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COMMISSION

Item No. 1

Page 1 of 1

Witness: Jim Adkins

BIG SANDY RECC
CASE NO. 2012-00030

RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INITIAL DATA REQUEST

Questions:

Please reference the Adkins testimony, p. 10, wherein the witness states that at the end of the proposed three (3) year scale-up for the residential customer charge, the customer charge will total \$17.50. Please reconcile this with the tariff sheets and Exhibit 21, which indicate the final customer charge will total \$18.00.

Response:

The proper amount is \$18.00. Please see the response to Item 5c (2) of the Commission Staff's Second Request for Information.

Witness: Alan Zumstein

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

2. Please reference the notice of proposed increase to Big Sandy's customers. Please identify where the notice (Exhibit D) states that the residential customer charge will increase three (3) times over a three (3) year period, together with the amounts of each such increase. **Response:** The PSC in a letter dated May 16, 2012 informed Big Sandy that it met the filing requirements.

a. Please identify and produce the source of data as to the anticipated percentage and dollar increase for each Rate Class. **Response:** Reference Exhibit J of the Application.

b. Please identify the kWh used per month to determine the "average percentage monthly bill" for each Rate Class and provide the source of the data if available. **Response:** Reference Exhibit J of the Application.

Witness: David Estep

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

3. In the event the Commission approves the proposed purchased power adjustment rider, and in the further event that the economy improves to the extent that the lag in the ability to make purchased power payments to EKPC is no longer a recurring issue, would Big Sandy be willing to file a tariff change in which the proposed rider is withdrawn? If not, why not? Please explain in detail. **Response:** The purchased power adjustment rider is not a function of the economy, but rather the weather. The purchase power adjustment rider is designed to smooth out the effects of weather as it relates to demand in relation to energy sales.

Witness: David Estepp

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

4. Please state, to the extent known, whether other EKPC member coops are experiencing similar problems on their own systems. **Response:** Big Sandy is not aware of to what extent other Kentucky cooperatives are experiencing this same effect.

a. If so, is EKPC developing a system-wide solution? If so, will any such system-wide solution mitigate or reduce the need for the instant filing? If not, why not? Explain in detail. **Response:** Big Sandy has informed EKPC of the effects it is having on Big Sandy's financial situation. EKPC has stated they will look into this. At this time, there has been no communication from EKPC related to this issue.

Witness: David Estep

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
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5. Provide a discussion of the extent to which the apparent deterioration of Big Sandy's financial condition is due to the fuel adjustment lag, a decline in revenue, or both. Please include in your response a discussion of the nature of the fuel adjustment lag, and any and all possible remedies which Big Sandy may have explored prior to the filing of this case. **Response:** A portion of the decline in margins is due to the fuel adjustment, but not the lag. As reflected in Exhibit 15, page 3, Big Sandy had a credit on the power bill of \$(1,762,977) and passed a credit on to its customers of \$(1,937,581). This resulted in a reduction of margins for the test year of \$(174,604). It should be noted that this reduction has been normalized out of both revenue and power costs. However, with the current fuel adjustment procedure, this will never be recovered by Big Sandy. The fuel adjustment procedure allows Big Sandy to recover any over/under from the prior month to the current month. However, when the fuel credit/charge is rolled into the base rate, this is done by adjusting the credit/charge by EKPC's roll in rate, reduced by line loss. As you can see, the loss sustained by Big Sandy by rolling in the fuel credit will never be recovered.

a. If the problem is predominantly one of declining revenue, would it not be more effective to request an increase in rates? **Response:** Big Sandy has normalized its revenues and expenses, and is requesting to increase its rates to achieve a TIER of 2.0x.

b. If the problem is predominantly one caused by the fuel adjustment lag, will the proposed purchased power adjustment clause rider alone not be adequate to address the issue? **Response:** Refer to the response above. The fuel adjustment lag and purchased power adjustment clause rider are separate issues. The fuel adjustment lag is proposed to levelize the markup between sales and purchase power on a monthly basis.

c. Why is it necessary to increase the customer charge in order to address the lag in the fuel adjustment charge? **Response:** The customer charge and lag in fuel adjustment are separate issues. The customer charge will have no effect on the fuel adjustment lag.

d. Why was no testimony provided regarding the proposed purchased power adjustment clause rider? **Response:** Big Sandy has included all information associated with the purchased power adjustment clause rider is included in Exhibit 22 of the Application.

