

Jeff DeRouen
Executive Director
Public Service Commission of Kentucky
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

RECEIVED

MAR 0 1 2010

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

E.ON U.S. LLC Legal Department 220 W. Main Street P.O. Box 32030 Louisville, Ky 40232 www.eon-us.com

Allyson K. Sturgeon Sr. Corporate Attorney T 502-627-2088 F 502-627-3367 Allyson.sturgeon@eon-us.com

March 1, 2010

RE: Cynthia Vogt v. Louisville Gas and Electric

Case No.: 2009-00482

Dear Mr. DeRouen:

Enclosed please find an original and eleven (11) copies of Louisville Gas and Electric Company's Answer to Complainant's Complaint.

Please file-stamp the extra copy of the Answer as received and return it to me in the enclosed envelope. Should you have any questions concerning the enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Allyson K. Sturgeon

AKS/kmw Enclosures

C: Parties of Record

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## In the Matter of:

CYNTHIA VOGT	)
COMPLAINANT	)
v.	) CASE NO.
LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY	) 2009-00482 ) )
	)
DEFENDANT	)

\* \* \* \* \* \*

## ANSWER OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

In accordance with the Kentucky Public Service Commission's ("Commission") Order of February 18, 2010 in the above-captioned proceeding, Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E" or the "Company") respectfully submits this Answer to the Complaint of Cynthia Vogt ("Ms. Vogt") filed on December 7, 2009. In support of its Answer, and in response to the specific averments contained in said Complaint, LG&E states as follows:

- With regard to the allegations contained in paragraph (b) of the Complaint,
   LG&E states that its primary business address is 220 West Main Street, Louisville,
   Kentucky 40202.
- 2. With regard to the allegations contained in paragraph (c) of the Complaint, LG&E states as follows:
- a. With regard to the averment that "LG&E has started billing customers in a 28 day cycle," LG&E affirmatively states that, in accordance with the Commission's Order of February 5, 2009 in Case No. 2008-00252, payment of a customer's bill is due twelve days after the date of the bill. However, so long as payment is received within fifteen days from the date of the bill, the account will not be considered delinquent. Further, consistent with the Commission's regulation at 807 KAR 5:006, Section 14(1)(f)(1), service will not be terminated before twenty-seven days after the mailing date of the original unpaid bill.
- b. With regard to the averment, "[t]his practice has led to my bill being paid late twice in the last several months," LG&E agrees that, since May 2009, Ms. Vogt has been assessed a late payment charge on her LG&E bill on two occasions. However, LG&E is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the statement that LG&E's billing practice led to Ms. Vogt's late payment.
- c. With regard to the statement that "I have always paid my LGE bill on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month," LG&E affirmatively states that, since January 1, 2009, Ms. Vogt's payments were posted on the following dates:

February 4, 2009 February 26, 2009 April 2, 2009 May 4, 2009 June 2, 2009

July 2, 2009 August 3, 2009 September 8, 2009 October 5, 2009 November 6, 2009 November 23, 2009 December 26, 2009 January 29, 2010

- d. With regard to Ms. Vogt's statement that "for 10 years, I had never been late," LG&E affirmatively states that, based upon available records, it is unaware of any other instance in which Ms. Vogt's payment has been late.
- e. With regard to the averment that "[r]ecently LG&E has changed to a 28 day billing cycle," LG&E affirmatively states that, in accordance with the Commission's Order of February 5, 2009 in Case No. 2008-00252, payment of a customer's bill is due twelve days after the date of the bill. However, so long as payment is received within fifteen days from the date of the bill, the account will not be considered delinquent. Further, consistent with the Commission's regulation at 807 KAR 5:006, Section 14(1)(f)(1), service will not be terminated before twenty-seven days after the mailing date of the original unpaid bill.
- f. With regard to the statement that "this has caused my bill to be due anywhere from the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month to the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month," LG&E acknowledges that, since April, 2009, Ms. Vogt's bill has been due between the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month and the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. Prior to that time, Ms. Vogt's bills were generally due between the 6<sup>th</sup> of the month and the 9<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- g. With regard to the statement that "I pay bills twice a month," LG&E affirmatively states that it is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of that statement.

- h. As to the averment that "[t]he LGE bill is not here in time to be paid on the 15<sup>th</sup>, but they are not allowing enough time to be paid on the 1<sup>st</sup>," LG&E affirmatively states that, on January 27, 2010, it offered to put Ms. Vogt on the FLEX option which would allow her additional time to pay her bill each month, and therefore denies the averment. However, Ms. Vogt refused the offer.
- i. With regard to the statement that "18 Nov 09. LGE expect payment in their office by 30 Nov 09. That is 8 business days," LG&E affirmatively states that Ms. Vogt's bill was issued on November 16, 2009 and was due on November 30, 2009. In accordance with the Company's tariff, customer bills are due within twelve days from the date of bill. Since the twelve days ran on a Saturday, the due date in this instance was pushed two days to Monday.
- j. As to the averment that "[a]lso I'm curious to know, with LGE's new billing system are we now billed 13 times a year instead of 12 thereby incurring the monthly charge 13 times a year," LG&E affirmatively states that, in 2009, only twelve bills were issued to Ms. Vogt, and Ms. Vogt only made twelve payments in 2009. However, there were thirteen due dates in 2009, because the bill due on January 9, 2009 was issued on December 19, 2008.
- 3. LG&E denies all allegations contained in the Complaint which are not expressly admitted in the foregoing paragraphs of this Answer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 2009, LG&E issued bills to Ms. Vogt on the following dates: January 21, February 18, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 19, July 21, August 19, September 21, October 19, November 17, and December 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In 2009, LG&E posted payments from Ms. Vogt on the following dates: February 4, February 26, April 2, May 4, June 2, July 2, August 3, September 8, October 5, November 6, November 23, and December 26.

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint, or parts of it, fails to set forth any claim upon which relief can be

granted by this Commission and, therefore should be dismissed.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complainant has failed to set forth a prima facie case that LG&E has violated

its tariff or any statute or Commission regulation, and the Complaint should be dismissed

for that reason.

WHEREFORE, for all of the reasons set forth above, Louisville Gas and Electric

Company respectfully requests:

(1) that the Complaint herein be dismissed without further action taken by the

Commission;

(2) that this matter be closed on the Commission's docket; and

(3) that LG&E be afforded any and all other relief to which it may be entitled.

Dated: March 1, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson K. Sturgeon

Senior Corporate Attorney

E.ON U.S. LLC

220 West Main Street

Louisville, Kentucky 40202

(502) 627-2088

Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric

Company

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Answer was served on the following on the 1st day of March, 2010, U.S. mail, postage prepaid:

Cynthia Vogt 3801 Carriage Pointe Drive Crestwood, Kentucky 40014-8537

Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric

Company