# Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

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August 9, 2006

via Hand Delivery

Ms. Beth O'Donnell Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. P. O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40601 RECEIVED

AUG 0 9 2006

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Re: Ballard Rural Telephone v. Jackson Purchase Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, Case No. 2004-00036

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

Enclosed for filing with the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (the "Commission") is one original and ten (10) copies of Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation Inc.'s Reply to Jackson Purchase's Response to Commission Staff's Post-Hearing Data Requests in the above-styled case.

Very truly yours,

**DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP** 

Holly C. Wallace

HCW/rk Enclosure

cc: John E. Selent, Esq. (w/o enclosure)

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### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

AUG 0 9 2006

PUBLIC SERVICE

In the Matter of:

BALLARD RURAL TELEPHONE	)
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION, INC.	)
	) CASE NO. 2004-00036
v.	)
	)
JACKSON PURCHASE ENERGY CORPORATION	)

## REPLY TO JACKSON PURCHASE'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION STAFF'S POST-HEARING DATA REQUESTS

Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. ("Ballard Rural"), by counsel, hereby replies to Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation's response to the post-hearing data requests from staff of the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Kentucky (the "Commission").

As Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation ("Jackson Purchase") states in its response to the post-hearing data requests, the Commission asked Jackson Purchase to: 1) provide the weighted average cost of Jackson Purchase poles; and 2) identify the avoided cost for Jackson Purchase in attaching to a pole owned by Ballard Rural. Jackson Purchase's response does not provide the information requested by the Commission.

Rather than calculate the "weighted average cost" of its poles as that phrase is used in Administrative Case No. 251, Jackson Purchase developed its own unique methodology to calculate what it calls the "weighted cost of joint user portion." This is not what the Commission requested. Jackson Purchase's calculation is wholly inconsistent with the uniform methodology established in Administrative Case No. 251. The Commission's methodology as set forth in Administration Case

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This reply does not address Jackson Purchase's response to the Commission's request that Jackson Purchase provide the average length of pole to which Ballard Rural is attached.

No. 251 requires the first 20 feet of pole space up to the lowest attachment, plus the 6 feet of pole that is buried in the ground, and the 3.33 feet of required safety space, to be allocated to the electric utility. This space is not considered usable space when calculating Cable Television Attachment Tariff ("CTAT") rates. Rather than comply with this uniform methodology, however, Jackson Purchase allocates fifty percent (50%) of the first 25 feet of the pole to the joint user, for a total of 12.5 feet. In addition, in the second calculation in Exhibit 2 to Jackson Purchase's response to the post-hearing data requests, Jackson Purchase adds an additional 5 feet of "safety space" to the 12.5 feet of joint user space for a total of 17.5 feet of joint user space, and a weighted cost of joint user space of \$145.54.

Jackson Purchase's calculations understate the pole space that is avoided, and the costs savings that occur, from attaching to Ballard Rural's poles, and inflate Jackson Purchase's pole attachment rates. If the Commission were to use Jackson Purchase's purported \$145.54 average weighted cost of joint user space as the basis for calculating Jackson Purchase's pole attachment rate, Jackson Purchase's pole attachment rate would be a remarkable \$19.17. In contrast, in Case No. 2004-00319, the Commission established Jackson Purchase's CTAT rates as \$4.84 for a two-party pole, and \$4.09 for a three-party pole. Thus, Jackson Purchase's calculations are inconsistent with the uniform methodology established in Administrative Case No. 251.

Respectfully submitted,

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#### COUNSEL TO BALLARD RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION, INC.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

It is hereby certified that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was served, via United States mail, first class, postage pre-paid, this day of August, 2006 on the following:

W. David Denton Melissa D. Yates Denton & Keuler, LLP 555 Jefferson Street P.O. Box 929 Paducah, KY 42002-0929 G. Kelly Nuckols President & CEO Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation 2900 Irvin Cobb Drive Paducah, KY 42002-4030

COUNSEL TO BALLARD RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION, INC.

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