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. Kentucky Power Company 2010 Distribution Vegetation Management Plan

MAY 20 2010

PUBLIC SERVICE

COMMISSION

Overview

On March 31, 2010, Kentucky Power filed its 2010 Distribution Vegetation Management Plan with the Public Service Commission. (A copy of the Plan is attached as <u>**EXHIBIT 1**</u> to this Plan.) In the plan, the Company projected undertaking distribution vegetation management work to re-clear 872 miles of distribution lines at an estimated O&M cost of \$6.5M.

In its 2010 Distribution Vegetation Management Plan Kentucky Power projected that during the entirety of 2010 Kentucky Power would undertake the following work at the stated cost in each of the three districts in its service territory:

District	Planned Miles Of Distribution Line To Be Re-Cleared	Planned Acres To Be Sprayed (Included In Miles To Be Re-Cleared)	Total Distribution Vegetation Management O&M Expenditures
Hazard	333	854	\$2,230,528
Pikeville	360	630	\$2,495,953
Ashland	179	320	\$1,773,519
Totals	872	1804	\$6,500,000

Based on year to date actual expenditures, the Company estimates that 466 miles of distribution lines will be maintained during the first six months of 2010. The O&M cost of performing the work during the first six months of 2010 is projected to be \$4 million. This compares with test year O&M expenditures of \$7.24M for the twelve month period ended September 30, 2009.

Under the Unanimous Settlement Agreement, Kentucky Power agreed to maintain the test-year level of Distribution Vegetation Management O&M expenditures. In addition, under the Unanimous Settlement Agreement, Kentucky Power is to receive and is required to spend an additional \$10 million annually for Distribution Vegetation Management. Thus, if the Unanimous Settlement Agreement is approved, Kentucky Power's annual Distribution Vegetation Management expenditures will be \$17.24M. The budget for the first six months following the approval of the Unanimous Settlement Agreement is \$8.62M (\$17.24 million/2).

A circuit-by-circuit description of the proposed Distribution Vegetation Management work plan for the second half of 2010, along with the associated O&M expenditures, is

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provided as <u>EXHIBIT 2</u> to this Plan. <u>EXHIBIT 3</u> to the Plan sets out by District the projected aerial spraying expenditures during the second half of 2010. Finally, <u>EXHIBIT 4</u> to the Plan provides on a district-by-district basis the projected total O&M expenditures during the second half of 2010.

As set out in more detail on **EXHIBITS 2-4** of this plan, Kentucky Power projects that during the six-month period July 29, 2010 to December 31, 2010.

- Approximately 1257 miles of distribution line will be re-cleared by manual trimming, mechanical trimming and herbicide treatment during the six months ended December 31, 2010. This is 851 miles more than the 406 miles planned for the second half of 2010 in the absence of the increased reliability funding.
- The Distribution Vegetation Management contract crew complement will be expanded from 71 existing crews to 91 crews (60 Asplundh new hires).
- Planned overtime work of 80 hours per Asplundh crew will be performed (equivalent to 21 additional FTE's for six months).
- 12 experienced contract crews will be brought in from other locations for three months of work. (36 FTE's).
- An aerial saw will be utilized to trim 90 miles of distribution line. No aerial saw work was in the original 2010 work plan. The use of an aerial saw allows reclearing in the most inaccessible areas and helps resolve tree overhang problems.
- Herbicide application will be increased from the 182 miles in the original plan for the second half of the year to 600 miles.
- 3 contract foresters will be employed to assist our company foresters in planning and monitoring the work performed.

Kentucky Power estimates it will take 7 years to perform a complete re-clearing cycle of its distribution system and establish a 4-year cycle for its program. A complete inventory of all trees along distribution Rights-of-Way will not be made at this time. However the Company will develop and maintain an inventory of "cycle-buster" trees as the program is moved to a 4-year cycle. (A cycle buster tree is one that has to be revisited before the circuit is due for its next cycle trim.)

