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*Also Licensed in Indiana

April 29, 2015

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Via Federal Express

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

RE: BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION'S FILING OF WHOLESALE CONTRACTS PURSUANT TO KRS 278.180 AND 807 KAR 5:011 §13, CASE NO. 2014-00134

Dear Mr. Derouen:

A telephonic informal conference was held in the above-referenced matter on April 29, 2015. At the informal conference, the Public Service Commission Staff recommended a change to the revisions to Big Rivers' MRSM tariff that the parties are proposing as part of the Stipulation and Recommendation filed in this matter. The proposed tariff revisions were filed as Exhibit A to the Stipulation and Recommendation. Enclosed are an original and ten (10) copies of that exhibit with the addition of the Commission Staff's suggested edit.

Big Rivers was also asked at the informal conference to file sample calculation sheets for the calculations that will determine the additional amounts that Big Rivers will deposit into the Economic Reserve as a result of the Stipulation and Recommendation. An original and ten (10) copies of those sample calculation sheets are also enclosed.

I certify that on this date, a copy of this letter and copies of the abovereferenced documents were served on each of the persons listed on the attached service list by first-class mail. Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.

Telephone (270) 926-4000 Telecopier (270) 683-6694

> 100 St. Ann Building PO Box 727 Owensboro, Kentucky 42302-0727

Mr. Jeff Derouen April 29, 2015 Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,

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Tyson Kamuf Counsel for Big Rivers Electric Corporation

TAK/lm Enclosures

cc: Lindsay Barron, Big Rivers Electric Corporation DeAnna Speed, Big Rivers Electric Corporation Service List

Service List PSC Case No. 2014-00134

Michael L. Kurtz Kurt J. Boehm Jody Kyler Cohn BOEHM, KURTZ & LOWRY 36 E. Seventh Street, Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202

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MRSM - Member Rate Stability Mechanism

Applicability:

Applicable in all territory served by Big Rivers' Member Cooperatives.

Availability:

Available pursuant to Section 3 – Special Rules, Terms, and Conditions: Discount Adjustment of this tariff for all service under Standard Rate Schedule RDS and Standard Rate Schedule LIC, provided that this MRSM shall terminate on the latterlast to occur of (i) the first day of the month following the month in which the balance in the Rural Economic Reserve Fund (as described in the RER rider) equals zero, or (ii) the first month in which no additional transmission revenues from Century-Hawesville are forthcoming, and (iii) the first month in which no additional Nebraska Margin deposits are anticipated.

Definitions:

Please see Section 4 for definitions common to all tariffs.

Member Rate Stability Mechanism:

Big Rivers originally established an Economic Reserve of \$157 million pursuant to the Commission's Order dated March 6, 2009, in Case No. 2007-00455. Pursuant to the Commission's Order dated April 25, 2014, in Case No. 2013-00199, Big Rivers shall also deposit the transmission revenues it receives from Century-Hawesville into the Economic Reserve. The Economic Reserve is established , 2015, in Case No. 2014-00134, Big as three Pursuant to the Commission's Order dated Rivers shall also deposit margins from certain wholesale sales contracts ("Nebraska Margins") into the Economic Reserve, as described in the "Nebraska Margins" section of this schedule. The Economic Reserve is established as five stand-alone investment accounts, each accruing interest: the first account is for the original fund, the second is for transmission revenues allocated to the Rural class (customers served under Standard Rate Schedule RDS), and the third is for transmission revenues allocated to the Large Industrial class (customers served under Standard Rate Schedule LIC₂), the fourth is for Nebraska Margins allocated to the Rural class, and the fifth is for Nebraska Margins allocated to the Large Industrial class. The transmission revenues are allocated 79.2% to the Rural class and 20.8% to the Large Industrial class. The Nebraska Margins are allocated between the Rural class and the Large Industrial class based upon the total revenues received from each class during the calendar year in which Big Rivers earns the margins.

The MRSM will draw on the Economic Reserve to mitigate the monthly impacts of the FAC, the ES, and the base rate increase awarded by the Commission in Case No. 2013-00199 on each non-Smelter Member's bill, net of the credits received under the Unwind Surcredit and Rebate Adjustment. Each month the MRSM will mitigate the dollar impact of billings under the FAC and ES <u>less</u> the total dollar amounts received under the Unwind Surcredit, <u>less</u> a monthly pro-rata portion of any lump sum rebates provided under the Rebate Adjustment, <u>less</u> the Expense Mitigation Adjustment ("EMA") which is defined below, <u>plus</u> the total dollar amounts of the base rate increase awarded by the Commission in Case No. 2013-00199.

