COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

Electronic Application Of Kentucky Power Company For A Certificate Of Public Convenience And Necessity To Construct A 138 KV Transmission Line And Associated Facilities In Pike And Floyd Counties (Enterprise Economic And Area Improvement Project)

Case No. 2018-00209

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE REQUEST FOR INTERVENTION AND REQUEST FOR INTERVENTION

Now comes the Sendelbach Family Trust by and through Executor Janet L. Fernandes and Beneficiaries Gary D. Bishop and Larry G. Bishop and hereby make request for intervention in this matter pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(11). Movants further request leave to request intervention outside the time limit set forth in the established procedural schedule herein for the reasons articulated below.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO FILE INSTANTER

The Sendelbach Family Trust owns the property parcel located at 3407 Left Fork, Island Creek, Pikeville, KY (PVA Tract #034-00-00-050.00). The Sendelbach Family Trust is owned by Mary Sendelbach. Mary Sendelbach is 83 years old and suffers from late-stage dementia. Ms. Sendelbach resides with her daughter Delores Viers, in Johnsville, Ohio. Ms. Sendelbach's affairs are entrusted to her daughter Janet L. Fernandes, who has power of attorney for Ms. Sendelbach and is the Executor of the Sendelbach Family Trust. Ms. Fernandes resides in Dayton, Ohio.

Gary D. Bishop is the son of Mary Sendelbach and a beneficiary of the Sendelbach Family Trust. Gary D. Bishop resides in Plymouth, Ohio.

Larry G. Bishop is the son of Mary Sendelbach and a beneficiary of the Sendelbach Family Trust. Larry G. Bishop resides at 3407 Left Fork, Island Creek, Pikeville, Kentucky.

William Tracy Patton is a Beneficiary of the Sendelbach Family Trust, a son of Mary Sendelbach and resides in Farmer's Branch, Texas.

After implementing the planning and development stages if this project; Kentucky Power sent preliminary notice to Mary Sendelbach at her former address in Plymouth, Ohio. Upon receiving the preliminary notice, movant Gary D. Bishop, with the consent of Janet L. Fernandes, contacted "Kentucky Power" and spoke several times to Lead Right of Way Agent Scott Blevins, an agent or employee of ORC Utility & Infrastructure Land Services, LLC who apparently represents Kentucky Power.

Throughout said discussions, movant consistently made it clear that the Sendelbach Family Trust members were adamantly opposed to an encroachment upon the Island Creek property for a host of reasons. Mr. Blevins, on the other hand, was consistently vague and misleading. Mr. Blevins initially stated that the power lines (not the tower) would "barely clip the corner of the property." In subsequent conversations Mr. Blevins clearly stated that he had consulted with the project engineers and that as a result the proposed line route had been moved south so as not to interfere with the Island Creek property.

In viewing the project maps portrayed on the project webpage, it has been consistently impossible to discern where exactly the proposed towers, lines and project corridor (100 feet of right-of-way) will transverse the Sendelbach property. The maps provided and the maps otherwise available are vague, not detailed, and deceptive. They are either not topographical or don't combine a view of the property in conjunction with the proposed route of the electrical towers and lines.

It was only upon receiving the latest mailing from American Electric Power (postmarked August 7, 2018 but forwarded twice and received by movant on August 20, 2018) that movant was able to discern that the electric transmission line was actually planned to transverse practically down the middle of the property!! This will make the property uninhabitable, interfere with a family graveyard, cause mudslides, require the destruction of the old growth forest on the property, require the complete destruction of the majority of the property with earthmoving equipment, etc., and substantially reduce the value of the property.

From the latest notice received, movant understood that a 30-day window existed for the filing of a Request for Intervention. Movant was mistaken. Just over 30-days have elapsed since Kentucky Power filed its application; less than 30 days have elapsed since movant received actual notice and a more detailed explanation (still with a non-detailed electronically created map provided by Kentucky Power) of the proposed route through movant's property. Movant attempted to file electronically on the 31st day (September 13, 2018) but could not do so until his registration is approved and activated.

If approved, this request for intervention will be pursued diligently. This request is not made for the purpose to cause undue delay.

REQUEST FOR INTERVENTION

Movant avers that all preceding paragraphs above are incorporated herein by reference. Movants are interested persons under KRS 278.020(8). Gary D. Bishop has been designated to act on behalf of the Sendelbach Family Trust, owners of the property located at 3407 Left Fork of Island Creek Road, Pikeville, Kentucky and hereby requests Intervention in the above-captioned matter for the reasons outlined below.

Jink Ray (1898-1992) is/was the maternal grandfather of movants Delores Viers, Larry G. Bishop, Gary D. Bishop, William Tracy Patton and Janet L. Fernandes. Mary Sendelbach is the daughter of Jink and Cricket Ray (1896-1990) and the mother of Delores, Larry, Gary, Janet and Tracy.

Jink Ray purchased the subject property in 1920following his return from France where he fought and served in the U.S. Army during World War I. He built his home on the property in 1920-1921 and the still-existing barn in 1922. Jink and Cricket Ray bore and raised five children on the property and lived on it for over 70 years until their deaths.

In 1967 Jink Ray gained state-wide and national notoriety when he successfully challenged the Puritan Coal company and stopped their efforts to strip mine his property. In doing so he directly participated in the ultimate outlawing of the so-called Broad-Form Deed that had allowed strip-mining operations to destroy private lands for decades. To this day, the property remains unmolested in it's natural state, save for the home and barn and outbuildings at the foot of the mountain. Further documentation of these events, and thus the historical significance of the property, can be found in local newspaper archives, educational television programming and the book entitled *Voices From the Mountains*, The University of Georgia Press, Brown Thrasher Books, copyright 1975.