Vegetation management problems have been identified as the primary cause of reliability problems of seven of the ten 2009 worst performing circuits. Of these seven circuits, the distribution vegetation management work planned to address reliability

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issues has either been completed in the first half of 2010, or will be completed under this proposed plan during the second half of 2010.

Kentucky Power will use reasonable and prudent efforts to adhere to and carry out this Work Plan. Unforeseen circumstances may cause some deviations from the plan. These include major storms or the newly discovered need to do vegetation management on a distribution circuit not in the plan, but which is experiencing reliability problems. The Company will inform the Commission of any such material deviation from its Plan.

2010 Kentucky Power Vegetation Management Plan/Review

There are no major changes to the Vegetation Management Plan for 2010. The Cut portion of the 2010 VMP will focus on Feeder Breaker Zones and Recloser/Sectionalizer Zones that impact large numbers of customers. Mitigating tree-caused outages in these areas will provide the optimum impact on reducing SAIFI. These zones will be prioritized and scheduled based on past reliability performance, field inspection of the right-of-way conditions, and the number of customers impacted. Some line segments that have experienced repeated tree-caused outages in 2009 will be included in the 2010 Plan also. Some full-circuit reclearing will also be performed. These circuits will be selected based on tree-related outage performance. Approximately \$571,175 will be earmarked in the Cut portion of the VM Plan to address reactive reliability issues that develop throughout the year. This Unscheduled/Reactive funding represents about eight percent of the total VM Budget.

Right-of-Way (ROW) widening will be performed on selected line segments to reduce the potential for outages caused by trees from outside the ROW. These lines segments are typically in inaccessible areas, have experienced excessive Tree Out of ROW outages, and/or serve critical or large numbers of customers. This work will be funded under the Capital portion of the VM Plan.

Herbicide treatment methods are an important component of Kentucky Power's Vegetation Management Plan. ULV (Ultra Low Volume), high-volume foliar, basal, cut-surface, and aerial application techniques will be utilized depending on the brush conditions. The goal is to treat 1,804 acres of brush in 2010.

AREA	PLANNED	PLANNED SPRAY ACRES	FORESTRY CAPITAL FUNDING	UNSCHEDULED REACTIVE O&M FUNDING	SCHEDULED O&M FUNDING	TOTAL O&M FUNDING	TOTAL VMP FUNDING
HAZARD	333	854	\$348,319	\$197,579	\$2,032,949	\$ 2,230,528	\$2,578,847
PIKEVILLE	360	630	\$378,310	\$273,132	\$2,222,821	\$ 2,495,953	\$2,874,263
ASHLAND	179	320	\$273,371	\$100,464	\$1,673,055	\$ 1,773,519	\$2,046,890
TOTALS	872	1804	\$1,000,000	\$571,175	\$5,928,825	\$ 6,500,000	\$7,500,000

2010 KENTUCKY POWER DISTRIBUTION VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The 2009 VM Plan was implemented without any major changes. The Ice Storm in January, the February Wind Storm in the Hazard Area and the two snow storms in December caused significant damage to our distribution system. Tree crews worked for several weeks following these major events to remove damaged trees and limbs endangering our facilities. A series of minor storms in June initiated additional reactive tree work that also impacted our VM Plan. The historic level of storm activity experienced in 2009 prevented us from spending all of the funds designated for Vegetation Management during 2009. We also performed more Right-of-Way widening work than was originally planned. This work was funded under the Capital portion of the budget. Right-of-Way widening is aimed at improving the long-term reliability of line segments by reducing the number of outages caused by trees falling from outside of the Right-of-Way.

