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March 27, 2013

VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Mr. John A. Rogness III Director of Engineering Kentucky Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40602 PECENED

MAR 2 8 2013

PUBLIC DERVICE COMMISSION

RE: <u>2012 Reliability Report and Vegetation Management Plan Update</u> 2012 Calendar Year

Dear Mr. Rogness:

Enclosed please find the signed copy of the Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 2012 Reliability Report and Vegetation Management Plan Update.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

E. Minna Raepus

E. Minna Rolfes Paralegal to Rocco D'Ascenzo

EMR Enclosure

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY, INC. RELIABILITY REPORT AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2012

March 30, 2013

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I. Introduction

On October 26, 2007, the Commission issued its Order requiring all jurisdictional utilities to file annual reliability reports and to develop vegetation management plans.¹ Pursuant to the Order, jurisdictional utilities were required to report a minimum of 5 years of reliability data. The reports are required to be based upon a calendar year (January to December) and filed by the first business day in April in the year immediately following the reporting year.

Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. (Duke Energy Kentucky or the Company) submits its Reliability Report and Vegetation Management Plan update for Calendar year 2012 as required by the Commission's October 26, 2007 Order in Case No. 2006-00494.

II. **Reliability Report Summary**

Exhibit A of the reliability report includes measurements of total system performance using the System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI), the System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI), and the Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) calculated for each of the preceding five twelve-month periods, including the reporting year.² Duke Energy Kentucky uses IEEE Std. 1366 to determine major event days for the purpose of weather-normalizing outage data when calculating the reliability indices SAIFI, SAIDI and CAIDI. Except where noted in the year-end indices, major event days have been excluded from all reliability measures in this report.

In re An Investigation of the Reliability Measures of Kentucky's Jurisdictional Electric Utilities, Case No 2006-00494. (Order at 8)(October 27, 2007). 2 Id.

Exhibit B contains a list of customer interruptions by the ten most significant cause categories for the most recent five twelve- month periods.³ The cause codes used in Exhibit B are IEEE cause codes.

Exhibit C of the reliability report is an analysis of Duke Energy Kentucky's ten worst performing circuits on the system for the reporting period taking into consideration all three reporting indices.⁴ This section includes an analysis of the cause of the poor performance, the circuit, index value, and the major outage category contributing to the circuit's performance. The durations of the reported outages are measured by number of minutes by index for SAIDI and CAIDI. This section also describes the corrective actions planned or already taken to improve circuit performance.

Exhibits D, E, and F of the reliability report comprise a list of the ten worst performing circuits in 2012 as determined by the individual SAIFI, CAIDI, SAIFI indices, respectively. These sections also include the value index and primary cause of the circuit performance.

III. Vegetation Management Plan Update and Summary

Duke Energy Kentucky filed its initial Vegetation Management Plan with this Commission on December 18, 2007 in Case No. 2006-00494.⁵ Duke Energy's Midwest Vegetation Management Group is responsible for controlling vegetation growth for 37,000 miles of transmission and distribution overhead electric lines and gas supply lines in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky.

Exhibit G is a copy of Duke Energy Kentucky's Vegetation Management Plan. There have been no amendments or changes to the plan since it was initially filed with

³ *Id.* at 9, paragraph 6.

⁴ *Id.* at 7.

the Commission on December 18, 2007. There are no amendments or changes planned for 2013.

As part of its 2013 plan, Duke Energy Kentucky plans to trim trees and maintain vegetation along 372 miles of its distribution system. In the first quarter of 2013, Duke Energy Kentucky has experienced fair weather conditions that have helped our Vegetation Management Plan for 2013. As of March 15, 2013, Duke Energy Kentucky has completed 13.1% of its scheduled trimming, or approximately 49 miles of its distribution system. This leaves approximately 323 miles to be trimmed in 2013. The Company does not anticipate any difficulty in completing all planned trimming for 2013. The Company will have sufficient crew's coverage throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocco O. D'Ascenzo (92796) Associate General Counsel Amy B. Spiller (85309) Deputy General Counsel Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street, 1313 Main Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-0960 Phone: (513) 287-4320 Fax: (513) 287-4385 Email: rocco.d'asecenzo@duke-energy.com

IEEE 1366 Normalization

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Page 1 of 1

Duke Energy Kentucky uses IEEE Std. 1366 to determine major event days for the purpose of weathernormalizing outage data when calculating the reliability indices SAIFI, SAIDI and CAIDI. Except where noted in the Year-End Indices, major event days have been excluded from all reliability measures in this report.

Year-End Indices

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Exhibit A Page 1 of 1

	Dul	ke Kentuck	y Year-End	d Reli	ability Indi	ces	
		vent Days			Major E	vent Days E	
Year	SAIFI	CAIDI	SAIDI		SAIFI	CAIDI	SAIDI
2008	2.38	741.7	1,762.1		1.28	83.1	106.4
2009	1.58	126.6	199.9	1	1.13	101.3	114.2
2010	1.48	92.0	136.1	1	1.30	87.9	114.3
2011	2.00	126.0	252.0	1	1.60	84.4	135.0
2012	1.73	167.6	290.0		1.25	88.0	110.0

