

LG&E Energy LLC 220 West Main Street (40202) P.O. Box 32030 Louisville, Kentucky 40232

March 28, 2006

RECEIVED

MAR 2 8 2006

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Elizabeth O'Donnell Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

RE: Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company for the Construction of Transmission Facilities In Jefferson, Bullitt, Meade, and Hardin Counties Case No. 2005-00467

Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company for the Construction of Alternative Transmission Facilities in Jefferson, Bullitt, Meade, and Hardin Counties, Kentucky Case No. 2005-00472

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

Enclosed please find an original and eight (8) copies of an amendment to the response of Louisville Gas and Electric Company's ("LG&E's") and Kentucky Utilities Company's ("KU's) Response to Question No. 8 of Dennis and Cathy Cunningham; CDH Preserve, LLC; Harrison and Hardin First Data Request dated March 6, 2006. Upon review of the voluminous data provided in response to Question No. 8, the Companies discovered that the pages enclosed were inadvertently omitted from the response dated March 13, 2006. Should you have any questions concerning the enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact me at (502) 627-4110.

Sincerely,

1th Way

John Wolfram Manager, Regulatory Affairs

cc: Parties of Record



#### Cornett, Greg J.

From:Harper, Vicki [Vicki.Harper@eon-us.com]Sent:Monday, March 27, 2006 10:57 AMTo:Cornett, Greg J.Subject:FW: Indiana and Gray bat information

----Original Message----From: Mindi\_Brady@fws.gov [mailto:Mindi\_Brady@fws.gov] Sent: Friday, May 20, 2005 2:48 PM To: Rice, Dan Subject: Indiana and Gray bat information

Hi Dan,

Thanks for sending the maps of the Ft. Knox segment. We really appreciate the opportunity to work with you all on this project. Below are a few paragraphs regarding Indiana bats and Gray bats. Hopefully this information will be of some help to you. As I said earlier, I am working on putting a letter together with some additional species information that may be helpful for the upcoming surveys. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

According to our records, summer roost habitat and/or winter hibernacula for the endangered Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis) and gray bat (Myotis grisescens) may exist within the proposed project site. Based on this information, we believe that: (1) forested areas in the vicinity of and on the project area may provide potentially suitable summer roosting and foraging habitat for the Indiana bat and potentially suitable foraging habitat for the gray bat (if suitable roosting sites are present); and (2) caves, rockshelters, and abandoned underground mines in the vicinity of and on the

project area may provide potentially suitable winter hibernacula habitat for the Indiana bat and/or potentially suitable summer roosting and/or winter hibernacula habitat for the gray bat. Our belief that potentially suitable habitat may be present, and possibly occupied by this species, is based on information provided in your correspondence, that fact that the project site and surrounding area may contain forested habitats that are within the natural ranges of these species, and our knowledge of the life history characteristics of this species.

The Indiana bat uses a wide array of forested habitats, including riparian forests, bottomlands, and uplands for both summer foraging and roosting habitat. Indiana bats typically roost under exfoliating bark, in cavities of dead and live trees, and in snags (i.e., dead trees or dead portions of live trees). Trees in excess of 16 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) are considered optimal for maternity colony roosts, but trees in excess of 9 inches DBH appear to provide suitable maternity roosting habitat. Male Indiana bats have been observed roosting in trees as small as 3 inches DBH.

Prior to hibernation, Indiana bats utilize the forest habitat around the hibernacula, where they feed and roost until temperatures drop to a point that forces them into hibernation. This "swarming" period lasts, depending on weather conditions in a particular year, from about September 15 to about November 15. This is a critical time for Indiana bats, since they are acquiring additional fat reserves and mating prior to hibernation. Research has shown that bats exhibiting this "swarming" behavior will range up to five miles from chosen hibernacula during this time. For hibernation, the Indiana bat prefers limestone caves, sandstone rockshelters, and abandoned underground mines with stable temperatures of 39 to 46 degrees F and humidity above 74 percent but below saturation.

Gray bats roost, breed, rear young, and hibernate in caves year round. They migrate

between summer and winter caves and will use transient or stopover caves along the way. For hibernation, the roost site must have an average temperature of 42 to 52 degrees F. Most of the caves used by gray bats for hibernation have deep vertical passages with large rooms that function as cold air traps. Summer caves must be warm, between 57 and 77 degrees F, or have small rooms or domes that can trap the body heat of roosting bats. Summer caves are normally located close to rivers or lakes where the bats feed. Gray bats have been known to fly as far as 12 miles from their colony to feed.