Mary Sendelbach acquired the property following her parents death. Larry G. Bishop, grandson of Jink and Cricket Ray, son of Mary Sendelbach and beneficiary of the Sendelbach Family Trust, currently resides on the property. Mr. Bishop and Mary Sendelbach have spent thousands of dollars and man hours in an effort to keep the property in its original condition in honor of the family's beloved ancestors.

A family graveyard exists on the property and has for decades. This project has the very real prospect of disturbing or even causing irreparable damage to the cemetery. This cannot be tolerated for the sake of commercial exploitation and corporate profit.

The construction of these 110 ft. tall towers and high-voltage power lines will necessitate the destruction of the trees on the property, the levelling of the mountaintops to create access roads for construction and maintenances, as well as to accommodate these massive towers. Kentucky Power has already made application to re-route the project to avoid areas affected by mudslides. Yet they intend to create the potential for soil erosion and mudslides to virgin lands themselves.

The damage to the property will be enormous, akin to strip-mining in terms of the ecological destruction. This is because the power company plans to transverse steep mountainous land that will necessitate destroying old growth forest, bulldozing tons of mountaintop earth and creating a path of destruction that inevitably will further damage or destroy the family homestead via runoff and mudslides. The proposed project will create exposure to long dormant minerals and potentially toxic elements that will likely contribute to acid rain and toxic runoff.

Moreover, Kentucky Power had acknowledged that the surrounding lands are in fact vacant land. They have already demonstrated that they have the ability to re-route the lines and towers so as to transverse vacant, less steep terrain at no significant increase

in expense and resulting in far less destruction of natural habitat and far less interference with inhabited property.

Studies have shown that living near high voltage towers, where electric energy accumulates and gives off higher intensity EMF's may contribute to or cause cancers, particularly childhood leukemia. Anecdotal experience by this movant supports that contention. While other studies have failed to establish a strong causal link between living in proximity to a high voltage power line and the development of cancer; no study has been conclusive and research continues. In the meantime, instances of childhood leukemia developing in children living in proximity to power lines continues to increase, not decrease.

Kentucky Power has been vague and misleading in their communications with movant. They have provided self-created diagrams purporting to be maps of the proposed transmission line route that do not clearly depict where the towers and lines will cross the property. The Company's representatives have used phrases such as "clip the corner of your property" and have verbally stated that the proposed route has been moved south in order to avoid the property. Movant addressed these concerns in a letter to Kentucky Power at Mr. Scott Blevins' request. Mr. Blevins then represented that the route had been moved South of the property and the project would not affect the property. Only upon receiving the latest notice on August 20, 2018, did movant become aware that not only did Kentucky Power seek a 100 feet right-of-way (50 ft. either side of center line), they are in fact seeking a 500 feet corridor with plans to extend the corridor 450 feet to the northeast of what they have portrayed on their vaguely detailed maps! Kentucky Power does not intend to "clip the corner" of the property; they intend to cut a path, remove trees, level mountaintops directly adjacent to the homestead and most likely through a

family cemetery, bulldoze right through the middle of the property and erect 110 feet tall towers the bases of which are apparently about an acre square.

Movant's property, the Sendelbach Family Trust property, located on the Left Fork of Island Creek Road, held by the family for generations, the site of a family cemetery, will be destroyed. Kentucky Power seeks to commercially exploit this inhabited private property to increase it's profits. They have not offered to compensate the Sendelbach Family Trust in any way for essentially taking over, destroying and rendering the property uninhabitable. The decrease in value of the property will be substantial. Kentucky Power has readily available alternatives that will not add any measurable cost to their project.

Movants therefore respectfully request intervention in this matter.

Further, movants respectfully request a local public hearing in this matter pursuant to 807 KAR 5:120, Section 3 and requests an evidentiary hearing. Movant's full name is Gary Dean Bishop. Movant's address is 8205 St. Rt. 61, Plymouth, Ohio, 44865. Movant's telephone numbers are: (419)631-5948 (cell) and (419)774-5676 (office).

Movant acknowledges the duty to publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation in Pike County not less than five (5) days before such hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

asko

Gary D. **B**ishop 8205 St. Rt. 61 Plymouth, Ohio 44865 Ph: (419)631-5948 (cell) (419)774-5676 (office) Fax: (419)774-5589

CERTIFICATION

Movant, Gary D. Bishop, on behalf of the Sendelbach Family Trust, hereby certifies that he has sent a copy of the foregoing to: George Porter, Project Outreach Specialist at <u>gaporter@aep.com</u> and to Scott Blevins, c/o ORC Real Estate Solutions for Infrastructure, 207 D. Street , South Charleston, WV, 25303 and 327 Howard Branch, Garrett, KY, 41630 by ordinary U.S. mail and Mark R. Overstreet (<u>moverstreet@stites.com</u>) & Katie M. Glass (<u>kglass@stites.com</u>), *Stites & Harbison, PLLC*, 421 West Main Street, Frankfort, KY, 40602-0634, by email and hand-delivery this 14th day of September, 2018.

Gary D. Bishop 8205 St. Rt. 61 Plymouth, Ohio 44865 Ph: (419)631-5948 (cell) (419)774-5676 (office) Fax: (419)774-5589