BIG SANDY RECC
CASE NO. 2012-00030

RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INITIAL DATA REQUEST

Question:

Refer to the Adkins testimony, p. 7, response to question 12. Did the witness intend to refer to Big Sandy's electric rate classes rather than South Kentucky's?

Response:

The reference should be to Big Sandy.

BIG SANDY RECC
CASE NO. 2012-00030

RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INITIAL DATA REQUEST

Question:

Refer to the Adkins testimony, pp. 10-11, question 16 and response to question 17. Did counsel and the witness intend to refer to Big Sandy's application in this case and Big Sandy rather than South Kentucky?

Response:

Yes, the proper reference is to Big Sandy.

BIG SANDY RECC
CASE NO. 2012-00030

RESPONSE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INITIAL DATA REQUEST

Question:

Reference the Adkins testimony, p. 10, response to question 15, wherein he references "Exhibit JA-1." It appears this exhibit is missing from the application. Please provide a copy.

Response:

Exhibit JA-1 was not filed with the case and should not have been filed. The reference to it was made in error.

Witness: David Estep

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

9. Reference the "Notes to Financial Statements," note 9, "Related Party Transactions." Please identify the Big Sandy director who is an employee of a local bank where Big Sandy conducts some of its banking functions. **Response:** Director Kelly Shepherd is an employee of the local bank. He is not an owner, director, or in a decision making position at the bank.

a. Please identify what measures this director takes to remove himself from any actual or potential conflicts of interest at both Big Sandy and at the bank where he is employed. **Response:** When banking discussions are made by Big Sandy's board, Director Kelly excuses himself from the room and all discussions related to banking.

Witness: David Estep

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
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10. Please reference the "Notes to Financial Statements," note 10, "Commitments," wherein it is stated that Big Sandy is guarantor to \$40,000 of long-term EKPC commitments to RUS and CFC. Identify the interest rate EKPC is paying on this obligation. Has EKPC re-financed this obligation at anytime in the last four (4) years?

Response: The obligation was for a subsidiary corporation of EKPC. The subsidiary has just been dissolved; therefore, Big Sandy is no longer obligated for any of this debt of EKPC and its subsidiary.

Witness: Alan Zumstein

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

11. Reference account 427.10, "RUS Interest," which indicates an increase of \$73,014 over the prior year's sum. Please provide an explanation for this increase. **Response:** Big Sandy advanced \$1,000,000 of loan funds during the test year.

Witness: Alan Zumstein

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
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12. Provide the latest line loss figures for Big Sandy's system. **Response:** The line loss for the test year is as follows:

	kwh		
	Sales	Purchases	Percent
September	18,128,967	17,454,300	-3.9%
October	15,139,851	17,005,779	11.0%
November	18,118,809	22,093,713	18.0%
December	32,049,577	34,651,508	7.5%
January	31,646,228	32,757,738	3.4%
February	25,713,913	24,154,725	-6.5%
March	18,880,949	22,223,335	15.0%
April	18,382,593	16,813,983	-9.3%
May	15,647,688	17,924,370	12.7%
June	18,995,480	19,936,390	4.7%
July	20,359,955	23,698,342	14.1%
August	22,581,583	21,778,640	-3.7%
	<u>255,645,593</u>	<u>270,492,823</u>	5.5%

Witness: Alan Zumstein

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

13. Reference the exhibit entitled "Comparative Capital Structure" for the years 2001 - 2011, marked as Exhibit Z, p. 1 of 2. Does Big Sandy agree that this exhibit indicates that its long-term debt of 58% for August, 2011 greatly exceeds that of its short term debt for the same period, of only 1%? **Response:** Agree.

a. Does the RUS have any requirement for RECCs' capital structures which require them to maintain any sort of structure regarding the ratio of long-term to short-term debt? Does EKPC or does the Commission have any similar requirements? Please explain. **Response:** Big Sandy is not aware of any requirements of either EKPC or the Commission.

