thru Base Rates (Actual) | | | | Dec-09 | Jan-10 | Feb-10 |
| Mo | Collected thru Billing Factor | | | | Feb-10 | Mar-10 | Apr-10 |
| | | | | | | | |

6-Month Review Period

Transition Period

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2009 ECR Compliance Plans

- On December 23, 2009, the Commission approved the 2009 ECR Compliance Plans for KU and LG&E
 - KU 2009 Plan includes 6 projects
 - LG&E 2009 Plan includes 4 projects
 - Revised ES Forms
- Began including approved projects in the monthly filing for the December 2009 expense month billed in February 2010

Out-of-Period Correction

- February 2010 expense month included an overstatement of ECR revenue collected through base rates
- Correction filed with April 2010 expense month as prior period adjustment and recovered through June 2010 billing factor
- Crosses two six-month review periods
- Adjustment in this proceeding to avoid compounding the over/under recovery for customers
 - Adjustment to KU is \$3,913,660
 - Adjustment to LG&E is \$941,134

Out-of-Period Correction – Net Recovery Position

- Net under-recovery position KU
 - Cumulative under-recovery for the 6-month period is \$4,490,751
 - Adjustment for out-of-period correction is \$3,913,660
 - Net under-recovery position is \$577,091
- Net under-recovery position LG&E
 - Cumulative under-recovery for the 6-month period is \$5,714,763
 - Adjustment for out-of-period correction is \$941,134
 - Net under-recovery position is \$4,773,629

Recommendations – KU and LG&E

- Approve collection of net under-collections:
 - KU under-collection of \$577,091 over a one month period
 - LG&E under-collection of \$4,773,629 over a six month period
- Find environmental surcharge amounts for the billing period ending April 2010 just and reasonable
- Approve the use of an overall rate of return on capital using a return on equity of 10.63% beginning in the second billing month following the Commission's Order
 - 10.86% for KU
 - 11.18% for LG&E