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2010 21 RECLED	2010 2nd Half KY	2010 2nd Half KY FORESTRY PL		AN-SUMMARY	×		
	STATION	CIRCUIT	CIRCUIT	LINE	MILES		
DISTRICT	NAME	NAME	NUMBER	MILES	PLANNED	O&M	COMMENTS
	Sidney	Coburn Mountain	3404302	49.00	40.00	\$600,000	finish Full Circuit Reclear
	Barrenshe	Vulcan	3200202	49.00	20.00	\$260,000	Full Circuit Reclear - to be completed in 2011 - 2009 WPC
	Hurley	Race Fork	2970603	6.00	6.00	\$90,000	Full Circuit Reclear (Paw Paw area)
	Sprigg	Matewan	2150105	1.30	1.30	\$480,000	reeaer breaker zone Evill Cirruit Paclaar
T	Dramn		340000	00.00	2 20	\$11 000	rui viruut teevea Fui viruut teevea Gaedas Perskas Zona
PKV	Eishtran	Distribution	3414901	4.80	4.80	\$24,000	Full Circuit Reclear
Τ	Henry Clay	Regina	3401702	80.00	5.62	\$56,201	Feeder Breaker Zone
PKV	Henry Clay	Regina	3401702	80.00	4.80	\$52,800	2nd Recloser Zone - poor tree reliability performance - impacts 1,571 customers
	Johns Creek	Meta	3411801	158.00	5.00	\$15,000	Hedge Road Recloser Zone - poor tree reliability performance - impacts 1,151 customers
РКV	Second Fork	Distribution	3403801	2.05	1.00	\$4,000	Feeder Breaker Zone
	South Pikeville	-	3410501	1.18	1.00	\$6,000	Feeder Breaker Zone
	Topmost	Kite	3407103	4.00	4.00	\$56,000	Feeder Breaker Zone
	West Paintsville Staffordsville	Staffordsville	3409002	44.00	10.00	\$120,000	tinish full Circuit Reciear
PKV	Feds Creek	Feds Creek	3409401	41.00	38,00	\$456,000	Full Cirtuit Reclear
PKV	Feds Creek	Lick Creek	3409402	35.00	17.00	\$204,000	Full Ciruit Reciear Guil Ciruit Baclear
	Fords Branch	Cholinsul Clean	3444004	27.00	37.00	5444 000	r un onun recereur Leur onun Rochear
	Pords branch	Sileiuy	3300602	1 00	1 92	\$17 240	r un viruit necrea Feader Reaker Zone
	Diuegrass	Makatu	3300601	1 35	1 35	\$12,155	r seuer bruaner conc Feeder Breaker Zone
HAZ	Chavies	Chavies	3301101	3.21	3.21	\$28,907	Feeder Breaker Zone - 2009 WPC
HAZ	Flemina	McRoberts	3401302	3.16	3.16	\$28,420	Feeder Breaker Zone
HAZ	Fleming	Neon	3401301	2.17	2.17	\$19,534	Feeder Breaker Zone
HAZ	Hazard	Kenmont	3302704	4.03	4.03	\$36,266	Feeder Breaker Zone
HAZ	Jeff	Jeff	3309002	0.60	0.60	\$5,400	Feeder Breaker Zone
	Reedy	Deane	3311401	6.78	6.78	\$61,020	Feeder Breaker Zone
HAZ	Slemp	Beech Fork	3309903	1.53	1.53	\$13,730	Feeder Breaker Zone
	Slemp	Defeated Creek	3309901	3.70	3.70	\$33,300	Feeder Breaker Zone
	Slemp	Royal Diamond	3309904	2.38	2.38	\$21,394	Feeder Breaker Zone
	Vicco	Red Fox	3309301	3.1	3.1	\$37,200	Sassafras Creek - Repeat Tree Outages
HAZ	Leslie	Wooten	3303902	4.30	4.30	\$51,600	1st recioser zone up Cutsnin - Kepeat Tree Outages - Impacts 1,425 customers
HAZ	Beckham	Carr Creek	3308402	6.30	6.30	\$75,600	Recloser Zone @ Brinkley - Kepeat Tree Uutages - Impacts 384 customers
TAZ	Hazard	Blackgoid	3302/01	R7	52	\$340,000 £343,000	
HAZ HAZ	Wintespurg Stinnett	Crarts correy Redhird	3311101	116	14	\$168.000	
HAZ	Jeff	Viper	3309001	54	5	\$60,000	
HAZ	Mayking	Ermine	3314401	26	26	\$312,000	Full Circuit Reclear
HAZ	Mayking	Millstone	3314402	43	25	\$300,000	Full Circuit Reclear
HAZ	Hazard	Hazard	3302703	12	12	\$144,000	Full Circuit Reclear
HAZ	Leslie	Wooten	3303902	150	20	\$240,000	\$240,000 head of Cutshin - work to complete Circuit Reclearing
HAZ	Collier	Smoot Creek	3308603	2	10	\$120,000	
ASH	Highland	Russell	3000901	1.90	1.90	\$11,400	
ASH	Highland	Flatwoods	2000002	1./1	0/1	\$10,200	Feeder breaker Lone
ASH	Hitchane	Wurtiand	3001002	147 20	14.00	\$196,000	
ASH	Hitchens	Denton	3001001	4 10	4.10	\$24.600	
ASH	Hitchens	E K Road	3001004	0.90	0.90	\$2.700	Feeder Breaker Zone
ASH	Hitchens	Grayson	3001003	47.60	6.10	\$91,500	Feeder Breaker Zone
ASH	Big Sandy	Fallsburg South	3000201	155.70	27.00	\$432,000	
ASH	Grays Branch	Grays Branch	3000701	66.30	27.00	\$432,000	Full Circuit Reclear - Partial-to be completed in 2011
ASH	Olive Hill	Globe	3103101	117.00	27.00	\$432,000	
	RECLEARING TOTALS	OTALS		Totals	527	\$7,088,467	
HAZ	AERIAL SAW				45.0	056,7614	
PKV	AERIAL SAW	0.144	-		45.0	\$15/,530	
5/20/20	51201201 BERIAL SAW IUIALS	DIALS			20.0	000°010¢	

