COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

NOV 0 5 2010 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of:

APPLICATION OF BLUEGRASS ENERGY)	
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION FOR AN)	CASE NO.
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS SECURITY DEPOSIT)	2010-00185
TARIFFS AND CABLE TELEVISION)	
ATTACHMENT RATES)	

BLUE GRASS ENERGY COOPERATIVE CORPORATION'S BRIEF IN RESPONSE TO THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION'S INTERAGENCY MEMORANDUM OF OCTOBER 28, 2010

Comes now BLUE GRASS ENERGY COOPERATIVE CORPORATION (hereinafter referred to as "BGE"), by counsel, and respectfully submits its Brief in support of the Lexington Herald-Leader qualifying under KRS 424.120 for publication of notice in its twenty-three (23) county service area, and in support of BGE's contention that it substantially complied with the Commission regulations for notice of filing this case.

I. THE LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER IS A QUALIFIED NEWSPAPER PURSUANT TO KRS 424.120

1. The Lexington Herald-Leader (hereinafter "Herald-Leader) is published in the "publication area" pursuant to KRS 424.120(1)(a).

KRS 424.120(1)(a)¹ states that, in order for a newspaper to be "qualified" under the statute, it must be published in the "publication area." KRS 420.110 defines "publication area" as "the city, county, district, or *other local area* for which an advertisement is required by law to

¹ Please note that KRS 424.120(1)(a) is qualified by KRS 424.120(2). However, neither (a) or (b) of this subsection (2) is applicable to the case at hand where KRS 424.120(2) contemplates a publication area in which no qualified newspaper exists. In the case at hand, the publication area is the twenty-three (23) county service area of BGE in which BGE contends the Herald-Leader is the qualified newspaper.

be made." (emphasis added) In the present case, the area in which the advertisement is required to be made is the twenty-three (23) county service area of BGE².

KRS 424.120(a) also states that a newspaper shall be deemed to be published in the publication area if (1) "it maintains its principal office in the area for the purpose of gathering news and soliciting advertisements and other general business of newspaper publications," and (2) "has a periodicals class mailing permit issued for that office." The principal office of the Herald Leader is located at 100 Midland Avenue, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky, 40508. Blue Grass Energy services areas within Fayette County and the surrounding counties including but not limited to Bourbon, Jessamine, Madison, Scott and Woodford Counties. The principal office of the Herald-Leader, therefore, is not only in the publication area, but central to it.

Relative to the requirement at KRS 424.120(1)(a) that a qualified newspaper have a periodicals class mailing permit issued for its principal office, please see **EXHIBIT "A,"** attached hereto and incorporated herein as if fully set forth. This documentation was provided by Brian Bosemer, Reporting and Compliance Manager, Lexington Herald-Leader.

2. The Herald Leader is a qualified newspaper for each of the twenty-three counties within BGE's service area.

KRS 420.120(3) states, in pertinent part, that when a publication area extends into multiple counties, "the part of the district in each county shall be considered to be a separate publication area for the purposes of this section, and an advertisement for each separate publication area shall be published in a newspaper qualified under this section to publish advertisements for the area."

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² The BGE service area includes parts of the following counties: Anderson, Bourbon, Bracken, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Grant, Harrison, Henry, Jackson, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Nelson, Nicholas, Pendelton, Robertson, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Washington, Woodford

BGE asserts that the Herald-Leader is a qualified newspaper under KRS 424.120 in which to publish its required notices for each of the twenty-three (23) counties in the BGE service area, and the BGE service district within a particular county is likewise encompassed within the publication area for which the Herald-Leader is a qualified publication under the statute.

3. BGE complied with the requirements of KRS 424.120 in its notice of filing this case and substantially complied with the Public Service Commission regulations.

BGE asserts that its placement of notice of filing in the Herald-Leader complied with the requirements of KRS 424.120, where the Herald-Leader is a qualified newspaper under KRS 424.120.

BGE further contends that it substantially complied with 807 KAR 5:001 §10 (3) and (4) in its notice of filing. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that affected members of the public – those in the publication area – have sufficient notice and a meaningful opportunity to participate in the proceeding. As stated by the Kentucky Supreme Court in Conrad v. Lexington-Fayette County Urban County Government, 659 S.W.2d 190, 195 (1983) (citing Queenan v. City of Louisville, 223 S.W.2d 1010 (1950)):

Substantial compliance in regard to publication requirements has been authorized. The purpose of the statutes is to allow the public ample opportunity to become sufficiently informed on the public question involved.

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, BGE asserts that its placement of notice of filing of this case in the Lexington Herald Leader complied with the requirements of KRS 424.120, wherein the Herald-Leader meets the requirements of a "qualified newspaper."

BGE also contends that future required notice, including notice of hearing in this case, when published in the Herald-leader, will meet the standard of notice in a qualified newspaper, that no other notice is required, and BGE respectfully requests that the Commission so find.

BGE further contends that it substantially complied with the requirements of 807 KAR 5:001 §10 (3) and (4), and respectfully requests that the Commission so find.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on this, the 5th day of November, 2010.

Gardner F. Gillespie Dominic F. Perella Hogan Lovells US LLP 555 Thirteenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004

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