Witness: David Estepp

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

14. Reference Estep testimony, at p. 4, response to question 16. Please provide any case studies or references to specific cases in Kentucky or in other states where the decoupling of rates, as proposed by Big Sandy in its application, demonstrated a clear correlation to increased energy efficiency by residential customers. **Response:** Please refer to PSC Case No. 2011-00037, Exhibit 7a, Owen Electric Cooperative, Testimony of Mark A. Stallons.

Witness: David Estep

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

15. Please provide a copy of the 2011 Annual Report and copies of the Notice and Minutes for the 2011 Annual Meeting of the members of Big Sandy RECC. If not currently available, please consider this an ongoing request for information. **Response:** Attached.

Big Sandy RECC Financial Results

Your Board of Directors

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ending December 31, 2010

Operating Revenue and Patronage Capital.....	\$26,163,695
Operating Expense	
Cost of Purchased Power.....	\$18,296,515
Operating the Electric System.....	4,724,935
Depreciation.....	1,865,647
Taxes.....	24,433
Interest on Loans.....	1,107,582
Other Deductions.....	11,375
 Total Cost of Electric Service.....	 \$26,030,487
 Patronage Capital & Operating Margins.....	 \$133,208
Non-Operating Margins.....	30,490
Capital Credits Assigned from Other Cooperatives.....	11,950
Patronage Capital or Margins.....	\$175,648

BALANCE SHEET

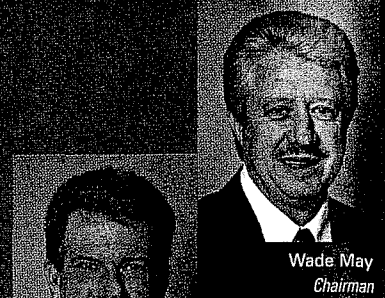
For the Year Ending December 31, 2010

WHAT WE OWN

Total Utility Plant.....	\$42,891,178
Less Depreciation.....	12,271,603
Net Utility Plant Book Value.....	\$30,619,575
 Non-Utility Property and Other Investments.....	 \$7,784,481
Cash and Reserves.....	478,074
Owed to Co-op on Accounts.....	3,808,749
Material in Inventory.....	439,936
Deferred Debits and Other Assets.....	436,444
 Total Assets.....	 \$43,567,259

WHAT WE OWE

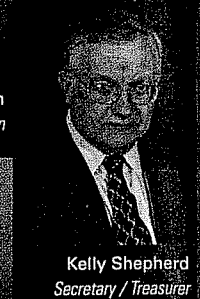
Membership and Other Equities.....	15,436,318
Long-Term Debt.....	21,904,191
Notes and Accounts Payable.....	4,281,529
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities.....	1,915,531
Deferred Credits and Miscellaneous.....	29,690
Total Liabilities and Equities.....	\$43,567,259



Wade May
Chairman



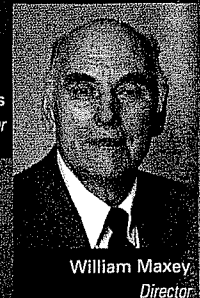
Danny Wallen
Vice Chairman



Kelly Shepherd
Secretary / Treasurer



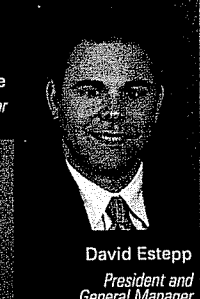
Greg Davis
Director



William Maxey
Director



Robert N. Moore
Director



David Estep
President and
General Manager

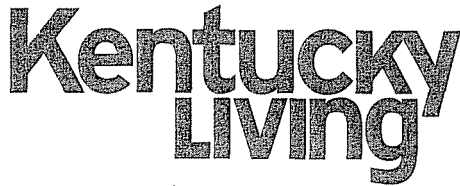


Albert Burchett
Attorney



**Big Sandy Rural Electric
Cooperative Corporation**

A Touchstone Energy Partner



AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

Notice is hereby given that the "Official Notice" of Annual Meeting for Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, according to the requirements of the cooperative's bylaws, entered in the United States Mail on March 28, 2011.

