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August 29, 2012

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## **Federal Express**

AUG 3 0 2012 PUBLIC SERVICE

COMMISSION

Jeff DeRouen
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

Case No. 2012-00-101

Re: In the Matter of: Notice and Application of Big Rivers Electric Corporation for a General Adjustment in Rates,

PSC Case No. 2011-00036

Dear Mr. DeRouen:

Enclosed are an original and ten copies of Big Rivers Electric Corporation's Motion and Request for Expedited Ruling. I certify that a copy of this letter and the motion have been served on each party of record.

Sincerely,

Tyson Kamuf

TAK/ej Enclosures

cc: Billie Richert

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## SERVICE LIST BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION PSC CASE NO. 2011-00036

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1	COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
2	BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY
3	
4	
5	In the Matter of:
6	
7	Application of Big Rivers Electric Corporation )
8	for a General Adjustment in Rates ) Case No. 2011-00036
9	
10	MORION AND DECLIFOR FOR EXPEDIMED BILLING
11	MOTION AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING
12	OF BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORPORATION
13	
14	Die Diese Electic Commission ("Die Diese ") en auss the Dublic Commission
15	Big Rivers Electric Corporation ("Big Rivers"), moves the Public Service Commission
16	("Commission") to grant Big Rivers relief, on an expedited basis, from the requirement in
17	Ordering Paragraph No. 8 in the November 17, 2011, Order in this matter, which requires that
18	"Big Rivers shall perform a new depreciation study within five years of the date of this order, or
19	the filing of its next rate case, whichever is earlier." In support of its motion, Big Rivers states as
20	follows:
21	As the Commission is aware, on August 20, 2012, Kenergy Corp. ("Kenergy"), one of
22	Big Rivers' member distribution cooperatives, received notice from Century Aluminum of
23	Kentucky General Partnership ("Century") of Century's intent to terminate its retail contract for
24	electric service on August 20, 2013. Big Rivers' wholesale power supply contract with Kenergy
25	for the requirements of Kenergy's retail electric service agreement with Century will expire and
26	terminate on the same date.
27	Big Rivers intends to file a rate case by the end of 2012 in order to make timely
28	adjustment of its rates to reflect the loss of revenue from the Century load beginning August 20,
29	2013.

1 Prior to Kenergy receiving Century's notice, Big Rivers had been planning to file an 2 application for a general adjustment in its rates at the end of the first quarter of 2013. To comply 3 with the requirement of Ordering Paragraph No. 8 in the November 17 Order, Big Rivers sent 4 requests for proposals to a number of entities seeking proposals to do a depreciation study. The 5 responses to those proposals are due Friday, August 31, 2012. 6 Section 4.22 of the Amended and Consolidated Loan Contract dated as of July 16, 2009, between Big Rivers and the United States of America (through the Rural Utilities Service 7 8 ("RUS")), provides that Big Rivers "shall not file with or submit for approval of any regulatory 9 bodies depreciation rates which are inconsistent with those approved for [Big Rivers] by RUS." 10 Based upon past experience with RUS, Big Rivers believes that allowing sixty days for RUS 11 review and approval of revised depreciation rates is an aggressive schedule. 12 Big Rivers has concluded that it is a practical impossibility for Big Rivers to evaluate the 13 proposals from consultants, select a consultant to perform a new depreciation study, obtain a new 14 depreciation study, submit the depreciation study to RUS and obtain its approval, use the results 15 of the depreciation study to prepare a rate case, and file a rate case by the end of 2012. For this principal reason, Big Rivers requests that it be relieved from the requirement in the November 17 16 17 Order that it perform a new depreciation study prior to filing the rate case that Big Rivers 18 proposes to file by the end of 2012. 19 Additionally, Big Rivers prepared and filed a depreciation study in this proceeding. As 20 the Commission knows, this case is still pending, and the depreciation rates in the study filed in 21 this case are among the remaining issues to be decided. 22 Big Rivers intends to file an application for a general rate adjustment by the end of 2012.

Big Rivers believes that it will be impossible to meet this deadline if Big Rivers is required to

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perform and file another depreciation study. Timely filing of this rate case is critically important 1 for Big Rivers to meet the challenges posed by Century's termination of its electric service 2 3 agreement. Because of the critical importance of timing of the upcoming Big Rivers rate application, Big Rivers requests an expedited ruling on this motion. The hearing on Big Rivers' 4 rehearing in this proceeding is scheduled for September 12, 2012. Any questions the 5 Commission or intervenors may have about this motion can be answered at that time. Big Rivers 6 requests that a ruling on this motion be issued as soon as possible on or after September 12, 7 8 2012, and that a ruling on this motion not be delayed until the Commission issues its order on 9 rehearing. WHEREFORE, Big Rivers requests that the Commission enter an order on an expedited 10 basis exempting Big Rivers from the requirement in the November 17 Order that Big Rivers file 11 a new depreciation study with the rate case it is proposing to file by the end of 2012, and for all 12 13 other relief to which it may appear entitled. This the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012. 14 15 16 17 James M. Miller Tyson Kamuf 18 SULLIVAN, MOUNTJOY, STAINBACK 19 20 & MILLER, P.S.C. 100 St. Ann Street, P. O. Box 727 21 Owensboro, Kentucky 42302-0727 22 (270) 926-4000 23 24 Douglas L. Beresford 25 HOGAN LOVELLS U.S., LLP 26 27 Columbia Square 555 Thirteenth Street, NW 28 Washington, D.C. 20004 29 (202) 637-5600 30 31 Counsel for Big Rivers Electric Corporation 32