

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

RECEIVED

LG&E and KU Energy LLC

220 West Main Street

PO Box 32010

www.lge-ku.com

Rick E. Lovekamp

T 502-627-3780

F 502-627-3213

State Regulation and Rates

Louisville, Kentucky 40232

Manager - Regulatory Affairs

rick.lovekamp@lge-ku.com

NOV 17 2010

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

November 16, 2010

Re: Joint Application of PPL Corporation, E.ON AG, E.ON US Investments Corp., E.ON U.S. LLC, Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company For Approval of An Acquisition of Ownership and Control of Utilities – Case No. 2010-00204

Dear Mr. DeRouen:

Pursuant to the Commission's Order of September 30, 2010, in the above-referenced proceeding, PPL Corporation, LG&E and KU Energy LLC, Louisville Gas and Electric Company, and Kentucky Utilities Company ("the Companies") hereby report to the Commission and interested Parties any credit rating agency downgrade of PPL or any of PPL's Kentucky-based operating subsidiaries. Attached is a copy of a report issued on October 25, 2010. The Companies are filing this notice pursuant to Appendix A, Section 3.5 of the Order.

Please confirm your receipt of this filing by placing the stamp of your Office with date received on the extra copy.

Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Rick E. Lovekamp

cc: Dennis G. Howard II, AG Michael L. Kurtz, KIUC

1 | 1



Rating Action: Moody's downgrades the Issuer Ratings for E.ON U.S. and its subsidiaries

## Global Credit Research - 25 Oct 2010

New York, October 25, 2010 — Moody's Investors Service today downgraded the Issuer Rating of E.ON U.S. LLC (E.ON U.S.) to Baa2 from A3 and the Issuer Ratings of its two utility subsidiaries, Kentucky Utilities Company (KU) and Louisville Gas and Electric Company (LG&E), to Baa1 from A2. Moody's also downgraded KU and LG&E's short-term ratings for variable rate demand debt to Prime-2 from Prime-1. These rating actions conclude the review for possible downgrade that commenced on April 29, 2010. The rating outlooks for E.ON U.S., KU and LG&E are stable

Separately, Moody's confirmed KU and LG&E's outstanding tax-exempt debt at A2. The rating confirmation considers that, in the case of LG&E, the formerly unsecured debt has been secured with first mortgage bonds provided to the trustee and, while KU's bonds are currently unsecured, the utility intends to secure them in a similar manner over the next week. It is Moody's policy to generally rate first mortgage bonds of investment-grade rated utilities two alpha-numeric ratings higher than its Issuer Rating or senior unsecured debt rating.

## RATINGS RATIONALE

The downgrade of E.ON U.S., KU and LG&E's Issuer Ratings follows receipt of several regulatory approvals, most notably from the Kentucky Public Service Commission (KPSC), relating to the proposed sale of E.ON U.S. by E.ON AG (E.ON: A2 senior unsecured) to PPL Corp. (PPL: Baa3 senior unsecured) for approximately \$7.625 billion.

While approval from the FERC remains outstanding, we believe there is a high probability that it will be received and that the transaction will close in a matter of weeks. Upon closing of the transaction, E.ON U.S. will become a subsidiary of PPL and will be renamed LG&E and KU Energy LLC (LKE), with KU and LG&E remaining as distinct and separate operating entities. In the unlikely scenario that the merger is not consummated, the Issuer Ratings for E.ON U.S., LG&E and KU would likely revert back to their respective prior assigned levels.

"E.ON's ownership of E.ON U.S., KU and LG&E was an important factor supporting their prior respective Issuer Ratings" said Moody's Vice President Scott Solomon. "Specifically, E.ON's size, scale and credit profile provided liquidity and financial flexibility in the form of significant inter-company funding along with a liberal dividend policy that strengthened the related company's respective financial position and provided ratings lift".

Today's downgrades were triggered by the expected near-term transfer of ownership and the elimination of any ratings lift. E.ON U.S., KU and LG&E's ratings, however, are well positioned within their newly assigned rating categories and reflective of sound financial metrics and a generally supportive regulatory environment that provides for above-average cost recovery. Fluctuations in KU and LG&E's cost of fuel and purchased power, for instance, are recoverable with minimal regulatory lag while investments and costs borne by the utilities in order to remain compliant with the Clean Air Act are recoverable through an environmental surcharge mechanism.

KU and LG&E's ratio of consolidated cash flow before changes in working capital (CFO pre W/C) to debt and CFO pre-W/C interest coverage for the twelve months ended June 30, 2010, were each approximately 20% and 5.6 times, respectively. Financial metrics for both utilities are expected to trend modestly upward over the near-term due in large part to rate increases that became effective in August 2010. That being said, both utilities are expected to increase their respective dividend payments under PPL ownership. E.ON U.S. is expected to generate consolidated CFO pre-W/C to debt metrics in the mid-to-upper teens and CFO pre-W/C interest coverage above 4 times, placing it firmly in the mid-Baa rating category.

