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**PUBLIC SERVICE** 

COMMISSION

Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY

Re: Kentucky Power Rate Adjustment Request

Gentlemen:

This is a humble submission concerning the subject rate change request. I live at Robinson Creek, Pike County, Kentucky. There are three observations I would like to make.

Based on Kentucky Power Company letter to its customers which had no date, they are requesting an average monthly increase of approximately 13.5%. They wish to increase Residential Service rates by 34.8% this means residential customers will be expected to pay 2.6 times more of an increase than the average customers.

In a meeting in Letcher County, attended by the Kentucky Power Company personnel, it was reported that the spokes-person justified the Residential Service increase by saying that all other customers of Kentucky Power Company had subsided this residential group for years. Wow, that was a long sentence. Subsiding seems to be a very popular word this day and time. In my many years as a customer, this is my first experience for this type of rate increase. Kentucky Power Company may be taking lessons from large corporate banks and Enron to find new ways to make money. I wonder who the "powers that be" at Kentucky Power Company think pays the cost to operate the business.

Kentucky Power Company may not be too interested in maintaining service to Residential Service customers in rural areas away. It was only after the rural electricity agency came into beginning that my family received power, this was in 1938.

The second observation is the movement of Kentucky Power away from its customers.

They have closed their regional offices in all three of the original districts. Communication by phone is very trying even in normal conditions. In case of trouble, you may as well try

talking to India. This may be their next step, move the headquarters to South America and outsource line communication to India. India will know just as much about trouble in Eastern Kentucky as West Virginia.

I fully believe in free enterprise. A business must have a reasonable return on its investment, but the value has to be rendered for that return.

The third observation is on the transmission adjustment section of Kentucky Power Company's request. I had no data or information on this except to say, all power generation companies would like to sale the power they generate to the grid. This they have learned, again from Enron. More money is made if you don't have to be bothered with small customers and public service commissions.

I hope I have not taken too much of your valuable time. The commission is our only hope of a fair outcome. Lord knows we are fast running out of safe guards.

Sincerely yours,

L.J. Horne, Jr.