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September 20, 2012

Mr. Jeff Derouen
Executive Director
Commonwealth of Kentucky
Kentucky Public Service Commission
PO Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

RE: Case No. 2012-00310
Case No. 2012-00311
Case No. 2012-00312

RECEIVED

SEP 21 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Enclosed please find the original and ten copies of Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation's Response to the First Request for Information from the Commissioner's staff in the above-styled cases.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas C. Brite
Attorney for Meade County RECC

tcb/svh

enclosure

MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION

CASE NO. 2012-00311

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SEP 21 2012

**PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION**

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

STEVEN L. MILES)	
)	
COMPLAINANT)	
)	
V.)	CASE NO.
)	2012-00311
MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC)	
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION)	
)	
DEFENDANT)	

MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CORPORATION
RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION

Comes Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, by
Counsel, and file its response to the information requested dated September 7,
2012 in the about styled case before the Commission.

**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
RESPONSE OF MEADE COUNTY RECC
TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

CASE NO. 2012-00311

1

2 Question 1.) When did complainant, Steven L. Miles, first contact Meade County about the failure to
3 get steady electrical current?

4

5 Response 1.) January 31, 2012

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7 Witness) David Poe

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**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
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Question 2.) Identify any and all contacts Meade County has had with Complainant since the first contact concerning his failure to get steady electrical current.

Response 2.) Mr. Miles contacted MCRECC's office personnel and/or myself numerous times during the year. In the beginning, most calls and contacts were logged, but those beyond April were not.

Witness) David Poe

**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
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Question 3.) Meade County's July 26, 2012 response to the Commission's July 18, 2012 Order does not indicate that the document was served on Complainant.

- a.) If the document was serviced on Complainant, indicate the date it was served and provide a certificate of service
- b.) If the document was not served on Complainant, indicate why.

Response 3a.) By letter dated July 24, 2012, complainant was mailed a letter with a copy of the Hilltop letter dated July 13, 2012. A copy of the July 24, 2012 letter to complainant is attached hereto and marked "Exhibit 1".

Response 3b.) See answer 3a.

Witness) Thomas Brite

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Question 4.) Complaint's complaint alleges that he has been in contact with an electrical engineer from "RECC several times" since February 2012 and "to current date nothing has been resolved." Does Meade County contend that it has provided service to Complainant in conformance with 807 KAR 5:041?

Response 4.) Until Meade County received Commission's Order of August 10, 2012 indicating that Meade County had failed to address all allegations in the complaint and requested that we file a Supplemental Response which was filed on August 17, 2012, Meade County had attempted to keep complainant informed by letter and personal contact/telephone calls. The Answer/Supplemental Response filed on August 17, 2012 was served on complainant as indicated.

Witness) Thomas Brite

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Question 5.) The letter dated August 7, 2012 from counsel for Meade County to the Commission's Executive Director states that representatives of Meade County met with representatives of Hilltop Companies ("Hilltop") on August 3, 2012, and that Meade County and Hilltop agreed to concurrent testing "in order to isolate the problem(s) and determine a solution to these problem(s) with the engineers establishing a protocol regarding the testing and the time frame for said testing." The letter further stated that the protocol would be established within ten days of the August 3, 2012 meeting date and that when the protocol is established, the Commission and the Complainant would be notified. Following the text of the letter, a "cc" indicated that a copy of the letter to be sent to Complainant. In addition to a copy of the August 7, 2012 letter, what contact, if any, has Meade County had with complainant regarding the August 3, 2012 meeting with Hilltop?

Response 5.) I have had numerous telephone conversations since February with Mr. Miles. During the latest conversations, I mentioned that Hilltop and MCRECC had met and agreed to conduct further monitoring in an attempt to pinpoint the source of the disturbance.

Witness) David Poe

**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
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2 Question 6.) Refer to Meade County's July 26, 2012 filing with the Commission (a copy of which is
3 attached hereto), which contained a letter to the commission's Executive Director dated July 24, 2012,
4 and a copy of a June 13, 2012 letter from Thomas C. Brite to John Morgan, Hilltop Companies
5 ("Hilltop"). At page 2, the June 13, 2012 letter stated, "[i]f this issue is not resolved to our satisfaction
6 by August 1, 2012, we plan to mail to you the 10 day notice letter terminating service to Hilltop."

7 a.) What was the basis of Meade County's belief, as expressed in its letter of June 13, 2012,
8 that Hilltop's equipment was the cause of the flickering situation experienced by Meade
9 County's residential customers?

10 b.) What was the basis for Meade County's decision, as expressed in its letter of August 7,
11 2012, that concurrent testing was needed to isolate the problem(s) and determine a solution?

12 c.) Does Meade County believe that the flickering experienced by its residential customers is a
13 result of anything other than Hilltop's equipment? If yes, explain the basis for Meade
14 County's belief

15 d.) Did Hilltop resolve the issue to Meade County's satisfaction by August 1, 2012

16 (1) If yes, how was this issue resolved?

17 (2) If no, did Meade County mail to Hilltop a 10 day notice letter terminating service to
18 Hilltop?

19 (i) If yes, provide a copy of the letter

20 (ii) If no, state why Meade County did not mail to Hilltop a 10 day notice letter
21 terminating service to Hilltop.
22

**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
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2 Response 6a.) Hilltop Quarry upgraded its facility in December 2011. Complaints from nearby
3 members began in January 2012. Meade County RECC first checked the lines and services, not
4 knowing the issue was due to Hilltop's operations. MCRECC then began downline monitoring using
5 voltage recorders in early February. The high flicker levels coincided with the hours of Hilltop's
6 operation.