KU and LG&E, combined, had approximately \$2.6 billion of long-term debt outstanding at December 31, 2009. Of this amount, approximately 70% was intercompany debt provided by E.ON affiliates (the remaining 30% is tax-exempt debt that will remain outstanding). While the absolute amount of debt at KU and LGE is not expected to be impacted by the proposed acquisition, PPL anticipates ultimately refinancing the intercompany debt with first mortgage bond debt offerings at KU and LG&E and senior unsecured debt at LKE (the renamed E,ON U.S.)

Moody's Issuer Ratings are an opinion of the ability of an entity to honor its senior unsecured financial obligations. Specific debt issues may be rated differently and are considered unrated unless rated by Moody's. That being said, it is Moody's expectation that any debt offering by LKE would likely be rated Baa2.

The KPSC's approval of the acquisition included two commitments affecting rates. The first places a moratorium on any base rate increases by KU and LG&E until 1/1/13. The second provision establishes a mechanism under which earnings at the utilities in excess of a 10.75% ROE will be shared equally between ratepayers and shareholders. The agreement has no impact on the utilities' ability to seek rate adjustments through their existing fuel and environmental cost adjustment mechanisms.

The stable outlook considers the modest expected improvement in financial metrics over the near-term and the supportive regulatory environment in which the utilities operate.

Upward pressure may materialize for KU and LG&E if they achieve financial metrics such as CFO pre-WC to debt in excess of 25% and retained cash flow to debt of greater than 17% on a sustainable basis. LKE's rating may be upgraded if it achieves consolidated CFO pre-WC to debt in excess of 19% on a sustainable basis.

KU, LG&E and LKE's ratings could be downgraded should the utilities encounter unexpected problems integrating with PPL or if unexpected changes are made to the regulatory compact that currently provides for timely recovery of costs. Financial metrics that may trigger downward rating pressure include, for KU and LG&E, ratios of CFO pre-WC to debt of below 16% or, in the case of LKE, below 13%.

The principal methodology used in rating E. ON U.S. LLC was Regulated Electric and Gas Utilities rating methodology published in August 2009. Other methodologies and factors that may have been considered in the process of rating this issuer can also be found on Moody's website.

E.ON U.S. LLC is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.

## REGULATORY DISCLOSURES

Information sources used to prepare the credit rating are the following: parties involved in the ratings, parties not involved in the ratings, public information, confidential and proprietary Moody's Investors Service's information, confidential and proprietary Moody's Analytics' information.

Moody's Investors Service considers the quality of information available on the issuer or obligation satisfactory for the purposes of maintaining a credit rating.

MOODY'S adopts all necessary measures so that the information it uses in assigning a credit rating is of sufficient quality and from sources MOODY'S considers to be reliable including, when appropriate, independent third-party sources. However, MOODY'S is not an auditor and cannot in every instance independently verify or validate information received in the rating process.

Please see ratings tab on the issuer/entity page on Moodys.com for the last rating action and the rating history.

The date on which some Credit Ratings were first released goes back to a time before Moody's Investors Service's Credit Ratings were fully digitized and accurate data may not be available. Consequently, Moody's Investors Service provides a date that it believes is the most reliable and accurate based on the information that is available to it. Please see the ratings disclosure page on our website www.moodys.com for further information.

Please see the Credit Policy page on Moodys.com for the methodologies used in determining ratings, further information on the meaning of each rating category and the definition of default and recovery.

New York Scott Solomon Vice President - Senior Analyst Infrastructure Finance Group Moody's Investors Service JOURNALISTS: 212-553-0376 SUBSCRIBERS: 212-553-1653

New York William L. Hess MD - Utilities Infrastructure Finance Group Moody's Investors Service JOURNALISTS: 212-553-0376 SUBSCRIBERS: 212-553-1653

Moody's Investors Service 250 Greenwich Street New York, NY 10007 U.S.A.



© 2010 Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and/or its licensors and affiliates (collectively, "MOODY'S"). All rights reserved.

