Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky **Public Service Commission**211 Sower Blvd.

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James W. Gardner Vice Chairman

Charles R. Borders Commissioner

October 23, 2009

Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry Attention: Michael L. Kurtz 36 East Seventh St., Suite 1510 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Re: The Kroger Company - Petition for Confidential Treatment received 6/08/09

PSC Reference - Case No. 2008-00495

Dear Mr. Kurtz:

The Public Service Commission has received the Petition for Confidential Treatment you filed on June 8, 2009 on behalf of The Kroger Company to protect certain information filed with the Commission as confidential pursuant to Section 7 of 807 KAR 5:001 and KRS 61.870. The information you seek to have treated as confidential is identified as information contained in The Kroger Company's Response to Dukes 1<sup>st</sup> set of Data Requests, Item 5(k) and Responses to the Commission's 1<sup>st</sup> set of Data Requests 1(a) and 2(b), containing energy usage analysis and strategies, as well as other important methods under which Kroger operates its business. Your justification for having the Commission handle this material as confidential is that the public disclosure of the information would compromise The Kroger Company's competitive position in the industry and result in an unfair commercial advantage to its competitors.

Based on a review of the information and pursuant to KRS 61.878 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, the Commission has determined that the information you seek to keep confidential is of a proprietary nature, which if publicly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to The Kroger Company's competitors. Therefore, the information requested to be treated as confidential **meets the criteria for confidential protection** and will be maintained as a nonpublic part of the Commission's file in this case. The procedure for usage of confidential materials during formal proceedings may be found at Section 7(8) of 807 KAR 5:001.



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If the information becomes publicly available or no longer warrants confidential treatment, The Kroger Company is required by Section 8(9)(a) of 807 KAR 5:001 to inform the Commission so that the information may be placed in the public record.

Sincerely,

/eff/Derouen Executive Director

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cc: Parties of Record