If you have any questions next week while I'm gone, please contact Mike Armstrong at 502-695-0468 ext. 227 Doug Dawson (Kentucky Fish and Wildlife) can be reached at 502-564-4336 to answer any questions regarding state listed species. Have a good weekend,

Mindi Brady Fish & Wildlife Biologist

US Fish & Wildlife Service Kentucky Field Office 3761 Georgetown Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601 502/695-0468 extn. 229 502/695-1024 fax Mindi Brady@fws.gov http://frankfort.fws.gov Comments from Mike Brandenburg (Wildlife Biologist)

1. The field survey does not identify the bald eagle as a listed species within the project area. This species needs to be addressed.

2. The identification of restrictions on clearing should be modified to 15 October thru 31 March instead of November thru March.

3. Page 3-16 last paragraph re. SH25 "This particular sinkhole was identified as being a potential cave; therefore providing winter habitat for the federally-listed gray bat."

Should read "has a <u>potential to</u> provide winter habitat" for the gray bat. The hibernacula climactic conditions for the gray bat are very specific as approx. 95% of the known population hibernates in eight or nine caves, it is extremely unlikely that this cave, if it is a cave, is suitable.

4. Need to identify exactly what activities are going to occur in the 70 foot buffers. Obviously the ROW must be cleared but it should be identified that within the buffers hand clearing will be done and wheeled or tracked equipment will be excluded. Should logs or debris need to be removed from these areas it should be cabled out to reduce disturbance. The debris will need to be removed in the jurisdictional wetland areas to preclude it constituting a fill action.

#### Comments from Brian Waldrep (Forester)

1. Need punctuation correction on Pg. 1-1, 1-2, 3-6 and 3-8

2. Suggest re-wording or word smithing 2 phrases under definitions of "Ruderal/Disturbed Areas" on Pg. 1-3 and additional word smithing on Pg. 2-7.

3. In the executive summary (twice) Pg. 2-1 (twice), Pg. 2-8 (twice) and 2-9 the document states that the vegetation is to be removed "by hand." A definition of "by hand" needs to be included in the document to clarify how mature timber is to be removed "by hand."

4. In the executive summary on Pg. 2-1, 2-8 (twice) and 2-9, I recommend the hibernation period of "November to March" be changed to the more accurate "October 15 to March 31."

5. In the executive summary 2-1, 2-8, 2-9 and 3-8 a "70 foot buffer" has been required around all streams, sink holes (open throat) and jurisdictional wetlands. I would like a definition or description of what a vegetative buffer on an utility easement would be.



Employee:	Dan Rice	Project No.:	4332-013
Talked With:	Mike Brandenburg	Date/Time:	07/27/05 10:30 AM EST
Firm:	FT Knox Fish and Wildlife Section	Telephone No.:	502-624-7368
Address:			<ul> <li>[] Placed Call</li> <li>[ Received Call</li> <li>[] Conference Call</li> <li>[ Met with Party</li> </ul>

## Subject:

Comments on Draft Biological Field Report - Proposed Utility Easement - Ft. Knox

### Conversation:

I had a phone conversation with Mike Brandenburg (wildlife biologist) and Brian Waltrep (forester) of Ft Knox today (7/27/05) regarding their comments on the Draft Field Report. Following is a summary of our conversation.

- 1. Bald Eagle Mike stated that the eagle is only known in the area during migration periods (fall and winter) feeding on the large bodies of water (Ohio and Salt) and deer carcasses. No nesting has been reported.
- 2. Eggerts sunflower (ES) Mike stated that there was "probably not" a need to re-survey for the ES during the blooming period. Although, ES is known in Hardin County, it has never been documented on the installation. Also, there is a botanical survey currently being conducted on the base, and specific ES surveys have been conducted in glades in the southern part of the installation. It is my understanding from the literature that these would be the ideal habitat, and no specimens have been found. I asked again, and he stated there was no need to do the survey.
- 3. Wetlands and buffers Mike will require more info on how we will handle the trees in the wetlands. I noted that I did not interpret the regs. as to consider felled trees as fill. Mike did not dispute this, but asked that we discuss our practice with the Corps to get their opinion. You had previously mentioned that LG&E had a good relationship with the district office of the Corps, so I will assume you or LG&E will discuss this issue to the Corps (unless you would like me to do so). In addition, Mike will require additional information on what "hand" clearing will entail, what equipment will be used/excluded, and what restrictions will be placed within buffers.
- 4. I discussed the wording changes with Brian Waltrep.
- 5. Brian will also require more specifics on buffers and "hand clearing." Specifically, Brian asked that we clarify the size vegetation that will be left in the buffer.