CREDIT RATINGS ARE MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE, INC.'S ("MIS") CURRENT OPINIONS OF THE RELATIVE FUTURE CREDIT RISK OF ENTITIES, CREDIT COMMITMENTS, OR DEBT OR DEBT-LIKE SECURITIES. MIS DEFINES CREDIT RISK AS THE RISK THAT AN ENTITY MAY NOT MEET ITS CONTRACTUAL, FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AS THEY COME DUE AND ANY ESTIMATED FINANCIAL LOSS IN THE EVENT OF DEFAULT. CREDIT RATINGS DO NOT ADDRESS ANY OTHER RISK, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: LIQUIDITY RISK, MARKET VALUE RISK, OR PRICE VOLATILITY. CREDIT RATINGS ARE NOT STATEMENTS OF CURRENT OR HISTORICAL FACT. CREDIT RATINGS DO NOT CONSTITUTE INVESTMENT OR FINANCIAL ADVICE, AND CREDIT RATINGS ARE NOT RECOMMENDATIONS TO PURCHASE, SELL, OR HOLD PARTICULAR SECURITIES. CREDIT RATINGS DO NOT COMMENT ON THE SUITABILITY OF AN INVESTMENT FOR ANY PARTICULAR INVESTOR. MIS ISSUES ITS CREDIT RATINGS WITH THE EXPECTATION AND UNDERSTANDING THAT EACH INVESTOR WILL MAKE ITS OWN STUDY AND EVALUATION OF EACH SECURITY THAT IS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR PURCHASE, HOLDING, OR SALE.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS PROTECTED BY LAW, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COPYRIGHT LAW, AND NONE OF SUCH INFORMATION MAY BE COPIED OR OTHERWISE REPRODUCED, REPACKAGED, FURTHER TRANSMITTED, TRANSFERRED, DISSEMINATED, REDISTRIBUTED OR RESOLD, OR STORED FOR SUBSEQUENT USE FOR ANY SUCH PURPOSE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, IN ANY FORM OR MANNER OR BY ANY MEANS WHATSOEVER, BY ANY PERSON WITHOUT MOODY'S PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT. All information contained herein is obtained by MOODY'S from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. Because of the possibility of human or mechanical error as well as other factors, however, all information contained herein is provided "AS IS" without warranty of any kind. MOODY'S adopts all necessary measures so that the information it uses in assigning a credit rating is of sufficient quality and from sources Moody's considers to be

reliable, including, when appropriate, independent third-party sources. However, MOODY'S is not an auditor and cannot in every instance independently verify or validate information received in the rating process. Under no circumstances shall MOODYS have any liability to any person or entity for (a) any loss or damage in whole or in part caused by, resulting from, or relating to, any error (negligent or otherwise) or other circumstance or contingency within or outside the control of MOODY'S or any of its directors, officers, employees or agents in connection with the procurement, collection, compilation, analysis, interpretation, communication, publication or delivery of any such information, or (b) any direct, indirect, special, consequential, compensatory or incidental damages whatsoever (including without limitation, lost profits), even if MOODYS is advised in advance of the possibility of such damages, resulting from the use of or inability to use, any such information. The ratings, financial reporting analysis, projections, and other observations, if any, constituting part of the information contained herein are, and must be construed solely as, statements of opinion and not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase, sell or hold any securities. Each user of the information contained herein must make its own study and evaluation of each security it may consider purchasing, holding or selling. NO WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AS TO THE ACCURACY, TIMELINESS, COMPLETENESS, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF ANY SUCH RATING OR OTHER OPINION OR INFORMATION IS GIVEN OR MADE BY MOODY'S IN ANY FORM OR MANNER WHATSOEVER.

MIS, a wholly-owned credit rating agency subsidiary of Moody's Corporation ("MCO"), hereby discloses that most issuers of debt securities (including corporate and municipal bonds, debentures, notes and commercial paper) and preferred stock rated by MIS have, prior to assignment of any rating, agreed to pay to MIS for appraisal and rating services rendered by it fees ranging from \$1,500 to approximately \$2,500,000. MCO and MIS also maintain policies and procedures to address the independence of MIS's ratings and rating processes. Information regarding certain affiliations that may exist between directors of MCO and rated entities, and between entities who hold ratings from MIS and have also publicly reported to the SEC an ownership interest in MCO of more than 5%, is posted annually at <a href="https://www.moodys.com">www.moodys.com</a> under the heading "Shareholder Relations — Corporate Governance — Director and Shareholder Affiliation Policy."

Any publication into Australia of this document is by MOODY'S affiliate, Moody's Investors Service Pty Limited ABN 61 003 399 657, which holds Australian Financial Services License no. 336969. This document is intended to be provided only to "wholesale clients" within the meaning of section 761G of the Corporations Act 2001. By continuing to access this document from within Australia, you represent to MOODY'S that you are, or are accessing the document as a representative of, a "wholesale client" and that neither you nor the entity you represent will directly or indirectly disseminate this document or its contents to "retail clients" within the meaning of section 761G of the Corporations Act 2001.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, credit ratings assigned on and after October 1, 2010 by Moody's Japan K.K. ("MJKK") are MJKK's current opinions of the relative future credit risk of entities, credit commitments, or debt or debt-like securities. In such a case, "MIS" in the foregoing statements shall be deemed to be replaced with "MJKK". MJKK is a wholly-owned credit rating agency subsidiary of Moody's Group Japan G.K., which is wholly owned by Moody's Overseas Holdings Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of MCO.

This credit rating is an opinion as to the creditworthiness or a debt obligation of the issuer, not on the equity securities of the issuer or any form of security that is available to retail investors. It would be dangerous for retail investors to make any investment decision based on this credit rating. If in doubt you should contact your financial or other professional adviser.