Anita Travis Richter

Anita Travis Richter
Managing Editor
Kentucky Living

County of Jefferson

State of Kentucky

Sworn to and subscribed before me, a Notary Public,

this 18th day of April 2011.

My commission expires January 10, 2012.

Arlene Francis Poon

Notary Public, State of Kentucky

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Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation

71st Annual Meeting of Membership

May 19, 2011

Mountain Arts Center, Prestonsburg, KY

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wade May at 7:03 p.m. Chairman Wade May turned the meeting over to Bill Corum to act as Chairman.

Invocation: The Invocation was given by Director William Maxey.

FIOB: Resolution: Mr. Corum read the Resolution that set the date and location for the 2011 Annual Meeting, and then announced that a quorum was present.

NIOB: Notice of Meeting: The Official Affidavit of Meeting was read by Bill Corum.

NIOB: Minutes: The reading of the 2010 Annual Meeting minutes was waived by a motion and second from the floor. All votes were favorable. Approval of minutes of the Annual Meeting was secured without reading, with a motion and second from the floor. All votes were unanimous.

NIOB: Introduction of Board of Directors, President & General Manager and Attorney:

Mr. Corum introduced all Directors by district as follows: Danny Wallen, District #1; Kelly Shepherd, District #2; Wade May, District #3; William Maxey, District #4; Robert Moore, District #5; Greg Davis, District #6. Mr. Corum then also introduced the President & General Manager, David Estep and Attorney Albert Burchett.

NIOB: Recognition of Guests: Mr. Corum recognized the distinguished guests present for our Annual Meeting as follows: State Representative Hubie Collins, past President & General Manager, Bobby Sexton, and long-time member, Neva Rowland.

NIOB: Introduction of Tony Campbell: Mr. Corum introduced Tony Campbell, the President and CEO of East Kentucky Power Cooperative. Mr. Campbell spoke about East Ky Power's efforts to provide reliable power at reasonable rates to the consumers. Mr. Campbell also explained "who" East Ky Power is and the purpose of their business. Mr. Campbell stressed that the world runs on electricity and stated that coal-fired generation is here to stay. Consumers can help too, through simple home energy saving steps. Mr. Campbell stated that we want consumers to use all the electricity they need, but not to have to pay more for unneeded electricity. We all need to use our power efficiently. Mr. Campbell then turned the meeting back over to acting Chairman Bill Corum, who had a few comments regarding electrical cooperatives. Mr. Corum is the President & CEO of the Kentucky Association of Electrical Cooperatives. Mr. Corum stated that in a report from the American Consumers Index, electrical cooperative consumers are the most satisfied consumers receiving electrical power. We know what we are doing and we are not giving up on electrical distribution for this country. We have the cleanest coal-fired plants in the state of Kentucky. Mr. Corum mentioned the handouts given

tonight to everyone regarding "The Seven Cooperative Principles", stating what makes a Cooperative unique.

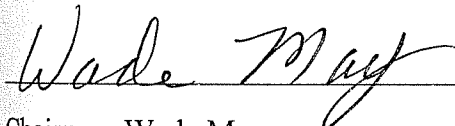
NIOB: Unfinished Business: Mr. Corum stated that the agenda disclosed no unfinished business carried over from the 2010 Annual Meeting.

NIOB: New Business: President & General Manager David Esteppe greeted the audience and spoke several words of gratitude. Mr. Esteppe thanked everyone for coming and recognized all cooperative employees. President & General Manager David Esteppe and Chairman Wade May then presented scholarships to the following:


Bryce Osborne, Paintsville HS; Zach Fletcher, Lawrence Co. HS; Holly Whitaker, Prestonsburg HS; Austin Woods, Allen Central HS; Olivia Waller, Sheldon Clark HS; Zackary Bolen, Knott Co. Central HS; Shelby Higgins and Courtney Mollette, Johnson Central HS; and Kes Moore, Piarist School. Two students were chosen for the Washington Youth Tour; Danna Spears from Sheldon Clark HS and Macie Salyers from Johnson Central HS. Mr. Esteppe stated the Big Sandy RECC is very proud of these outstanding students and is very thankful that Big Sandy could provide assistance with the furthering of education in our area schools.

