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December 13, 2012

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**PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION**

Jeff DeRouen
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

Re: Big Rivers Electric Corporation Integrated Resource Plan filing due November 15, 2013

Dear Mr. DeRouen:

Big Rivers Electric Corporation (“Big Rivers”) filed an Integrated Resource Plan (“IRP”) on November 15, 2010, in Case No. 2010-00443. Big Rivers’ next IRP is due November 15, 2013.

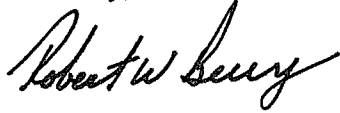
Century Aluminum of Kentucky General Partnership (“Century”), which represents approximately 32% of Big Rivers’ peak system demand, has given notice terminating its retail power contract effective August 20, 2013. In response to that notice, Big Rivers has been preparing a rate case that it expects to file on or about January 15, 2013, to address the loss of the Century load and other revenue shortfalls, and has been implementing a plan to mitigate the loss of the Century load. Under the mitigation plan, Big Rivers is currently investigating idling a plant or plants until Big Rivers is able to find replacement load or until prices in the wholesale power market improve. Thus, assumptions regarding both the load on the Big Rivers system and the resources Big Rivers will utilize to meet its load are likely to change substantially over at least the next year.

Big Rivers respectfully requests that the IRP that is currently due November 15, 2013, be postponed one year, until November 15, 2014, to allow Big Rivers to achieve more certainty around its load and resources. Without more certainty, at best the IRP process will be a hypothetical exercise of little practical value that consumes limited resources at both the Commission and Big Rivers. The available capacity resulting from the Century termination means Big Rivers will have more than adequate resources to meet its load requirements, which answers the principal question of the IRP process.

Postponing the IRP process will not impact Big Rivers’ continued implementation and evaluation of DSM programs. Big Rivers will provide an update on its current DSM programs in its upcoming rate case filing.

Because the process to prepare the IRP at Big Rivers is a multi-departmental effort that utilizes an outside consultant and requires months of concentrated effort, Big Rivers respectfully requests that the Commission provide a response to this request no later than mid-January 2013. Please date stamp and return in the enclosed pre-addressed stamped envelope the attached copy. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert W. Berry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Robert W. Berry
Vice President Production
Big Rivers Electric Corporation

cc: Mark A. Bailey
Albert Yockey
James M. Miller