#### **COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**

#### **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:

## THE PLAN OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY)CASE NO.FOR THE VALUE DELIVERY SURCREDIT MECHANISM)2005-00351

#### PETITION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTION

Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") petitions the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, and KRS 61.878(1)(c) to grant confidential protection to certain information contained in its response to the Initial Data Request of the Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, Inc. ("KIUC") dated October 21, 2005. In support of this Petition, KU states as follows:

1. On September 30, 2005, KU filed an Application with the Commission for authority to withdraw from service the Value Delivery Surcredit Rider tariff for its electric service. On October 12, 2005, the Commission established a procedural schedule to conduct discovery in this proceeding. On October 21, 2005, KIUC issued its first set of data requests to KU. Data Request No. 20 requested the production of KU's forward price curves for off-system sales and all assumptions underlying the price curves including, but not limited to, natural gas prices. This information is commercial and proprietary in nature and as such should be afforded confidential treatment.

2. The Kentucky Open Records Act exempts from disclosure commercial information generally recognized as proprietary or confidential if disclosure would grant the disclosing entity's competitors an unfair commercial advantage. KRS 61.878(1)(c).

3. KU's Response to Data Request No. 20 contains sensitive commercial information concerning KU's market price projections, the disclosure of which would unfairly

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advantage KU's competitors for both power supplies and wholesale power sales. Disclosure would unfairly advantage KU's power supply competitors by informing them of the price projections and the processes used to develop the price projections in transacting sales and purchases in the wholesale power market. Any impairment of KU's ability to obtain the most advantageous price possible from power suppliers and buyers will erode its competitive position among other utilities with whom KU competes for new and relocating industrial customers and for off-system sales and purchases.

4. Further, disclosure of KU's future market price projections in the public record will damage KU's competitive position and business interests. Disclosure of this information would enable future bidders to manipulate wholesale power prices to the detriment of KU and its ratepayers. Instead of offering its best price and terms in its offer, a power supplier with knowledge of KU's price curves and results could adjust its offer to make a less competitive offer. As a result, KU will not get the same quality of offers that would be produced by a system protected by the confidentiality employed by unregulated businesses. Any impairment of KU's ability to obtain competitive prices for their power supply will either increase the price KU and its customers will pay for wholesale power or decrease the possible margins from off-system sales. As a result, KU will not be able to purchase reasonably priced power supplies, for new retail load, or make the most effecient off-system sales.

5. KU's response also includes forward projections of coal prices. This information, if disclosed, would unfairly advantage KU's competitors for both power supplies and wholesale power sales and harm KU's procurement of fuel supplies through competitive bid solicitations. Disclosure would unfairly advantage KU's power supply competitors by informing them of the price projections of a fundamental component of wholesale power sales and the processes used

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to develop the coal price projections. As a result, KU will not be able to purchase reasonably priced power supplies, make the most efficient off-system sales, or purchase reasonably priced coal supplies through competitive bid solicitations.

6. KU's Response to Data Request No. 20 demonstrates on its face that it merits confidential protection. If the Commission disagrees, however, it must hold an evidentiary hearing to protect the due process rights of KU and supply the Commission with a complete record to enable it to reach a decision with regard to this matter. <u>Utility Regulatory Commission</u> <u>v. Kentucky Water Service Company, Inc.</u>, Ky. App., 642 S.W.2d 591, 592-94 (1982).

7. The projections sought to be protected were developed internally by KU personnel, are not known outside of KU and are not disseminated within KU except to those employees with a legitimate business need to know and act upon the information.

8. KU does not object to limited disclosure of the confidential information, pursuant to a protective agreement, to KIUC and to other intervenors with a legitimate interest in reviewing the same in the context of this proceeding.

9. In accordance with the provisions of 807 KAR 5:001 Section 7, one copy of the confidential information responding to Data Request No. 20 is highlighted on yellow paper and ten (10) copies of the cover sheets without the confidential information is herewith filed with the Commission.

For the reasons stated, Kentucky Utilities Company respectfully requests that the Commission grant confidential protection for the information at issue, or in the alternative, schedule an evidentiary hearing on all factual issues while maintaining the confidentiality of the information pending the outcome of the hearing.

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Dated: November 2, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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Elizabeth L. Cocanougher Senior Corporate Attorney LG&E Energy LLC 220 West Main Street Post Office Box 32010 Louisville, Kentucky 40232 Telephone: (502) 627-4850

Counsel for Kentucky Utilities Company

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition for Confidential Protection was served on the following parties of record this 2nd day of November 2005, by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid, through the U.S. mail to:

Elizabeth E. Blackford Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Utility & Rate Intervention Division 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200 Frankfort, KY 40601-8204

Michael L. Kurtz Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street, Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202

Counsel for Kentucky Utilities Company

# CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION REDACTED Response to KIUC Question No. 20 Page 1 of 4 Blake

CTS Quote Date	June 30, 2004					September 30, 2004				December 31, 2004			
	Cinergy	Henry Hub SO2		NOx	Cinergy	Henry Hub	SO2	NOx	Cinergy	Henry Hub	SO2	NOx	
	5x16 per MWh	per MMBtu	per Ton	per Ton	5x16 per MWh	per MMBtu	per Ton	per Ton	5x16 per MWh	per MMBtu	per Ton	per Ton	
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2005 Open Position Price Curve (100°a. Market for '03. 75% market and 25% Hill for '06. 50% Market and 50% Hill for '07. 25% Market and 75% Hill for '08 and 100% Hill for '09+ PBB 8600 BTU CAPP Compliance EKY Low Sulfur MAP High Sulfur IL Basin Mid Sulfur IL Basin Mid Sulfur



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2006 Open Position Prace Curve (100% Market for 06, 75% market and 25% Hill for 07, 50% Market and 50% Hill for 104 and 100% Hill for 104 PRB 8800 BTU CAPP Compliance EKY Low Sulfur NAPP High Sulfur L Basn Mid Sulfur L Basn Mid Sulfur

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