NIOB: Other Business: Mr. Bill Corum made the statement that, that's what it's all about: the young people, moving in a positive manner. And with no further to do, Mr. Corum stated with no other business on the agenda, he addressed the audience for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

NIOB: Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded from the floor to adjourn. All votes were unanimous and the meeting adjourned promptly at 7:26 p.m.



 Chairman Wade May



 Secretary Kelly Shepherd

Big Sandy RECC Financial Results

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

Operating Revenue and Patronage Capital.....	\$26,431,734
Operating Expense	
Cost of Purchased Power.....	\$18,824,313
Operating the Electric System.....	4,293,215
Depreciation.....	1,939,171
Taxes.....	26,017
Interest on Loans.....	1,025,326
Other Deductions.....	17,359
Total Cost of Electric Service.....	\$26,125,401
Patronage Capital & Operating Margins.....	\$306,333
Non-Operating Margins.....	30,888
Capital Credits Assigned from Other Cooperatives.....	56,619
Patronage Capital or Margins.....	\$393,840

BALANCE SHEET

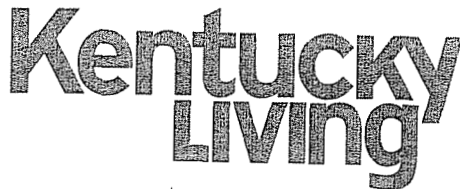
For the Year Ending December 31, 2011

WHAT WE OWN

Total Utility Plant.....	\$44,649,264
Less Depreciation.....	13,453,190
Net Utility Plant Book Value.....	\$31,196,074
Non-Utility Property and Other Investments.....	\$9,185,532
Cash and Reserves.....	834,434
Owed to Co-op on Accounts.....	3,250,404
Material in Inventory.....	391,186
Deferred Debits and Other Assets.....	274,737
Total Assets.....	\$45,132,367

WHAT WE OWE

Membership and Other Equities.....	17,282,677
Long-Term Debt.....	22,262,229
Notes and Accounts Payable.....	3,517,587
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities.....	2,042,952
Deferred Credits and Miscellaneous.....	29,922
Total Liabilities and Equities.....	\$45,132,367



AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

Notice is hereby given that the "Official Notice" of Annual Meeting for Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, according to the requirements of the cooperative's bylaws, entered in the United States Mail on March 28, 2012.

Anita Travis Richter

Anita Travis Richter
Managing Editor
Kentucky Living

County of Jefferson

State of Kentucky

Sworn to and subscribed before me, a Notary Public,

this 5th day of April 2012.

My commission expires January 10, 2016.

Arlene Francis Toon

Notary Public, State of Kentucky

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Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation

72nd Annual Meeting of Membership

May 17, 2012

Mountain Arts Center, Prestonsburg, KY

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wade May at 7:03 p.m. At this time, Chairman Wade May turned the meeting over to Mr. Bill Corum to act as Chairman.

Invocation: The Invocation was given by Director William Maxey.

FIOB: Resolution: Mr. Corum read the Resolution that set the date and location for the 2012 Annual Meeting.

NIOB: Notice of Meeting: The Official Affidavit of Mailing was read by Mr. Bill Corum. This notice of Big Sandy's Annual Meeting is a requirement of the Cooperative's Bylaws.

NIOB: Minutes: The reading of the 2011 Annual Meeting minutes was waived by a motion and a second from the floor. All votes were favorable. Approval of minutes of the Annual Meeting was secured without reading, with a motion and second from the floor. All votes were unanimous.

NIOB: Introduction of Board of Directors, President & General Manager and Attorney:

Mr. Corum made mention of this year's Director Elections. With no opposition, Danny Wallen was elected Director for District #1 and Kelly Shepherd was elected Director for District #2.

Mr. Corum introduced all Directors by district as follows: Danny Wallen, District #1; Kelly Shepherd, District #2; Wade May, District #3; William Maxey, District #4; Robert Moore, District #5; and Greg Davis, District #6. Mr. Corum then also introduced the President & General Manager David Estep and the Attorney Albie Burchett.

