#### ROBERT L. BROWN III

ATTORNEY AT LAW
1005 SOUTH MAIN STREET
CORBIN, KENTUCKY 40701

(606) 528-3073 FAX (606) 528-3289 March 24, 2009

#### **VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL**

Mr. Jeff R. Derouen Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602 RECEIVED

MAR 2 6 2009

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RE: CITIPOWER, LLC – PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT FILING CASE NUMBER 2009-00080

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Enclosed please find the original and ten (10) copies of Citipower, LLC's Response to Initial Data Request of Commission Staff as it relates to the above-mentioned matter.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated, and should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Brown III

RLB/ca

**Enclosures** 

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT FILING OF CITIPOWER, LLC

CASE NO. 2009-00080

## RESPONSE TO INITIAL DATA REQUEST OF COMMISSION STAFF TO CITIPOWER, LLC

Comes now Citipower, LLC, ("Citipower") by and through the undersigned counsel, and states the following response to the Initial Data Request of Commission Staff to Citipower, LLC, with regard to the above-referenced case number:

MAR 2 6 2009
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT FILING OF CITIPOWER, LLC

CASE NUMBER 2009-00080

1. Refer to Citipower's Quarterly Report of Gas Cost Recovery Rate Calculation, filed February 23, 2009. It appears that the price Citipower pays Citigas, LLC ("Citigas") for its gas supply is based on a New York Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX") Natural Gas 12-month Strip rate. Provide the rationale for Citigas basing the price it charges Citipower on a NYMEX Natural Gas 12-month Strip rate.

RESPONSE: Citipower has entered into a 12-month contract based upon an average rate in an attempt to level out (annualize) the rates its customers pay for gas. As there are only a limited number of gas producers and gas pipelines near the utility, this method uses a 12-month period to average the annual gas costs, based upon a published rate. NYMEX rate has historically been used because it is readily available and from a recognized and published market. In addition, the 12-month contract based upon an average saves the utility administrative expenses by not being required to negotiate, track, or compute moving gas prices.

Robert L. Brown III 1005 South Main Street Corbin, Kentucky 40701 Attorney for Citipower, LLC

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT FILING OF CITIPOWER, LLC

CASE NO. 2009-00080

2. An attached letter from Citigas dated February 20, 2008 sates that Citipower's gas cost per Mcf will be \$11.38 for April 2009 through June 2009. As support for the amount of \$11.38 Citigas has attached the "NYMEX Natural Gas 12-Month Strip" for April 24, 2008.

a. Given that Citipower is proposing an effective date of April 1, 2009 for its gas cost adjustment filing, explain why the NYMEX Natural Gas 12-Month Strip for April 24, 2008, which appears to cover the 12 months ending March 2009, is being used for the expected cost of gas.

RESPONSE: The effective date of the existing twelve-month contract is May 1, 2008 ending April 30, 2009. As Citipower does not yet have an agreement in place for May-June 2009, it is seeking a price approval for the extension of the current contract until a new contract is in place. Due to projected gas demands, in light of local production, Citipower is in negotiations with a third party supplier of gas at an offered rate of \$5.00 per mmbtu plus the actual cost of natural gas delivered (based on the Tennessee/Louisiana 800 leg index). This would be \$9.0464 as of March 24, 2009 as quoted by the Intercontinental Exchange.

Robert L. Brown III 1005 South Main Street Corbin, Kentucky 40701 Attorney for Citipower, LLC

Question 2b Page 1 of 1

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT FILING OF CITIPOWER, LLC

CASE NO. 2009-00080

2. An attached letter from Citigas dated February 20, 2008 states that

Citipower's gas cost per Mcf will be \$11.38 for April 2009 through June 2009. As support

for the amount of \$11.38 Citigas has attached the "NYMEX Natural Gas 12-Month Strip"

for April 24, 2008.

b. In that same letter, a BTU factor of \$2.28 is added to the "Gas cost per Mcf"

of \$11.38. Should the \$11.38 actually be labeled as the "Gas cost per Dh? If no, explain

why a BTU factor is needed to arrive at a final price.

RESPONSE: The 12 month contract between Citigas and Citipower provides for

MCF price plus a 1.2 BTU factor. This has been the historical calculation in order to

provide the heating value in excess of 1000 Btu per Mcf of produced natural gas. As

certain locals provide varieties of Btu's per Mcf, this calculation assures an adequate

heating value for delivered gas. Citipower does not believe it is necessary to label the gas

as a "cost per Dh".

Robert L. Brown III 1005 South Main Street Corbin, Kentucky 40701 Attorney for Citipower, LLC

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT FILING OF CITIPOWER LLC

CASE NUMBER 2009-00080

Robert L. Brown III 1005 South Main Street Corbin, Kentucky 40701 Telephone: (606) 528-3073 Attorney for Citipower, LLC

#### **CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing was on the day of March 2009, served by faxing and mailing the original and ten (10) true and exact copies of same, all postage prepaid, addressed for delivery to:

Mr. Jeff Derouen
Executive Director
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
211 Sower Building
P. O. BOX 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

And by mailing a true and correct copy to:

Hon. Jack Conway Attorney General 1024 Capital Center Drive Suite 200 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-8204

Robert I. Brown III