COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY, INC. FOR AN ORDER APPROVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGULATORY ASSET FOR THE LIABILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH ASH POND ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS

CASE NO. 2015-00187

)

<u>ORDER</u>

On July 27, 2015, Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. ("Duke Kentucky") filed a petition, pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c) and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, requesting that the Commission grant confidential protection to portions of Duke Kentucky's responses to Commission Staff's Initial Request for Information ("Staff's First Request"). Duke Kentucky requests that attachments to its responses to Staff's First Request, Items 1 and 3, remain confidential for a period of ten years. The attachment to Duke Kentucky's response to Staff's First Request, Item 1, contains forecasted cash flows and environmental costs to comply with Federal mandates. The attachment to Duke Kentucky's response to Staff's First Request, Item 3, contains forecasted costs and accounting adjustments for the proposed East Bend ash pond asset retirement obligations ("ARO").

In support of its petition, Duke Kentucky states that public disclosure of the designated information would provide its competitors with detailed information regarding Duke Kentucky's operations, which would permit an unfair commercial advantage to

Duke Kentucky's competitors, and thus is generally recognized as confidential and exempt from public disclosure pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c).

Having carefully considered the petition and the materials at issue, the Commission finds that the designated materials contained in the attachments to Duke Kentucky's responses to Staff's First Request, Items 1 and 3, are records that are generally recognized as confidential or proprietary, and which if openly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors, and therefore meet the criteria for confidential treatment and are exempted from public disclosure pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c) and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Duke Kentucky's motion for confidential protection for the attachments to its responses to Staff's First Request, Items 1 and 3, is granted.

2. The materials set forth in the attachments to Duke Kentucky's responses to Staff's First Request, Items 1 and 3, shall not be placed in the public record or made available for public inspection for a period of ten years, or until further Orders of this Commission.

3. Use of the materials in question in any Commission proceeding shall be in compliance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(9).

4. Duke Kentucky shall inform the Commission if the materials in question become publicly available or no longer qualify for confidential treatment.

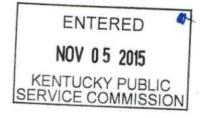
5. If a non-party to this proceeding requests to inspect materials granted confidential treatment by this Order and the period during which the materials have been granted confidential treatment has not run, then Duke Kentucky shall have 20

-2-

days from receipt of written notice of the request to demonstrate that the materials still fall within the exclusions from disclosure requirements established in KRS 61.878. If Duke Kentucky is unable to make such demonstration, the requested materials shall be made available for inspection. Otherwise, the Commission shall deny the request for inspection.

6. The Commission shall not make the requested materials available for inspection for 20 days following an Order finding that the materials no longer qualify for confidential treatment in order to allow Duke Kentucky to seek a remedy afforded by law.

By the Commission



ATTEST:

Bell + JD

Case No. 2015-00187

*Rocco O D'Ascenzo Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street P. O. Box 960 Cincinnati, OH 45201

*Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202