NIOB: Recognition of Guests: At this time, Mr. Corum introduced some special guests present for our Annual Meeting. Mr. Tony Campbell; President & CEO of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Mr. Mike McNalley; CFO of EKPC, Mr. Ken Arrington; Director on EKPC Board and Grayson RECC, Mr. Don Mosier; COO of EKPC, Kentucky State Representative Hubie Collins, and two past General Managers for Big Sandy RECC: Bruce Davis Jr. and Bobby Sexton. Also attending her 64th Big Sandy Annual Meeting was Mrs. Neva Rowland. Mr. Corum welcomed each one and spoke of his appreciation to all attending our meeting.

NIOB: Introduction of Tony Campbell: Mr. Corum introduced Mr. Tony Campbell, President & CEO of East Kentucky Power. Mr. Campbell began speaking about the special bond of our 'mountain people'. He stated how touched he was to see the embracing of each other during these challenging times of disasters in our areas in the recent months. Mr. Campbell stated that what he witnessed with everyone pulling together to recover and putting their lives back together, was truly amazing. He expressed to our

consumers that he wanted everyone to know that there are tens of millions of people praying and thinking of them all.

At this point, Mr. Campbell discussed the costs of electricity and the environmental regulations, per the EPA, that cause prices to soar. He explained how their electrical increase in costs was due to the unreasonable environmental regulations placed upon East Kentucky Power for cleaner coal. Mr. Campbell stated that one-third of their electric bill from Big Sandy was passed on to East Kentucky to pay for compliance issues and environmental regulations per the EPA. Mr. Campbell explained this process very simply and in great detail to our consumers. Then Mr. Campbell turned the meeting back over to acting Chairman Bill Corum.

Mr. Corum made a brief comment regarding this year being The Year of the Cooperative.

NIOB: Unfinished Business: Mr. Corum stated that the agenda disclosed no unfinished business carried over from the 2011 Annual Meeting.

NIOB: New Business: President & General Manager David Esteppe greeted everyone and recognized all special guests, board members, staff and employees. Mr. Esteppe spoke about Big Sandy's progress and plans. Mr. Esteppe was very proud to inform everyone that our cooperative did not have any Lost-Time Accidents in the year of 2011. He stated that our goal is to provide electricity, restore power and complete all service work safely and without accidents. Mr. Esteppe stressed that this is an objective of all our company. Mr. Esteppe mentioned the new Operations Center, which Big Sandy is in dire need of, with hopes to be completed sometime in the Fall of 2012. Big Sandy has now completed a new Outage Management System and Mapping system, of which, together will aid in better, reliable service and faster power restoration to our members. Mr. Esteppe spoke about our avenues of technology updates, our energy efficiency programs and our Call Center thru Cooperative Response Center, providing 24 hour service to our members. Mr. Esteppe wants everyone to know that everything that we do as a cooperative is for you, the consumer.

At this time, Mr. Esteppe and Director Wade May presented scholarships to the following students:

Breanna Ousley, Allen Central HS; Savannah Minor, Knott Co. Central; Torri Hammonds, Prestonsburg HS; Danna Spears, Sheldon Clark HS; Ted McCoart, Johnson Central HS; Taylor Higgins, Johnson Central HS; Adriana Doderer, Paintsville HS; and Travis Mortimer, Lawrence County HS. Two students were chosen for the Washington Youth Tour; Dustin Everidge, Allen Central HS and David Smith, Paintsville HS. Mr. Esteppe stated that Big Sandy RECC is very proud of these outstanding students and very thankful that Big Sandy could provide assistance with the furthering of education in our area schools.

NIOB: Other Business: Mr. Corum stated with no other business on the agenda, he addressed the audience for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

NIOB: Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded from the floor to adjourn. All votes were unanimous and the meeting adjourned promptly at 7:30 p.m.

_____ Chairman Wade May _____ Kelly Shepherd

Witness: David Estep

Big Sandy Rural Electric Cooperative
Case No. 2012-00030
Attorney General's Initial Data Requests

16. Reference Big Sandy's Response to Commission Staff's First Request for Information, item 45. Please provide the information requested if known at this time. Please consider this an ongoing request for information. **Response:** Big Sandy has no plans for asset retirements. However, if any such retirements exist, this information will be provided at the time it is known.