Until the account containing the original fund is exhausted, the amount of the MRSM credit provided to each Member during a month will each equal

- (i) the total amount of FAC charges billed to the Member during the month, plus
- (ii) the total dollar amount of ES charges billed to the Member during the month, less

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- (iii) the total dollar amount of the Unwind Surcredits credited to the Member during the month, <u>less</u>
- (iv) one-twelfth (1/12) of any rebates provided under the Rebate Adjustment during the current month or during any of the 11 preceding months, *less*
- (v) the total dollar amount of the EMA charged to the Member during the month; provided that the amounts subtracted in items (iii), (iv) and (v) cannot exceed the total of items (i) and (ii) in which case the monthly MRSM adjustment would be zero, <u>plus</u>
- (vi) the Member's share of the total dollar amount of the base rate increase awarded by the Commission in Case No. 2013-00199 applicable to the month.

After the account containing the original fund is exhausted, the MRSM credit will draw onfirst from the account containing <u>Nebraska Margins and then from the applicable account containing</u> transmission revenues-allocated to the Rural class or the account containing transmission revenues allocated to the Rural class, to provide a credit to each Member during a month that will equal

- (i) the total amount of FAC charges associated with the applicable customer class and billed to the Member during the month, *plus*
- (ii) the total dollar amount of ES charges associated with the applicable customer class and billed to the Member during the month, *less*
- (iii) the total dollar amount of the Unwind Surcredits associated with the applicable customer class and credited to the Member during the month, *less*
- (iv) one-twelfth (1/12) of any rebates associated with the applicable customer class and provided under the Rebate Adjustment during the current month or during any of the 11 preceding months, <u>less</u>
- (v) the total dollar amount of the EMA associated with the applicable customer class and charged to the Member during the month; provided that the amounts subtracted in items (iii), (iv) and (v) cannot exceed the total of items (i) and (ii) in which case the monthly MRSM adjustment would be zero, *plus*
- (vi) the Member's share of the total dollar amount of the base rate increase associated with the applicable customer class and awarded by the Commission in Case No. 2013-00199 applicable to the month.

Expense Mitigation Factor ("EMF") and Expense Mitigation Adjustment ("EMA"):

The EMF shall be the following:

- I. \$0.000 per kWh for the first twelve (12) months following July 17, 2009;
- II. \$0.002 per kWh for months 13 through 24 following July 17, 2009;
- III. \$0.004 per kWh for months 25 through 36 following July 17, 2009;
- IV. \$0.006 per kWh for months 37 through 48 following July 17, 2009;
- V. \$0.007 per kWh for months 49 through 60 following July 17, 2009; and
- VI. \$0.009 per kWh for months 61 through the termination of this MRSM tariff.

The EMA for the month shall be the EMF multiplied by the S (m) which is the jurisdictional sales for Standard Rate Schedule RDS and/or Standard Rate Schedule LIC to which this tariff applies for the current expense month. The EMF and EMA will expire after both the Economic Reserve and the

Rural Economic Reserve funds have been exhausted and no additional transmission revenues from Century-Hawesville or Nebraska Margins are forthcoming.

If any portion of FAC or ES costs is transferred to or from base rates after July 17, 2009, then the MRSM will account for any effect of such transfers so that the Members will not see any impact on their bills, either positive or negative, of such transfers.

The MRSM adjustment shall be no longer applicable once the Economic Reserve is exhausted and no additional transmission revenues from Century-Hawesville <u>or Nebraska Margins</u> are forthcoming, but the MRSM shall remain a schedule in this tariff until the Rural Economic Reserve Fund is depleted and no additional transmission revenues from Century-Hawesville <u>or Nebraska Margins</u> are forthcoming, as described in the "Availability" section of this schedule. During the last month of this MRSM, or in any month that the amount remaining in the Economic Reserve does not fully fund the MRSM credit for a customer class, the amount remaining in the Economic Reserve for that class will be prorated to each Member on the basis of the total FAC and ES charges applicable to that class' non-Smelter sales less credits under the Unwind Surcredits, less monthly prorated amounts under the Rebate Adjustment and less the EMA as applicable, <u>plus</u> the prorated base rate increase awarded by the Commission in Case No. 2013-00199.

Nebraska Margins:

The Nebraska Margins shall be the margins resulting from the wholesale contracts approved in Case No. 2014-00134. Pursuant to the Commission's Order in that case dated ______2015, each January, Big Rivers shall compare its margins for the previous year to the margins that would have provided the Times Interest Earned Ratio ("TIER") that the Commission used to establish the revenue requirement in Big Rivers' most recent general rate proceeding (the "Revenue Requirement TIER").

Big Rivers shall also compare its average daily balance of unrestricted cash and temporary investments for the last three calendar months of the previous calendar year (the "Average Cash Balance") to the Cash Balance Threshold, as defined below.