7

8 Response 6b.) MCRECC was satisfied that Hilltop's operations were the source of the problem;
9 however, Hilltop was not and insisted on concurrent monitoring.

10

11 Response 6c.) No

12 Response 6d.) No

13

14 Witness: David Poe

15

16 Response 6d(ii). In a letter from Douglas Brent, who is counsel for Hilltop Basic Resources, Inc., he
17 implied any interruption of power would immediately and irreparably damage Hilltop. His letter also
18 requested concurrent testing to help determine the cause of the disturbance to the complainants. His
19 letter also indicated a willingness to do further testing to "isolate any problems, determine a solution
20 and apportion responsibility." After repeated efforts to obtain a working relationship with Hilltop to
21 resolve the problems of the complainants, the Brent letter indicated willingness of Hilltop to cooperate
22 and we agreed that would be in the best interest of all parties.

23

24 Witness) Thomas Brite

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Question 7.) What is the voltage of the electric service provided to Complainant?

a.) Is the Complainant's service single phase?

b.) If yes, which phase serves the Complainant?

Response 7.) 120/240 Volt Service

Response 7a.) Yes

Response 7b) B phase

Witness) David Poe

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Question 8.) What is the voltage of the electric service that is provided to Hilltop?

- a.) Is Hilltop's service three phase?
- b.) Is Hilltop service primary metered?

Response 8.) Hilltop is served and metered at the high voltage distribution level of 7.2/12.47 KV.
However, multiple transformer banks serve their loads at the 277/480 Volt level.

Response 8a.) Yes

Response 8b.) Yes

Witness) David Poe

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Question 9.) Is the electric service provided to Hilltop fed by a substation that is exclusive to Hilltop?

a.) If yes, what is the primary side voltage, if different than above?

b.) What is the secondary voltage?

Response 9.) No

Response 9a.) N/A

Response 9b.) N/A

Witness: David Poe

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Question 10.) Is the Hilltop electric load fairly constant during a work day, or does it tend to be intermittent, or fluctuating?

Response 10.) It fluctuates.

Witness) David Poe

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Question 11.) Refer to Meade County's Answer filed August 21, 2012. The Answer at page 1 under the heading "Third Defense" states, "Meade and Hilltop Big Bend Quarries, LLC (Hilltop) are conducting concurrent testing in order to determine whether problem(s) exist concerning this complainant."

- a.) When did Meade County commence testing in order to determine whether problems exist concerning Complainant's Complaint?
- b.) When did Hilltop commence testing in order to determine whether problems exist concerning Complainant's Complaint?
- c.) Based on the testing conducted by either Meade County or Hilltop, does a light flickering problem exist with regard to Complainant's electric service?

Response 11a.) The monitoring equipment was installed on September 5, 2012

Response 11b.) It was also installed on September 5, 2012

Response 11c.) In our opinion, yes. However, based upon testing performed since September 5, 2012, Hilltop has not confirmed or denied it at this time.

Witness: David Poe

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Question 12.) What is the average monthly MW or kW load for:

- a.) The Hilltop load; and
- b.) Complainant's load?

Response 12a.) 1335 KW over the last 5 months

Response 12b.) 8.9 KW since 1/1/12

Witness: David Poe

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Question 13) What is the average monthly percent power factor for:

- a.) The Hilltop load; and
- b.) Complainant's load?

Response 13a.) The power factor is not available

Response 13b.) The power factor is not available

Witness) David Poe

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Question 14.) What is the average monthly percent voltage at:

- a.) The Hilltop load; and
- b.) Complainant's load?

Response 14a.) The monthly percent voltage is not available

Response 14b.) The monthly percent voltage is not available

Witness) David Poe

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Question 15.) Does the same feeder serve the load to Hilltop and Complainant?

Response 15.) Yes

Witness) David Poe

**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
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Question 16.) Does the same feeder serve the load to Hilltop, Complainant, and the Complainants in Case Nos. 2012-00310 and 2012-00312?

Response 16.) Yes

Witness) David Poe

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Question 17.) What is the distance of the distribution line from the substation serving Hilltop to the Hilltop service drop?

Response 17.) 4.5 miles

Witness) David Poe

**MEADE COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOP. CORP.
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2 Question 18.) What is the distance of the distribution line from the substation serving Complainant
3 and the Complainant's service drop?

4

5 Response 18.) 9.2 miles

6

7 Witness: David Poe

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THOMAS C. BRITE
e-mail: tbrite@bbtel.com

STEPHEN G. HOPKINS
e-mail: shopkins@bbtel.com

July 24, 2012

Steven L. Miles
6750 Big Bend Road
Battletown, Kentucky 40104

RE: Case No. 2012-00311

Dear Mr. Miles:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter that I mailed to Hilltop Companies on July 13, 2012.

As you will note a copy of this letter was forwarded to the Kentucky Public Service Commission with a copy of your complaint filed with the Commission. Meade County RECC is waiting for a response from the quarry.

Yours very truly,

THOMAS C. BRITE


TCB: bep

Enclosure

✓ cc: Mr. Burns Mercer, President
Meade County RECC
P.O. Box 489
Brandenburg, Kentucky 40108

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned as Attorney for Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation does hereby certify that he supervised the foregoing response which is true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief and that the original and ten (10) copies of this response was mailed to Jeff Derrouen, PSC Executive Director, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, KY 40602, and one (1) copy to Steven L. Miles, 6750 Big Bend Rd., Battletown, KY 40104, this 20th day of September 2012.



Thomas C. Brite
Attorney for Meade County Rural
Electric Cooperative Corporation