GROUND SPF	RAY PLAN	- KY PO	WER 2nd H
	SPRAY		
DISTRICT	MILES	ACRES	BUDGET
PKV	196	392	\$196,000
HAZ	280	560	\$280,000
ASH	124	248	\$124,000
Totals	600	1200	\$600,000

K	Kentucky Power Company	any			
	2nd Half of 2010				
Distribution Vegation	ation Management O&M Forestry Plan-Summary	Forestry Plan-Sur	nmary		
ACTIVITY	Total O&M	Pikeville	Hazard	Ashland	
RECLEARING	\$7.088,467	\$3,005,501	\$2.445.766	\$1.637.200	
GROUND SPRAY	\$600,000	\$196,000	\$280,000	\$124,000	
AERIAL SPRAY	\$1,260	\$1,260	\$0	\$0	
AERIAL SAW	\$315,060	\$157,530	\$157,530	\$0	
Unscheduled/Reactive Maintenance	\$260,080	\$89,080	\$110,000	\$61,000	
CONTRACT FORESTERS	\$115,000	\$38,333	\$38,333	\$38,334	
STUMP GRINDING PROGRAM	\$11,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$6,000	
TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	\$24,133	\$12,133	\$5,000	\$7,000	
KPI INCENTIVE PROGRAM-Asplundh Field Personnel	\$120,000	\$50,400	\$42,000	\$27,600	
INTERNAL-Existing KY Forestry Staff	\$85,000	\$29,750	\$25,500	\$29,750	
TOTAL	\$8,620,000	\$3,584,987	\$3,104,129	\$1,930,884	
Sentember 30, 2009 Test Vear Level	\$7 340 000				
Ceptenner Juy 2000 1631 1631 Level	6				
Settlemental Level					
Total Annual Distribution Vegation	\$17,240,000				
2010 O&M BUDGET - 2nd Half	\$8,620,000				
				-	
	Reclearing, Aerial				
	Saw and Spray Miles				<u></u>
Pikeville	486				
Hazard	537				
Ashland	235				
Total	1,257				

5/20/2010