(1) If for the previous year:

- (a) Big Rivers' actual margins are greater than the margins at the Revenue Requirement TIER:
- (b) the Nebraska Margins are greater than zero; and
- (c) The Average Cash Balance greater than \$60,000,000 (the "Cash Balance Threshold"),
- then Big Rivers shall deposit into the Economic Reserve each month for twelve (12) consecutive months one-twelfth (1/12) of the lesser of:
 - (s) the portion of the Nebraska Margins from the previous calendar year that would reduce Big Rivers' actual TIER to the Revenue Requirement TIER; and
 - (t) the positive difference between the Average Cash Balance and the Cash Balance Threshold.
- (2) If one or more of a, b, and c above are not satisfied, then no Nebraska Margins for that year shall be deposited into the Economic Reserve.
- (3) If Big Rivers is required by this schedule to deposit all or a portion of the Nebraska Margins for a year into the Economic Reserve, it shall do so no later than the last business day of each month, beginning in February of the following year.
- (1)(4) Each such deposit of Nebraska Margins shall be expensed in the prior calendar year in which Big Rivers earned those margins.

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BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION

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ECONOMIC RESERVE ADJUSTMENT (DISTRIBUTION OF NEBRASKA CONTRACT MARGINS) (12 Months Ending December 31, 2018)

A. Margins Available for Refund	
1. Margins in Excess of Revenue Requirement TIER (page 2)	\$ -
2. Nebraska Contract Sales Margins (page 3)	\$ -
3. Margins Available for Refund ⁽¹⁾	\$ -
B. Cash Balance Test	
4. Cash Balance Available (page 4)	\$ -
C. Deposit to Economic Reserve	
5. Total Amount to be Deposited to Economic Reserve Fund ⁽²⁾	\$ -
6. Divided by: Number of Months which Amount will be Deposited Over	 12
7 Monthly Amount to be Deposited to Economic Reserve Fund	\$ -

Months during which deposits will be made: February 2019 through January 2020

Submitted by:

Title:

Date Submitted:

(1) Margins Available for Refund equal to the lesser of: Line 1. Margins in Excess of Revenue Requirement TIER and Line 2. Nebraska Contract Sales Margins.

(2) Amount to be Deposited to Economic Reserve Fund equal to the lesser of: Line 3. Margins Available for Refund and Line 4. Cash Balance Available.

DRAFT

BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION ECONOMIC RESERVE ADJUSTMENT (DISTRIBUTION OF NEBRASKA CONTRACT MARGINS) (12 Months Ending December 31, 2018)

(A) **Annual Net Margins** Actual Net Margins 1. \$ Prior Period Adjustments⁽¹⁾ 2. \$ 3. **Annual Net Margins** \$ **(B)** Margins Based on Revenue Requirement TIER 4. Annual Interest Expense on Long-Term Debt \$ 5. Multiplied by: Revenue Requirement TIER⁽²⁾ 1.30 6. Product (Line 4 x Line 5) \$ 7. Less: Annual Interest Expense on Long-Term Debt 8. Margins Based on Revenue Requirement TIER (Line 6 - Line 7) \$ (C) Margins in Excess of Revenue Requirement TIER 9. Annual Net Margins (Line 3) \$ 10. Less: Margins Based on Revenue Requirement TIER (Line 8) \$ Margins in Excess of Revenue Requirement TIER 11. \$ (Line 9 - Line 10)

⁽¹⁾ Prior period adjustments based on results of Big Rivers' prior year financial statement audit, not yet completed at the time the prior year's filing was prepared.

(2) Revenue Requirement TIER as approved per the Commission's Order in Big Rivers' most recent general rate case.

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BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION ECONOMIC RESERVE ADJUSTMENT (DISTRIBUTION OF NEBRASKA CONTRACT MARGINS) (12 Months Ending December 31, 2018)

	Nebraska Contract Sales Margins				
1.	Annual Revenue (Attributable to Nebraska Contract Sales)			\$	~
2.	Annual Expenses (Attributable to Nebraska Contract Sales):				
3.	Environmental Compliance Costs ⁽¹⁾		\$ 		
4.	Fuel ⁽¹⁾		\$ -		
5.	Purchased Power ⁽¹⁾		\$ -		
6.	SPP Costs (Attributable to Nebraska Contract Sales)		\$ -		
7.	MISO Costs or Benefits (Attributable to Nebraska Contract Sales)		\$ -		
8.	Other Variable Expenses (Attributable to Nebraska Contract Sales)		\$ -		
9.	Total Expenses (Attributable to Nebraska Contract Sales)	(Sum of Lines 3 through 8)		\$	-
10.	Prior Period Adjustments			\$	-
11.	Nebraska Contract Sales Margins	(Line 1 - Line 9 + Line 10)		s	-

(1) As allocated to Nebraska Contract Sales in applicable Big Rivers adjustment clauses and service riders, unless such costs are recovered through base rates.

MRSM Nebraska ER Adjustment Page 4 of 4

BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION ECONOMIC RESERVE ADJUSTMENT (DISTRIBUTION OF NEBRASKA CONTRACT MARGINS)

(12 Months Ending December 31, 2018)

Cash Balance Test

1.	Average daily cash balance for last three calendar months		\$ -
2.	Less: Cash requirement	·	\$ -
3.	Cash Balance Available	(Line 1 - Line 2)	\$ -