Сору

Signature



# LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

6801 Governors Lake Parkway Norcross, Georgia 30071		June 30, 2005	JOB NO. 04332013	
Phone: (770) 455-8555 Fax: (770) 455-7391	-	ATTENTION: Linda Gail Pollock (IMSE-KNX-OSE)		
TO: Environmental Management Divis	- sion	RE: Proposed Electric Utility E	Easement – Ft. Knox, KY	
Directorate of Base Operations Su		Biological Field Survey and Maps		
ATTN: IMSE-KNX-OSE				
6th Avenue, Bldg 1110B Ft Knox, KY 40121-5000				
502-624-3629				
Ms. Pollock:				
WE ARE SENDING YOU 🛛 ATTAC	CHED UNDER SEPARATE	COVER THE FOLLO	WING ITEMS:	
SHOP DRAWINGS	S DPLANS	CERTIFICATION		
COPY OF LETTER	DLLS TEST REPORTS	□		
COPIES DATE NO.		DESCRIPTION		
5 6/30/05	Proposed Electric Utility Easement – Bilogical Field Survey Report			
5 6/30/05	5 6/30/05 Bilogical Field Survey Report – Figures 7a-7l (24 x 36)			
		(		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
THESE ARE TRANSMITTED AS CHEC	KED BELOW			
FOR APPROVAL	NO EXCEPTION TAKEN	SUBMIT COPIES F	OR DISTRIBUTION	
FOR YOUR USE/FILES	MAKE CORRECTIONS NOTED	D RETURN CORREC	TED COPIES	
AS REQUESTED	AMEND AND RESUBMIT	RESUBMIT COPIE	S FOR APPROVAL	
FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT	REJECTED - (SEE REMARKS)	RETURN APPROV	ED COPIES	
REMARKS:				
Ms Pollock:				
Please call me or Clay Doherty (912.354.7	565) with any questions.			
Thanks,				
Dan (678-333-0457)				
СОРҮ ТО				

Environmental Management Division Directorate of Base Operations Support ATTN: IMSE-KNX-OSE 6th Avenue, Bldg 1110B Ft Knox, KY 40121-5000.

Commercial: 502-624-3629; DSN: 464-3629; Fax: 502-624-3000



## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

6801 Governors Lake Parkway Norcross, Georgia 30071 Phone: (770) 455-8555 Fax: (770) 455-7391					Septmber 15, 2005 JOB NO. 04332013 ATTENTION: Linda Gail Pollock (IMSE-KNX-OSE)		
TO:	Environmental Management Division Directorate of Base Operations Support				RE: Proposed Electric Utility Easement - Ft. Knox, KY		
					Biological Field Survey and Maps		
		V: IMSE-KNX-O					
	6th A	venue, Bldg 1110	)B				
	Ft Kn	ox, KY 40121-50	00				
	502-6	24-3629					
Ms. Po	llock:						
		SENDING YOU	Ј 🛛 АТТАСНЕЈ	D UNDER SEPARAT	E COVER THE FOLI	OWING ITEMS:	
C	] SHOP	DRAWINGS	PRINTS	<b>PLANS</b>	CERTIFICATION		
Г		OF LETTER		TEST REPORTS			
	PIES	DATE	NO.		DESCRIPTION	1 (24 - 26	
	5	9/15/05		Proposed Electric	<u> Utility Easement – Figures 7a-7</u>	1(24 x 36 aerial maps)	
				· · · · ·			
THES	E ARE '	FRANSMITTED	AS CHECKE	D BELOW			
FOR APPROVAL				NO EXCEPTION TAKEN	SUBMIT COPIE	S FOR DISTRIBUTION	
S FOR YOUR USE/FILES				MAKE CORRECTIONS NOT	ED RETURN CORR.	ECTED COPIES	
AS REQUESTED				AMEND AND RESUBMIT	RESUBMIT COF	PIES FOR APPROVAL	
FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT			MENT	REJECTED - (SEE REMARKS	) RETURN APPRO	OVED COPIES	
[		_					
REMA	RKS:						
Ms. Po	ollock:						
		s office (678-333-	-0457) or Clav	Doherty (912.354.7565) v	vith any questions.		
Thank			, <b>.</b> ,				
						$\square$	
Dan R Senio	lice r Ecolog	ļist			$\langle \rangle \rangle$	_	
СОРУ	7 TO			SIGNED	( All	<u> </u>	
~~~~ <b>.</b> .				ENCLOSURES ARE NOT AS NOTED, KI	NDLY NOTIFY US AT ONCE		