PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

2645 Bardstown Road St. Catharine, KY 40061 January 6, 2023

L, G & E and KU Energy LLC Main Office 820 West Broadway Louisville, KY 40202

Dear Mr. John Crockett III (President), Mr. Lonnie Baker (Chief Operating Officer), and Mr. Kent Blake (Chief Financial Officer):

We are writing you about a matter that concerns us greatly: the lawsuit you have brought against Bernheim Forest regarding your plans to condemn land so that you can build a gas pipeline through their property and the property of other citizens in that area. We oppose your plans for the following reasons:

- 1. We believe that the land and all living creatures on it have a right to survival, protection, and life.
- 2. We support Bernheim's protection of the ecological values of Cedar Grove Wildlife Corridor. This is the home of an endangered species, the Indiana bat, as well as the northern long-eared bat, cave beetles, springsnails, bluff vertigo snails, birds and beautiful limestone springs. They are smaller creatures, but they have the right to live. Human beings have the right to know them.
- 3. Natural lands protected by conservation easements should be respected, not condemned. If you were to gain the right to this land, you would be jeopardizing all land protected by conservation easements in our state of Kentucky and in other parts of our country.
- 4. You have already filed condemnation lawsuits against at least 10 landowners and state agencies, as well as an energy company with existing easements. This is bad social policy that will mark L, G, & E as land grabbing and a company to mistrust. That is contrary to your reputation of supporting many good causes in this area.
- 5. You have used secretive practices (e.g., requesting confidential information about homeowners' land and accessing their property records and land values) through the Freedom of Information Act.
- 6. You have promised to revert land into grassland, but the existing woodlands are more beneficial for Bernheim's wildlife.

Bernheim Forest is an area treasured by all of us. We believe all corporate companies must begin to take the whole community of life into their plans for change. We know that a contractor for this project originally recommended an alternate path that would not pass through this Corridor. We know, too, that you are looking at a route based on reliability, cost and ability to serve future customers. Of course, that is important, but L, G & E must look at the cost to Nature and the whole community of life.

We urge you to look at a different set of values.

Sincerely,

Bester Rose Marie Cammer for

Just Peace Committee and all the undersigned Dominican Sisters of Peace of St. Catharine, Kentucky

cc: Corporate Office of L, G, & E P.O. Box 25211 Lehigh Valley, PA. 18002-5211

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So. Julia Grey, of

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