Customer Interruptions by Cause

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Exhibit B Page 1 of 3

Sum of Cust	t Interrupt (CI)	IEEE Cause											Tage TO	
			Equipment	1							Public	Lightning	Loss of	Month
/earPowerOff	MonthPowerOff	Wildlife	Failure	Error	Other	Overload	Planned	Weather	Vegetation	Unknown	Accident	Strike	Transmission	Totals
2003	1	1		2,098	895	92	84	19			5	1		4,012
	2	35	19,183		647	3,833	10	30,345			84			54,570
	3	102	799		42		37	7,691	124	35	52	1		8,882
	4	479	61		39		220	75	370	4	1,003			2,25
	5	772	1,581		62		680	6,738	7,838	2,358	3,523			23,552
	6	541	3,036		1,890	1	37	1,118	1,947	12,770	1,646			22,986
	7	579			1,614	12	15	27,467	7,008	2,493	5,849			49,58
	8	346			1,706	299	199	7,301	5,161	306	676			19,73
	9	497	565		238		36	1,361	2,283		491			7,85
	10	2,702			1,394		216	2			592			10,696
	11	538			481		3	125			74			2,48
	12	553	3,523		33	6	2	36			395			4,88
2004	1	3,010			1,163	5	126		62		617			6,371
	2	474			4,993	1	358		248		36			7,836
	3	518	2,242		157	7	38	420		139	210			3,982
	4	443	3,417		30	1	183	16		1	1,620			6,874
	5	2,511	5,787		79	34	14	4,411			7,751			25,326
	6	1,319	1,196		65	9	314	486			352			8,996
	7	897	1,320		364	29	101	4,627	4,423		3,702			16,172
	8	641	2,128		51	35	244	2,953			466			8,422
	9	1,244	2,806		28		52	136			81			9,05
	10	5,342			8	1	235	. 9			4,339			14,37
	11	671	14,648		44	100	37		3,543					19,71
2005	12	122			26	139	68	393			131			10,20
2005		173			1,082	1	117 125	42						6,76
	2	2,282 273	2,896 28		15 29	1	353	1	2,475					10,628
	<u>3</u>	273			29	2		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-,					6,38
	4	563	3,524		139	2	211 575	82 156			2,799 90			12,238 7,433
	6	657	5,625		24	45	408	2,008			90			9,92
	7	631	6,023		324	596	634	1,154						20,13
	8	607	4,015	1	65	52	506	4,718						11,48
	9	280			178	16	296	<u>4,718</u> 549						18,97
	10	908		1,595	44	10	133							13,90
	11	867	3,458	1,000	158	127	1,566	1,362						15,90
	12	187	654		174	1	1,000	1,002	24					1,91
2006		287	11,399		107	3	968	445						21,93
2000	2	49			10	2	19		145					824
	3	264			715	1	264	1,670		154				12,03
	4	1,416			58	10	1,908	2,626	L		2,993			32,342
	5	2,911	659		10	824	272	2,020			869			7,97

Customer Interruptions by Cause

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Exhibit B Page 2 of 3

Sum of Cust	t Interrupt (CI)	IEEE Cause												
			Equipment								Public	Lightning	Loss of	Month
YearPowerOff	MonthPowerOff	Wildlife	Failure	Error	Other	Overload	Planned	Weather	Vegetation	Unknown	Accident	Strike	Transmission	Totals
	6	3,186	5,823		7,679	11	1,196	2,749			630			28,943
	7	2,473	8,819		216	63	82	8,282	5,222		775			28,729
	8	513	1,252		274	50	359	180	5,619		1,971			12,157
	9	1,750	583		67	2	258	1,417	964		1,582			7,375
	10	903	208		68		1,017	393			16,066			23,451
	11	3,428	1,168		16	1	679		454		5,187			11,204
	12	1,549	1,950		7	1	233	2			444			4,244
2007	1	1,484	2,943		13	3	39	2		·	125			10,692
	2	289	2,872		23	36	402	231	4,982	5	58			8,898
	3	740	1,402		76		130	38			36			4,900
	4	668	265		89		118	3,895	3,569		2,254			11,699
	5	2,618	1,764		14		151	517	2,611	112	3,735	1		11,522
	6	2,408	1,703		30	2	261	3,406						17,417
	7	1,195	2,889		1,376		1,016	2,211	5,716		638			15,837
	8	947	3,637		59	135	544	377	4,315		35			10,100
	9	1,808	1,426		419	42	1,501	93			321			21,067
	10	1,478	3,643		182		117	1,066	2,234		281			17,861
	11	1,349	2,583		28		306	34	59		46			4,406
	12	310	6,582		85	13	29		7,033		8			19,362
2008	1	65	10,239		2,307	564	69	150			5,785			20,104
	2	163	2,547		17	19	243	4,584	1,115		747			9,439
	3	400	652		331	323	1,131	14						10,686
	4	563	5,568	955	1,147		377		17					8,768
	5	1,827	6,050		14		859	941	6,630		141			16,47
	6	1,884	1,317		75	15	108	10,081	2,957	225	779			17,44
	7	3,116	2,973		133	29	101	3,080	14,285		21			24,028
	8	1,033	6,817		2,036	11	184	817	444		2,206			19,320
	9	2,643	2,422		232	10	413	194			225			9,75
	10	5,265	877		45		256	2,539	619		135			10,063
	11	1,571	1,680		49	660	109		7,759	564	1,381			13,77:
	12	223	2,023		2,129	187	197	1,546						9,18
2009	1	484	749		128	115	318	4,906	1,016	2				7,80
	2	284	5,038		35	239	291	1,171	541	37	137			7,77:
	3	889			393		372	2,095		23	136			16,06
	4	517	1,516		632		143	303			966			6,03
	5	15,956	2,674		58	6	265	262	274		2,116			21,61
	6	1,192	17,714		95	126	955	3,898			33			29,69
	7	1,722	2,930		74		307	4,026	1,141	63	2,106			12,36
	8	522	3,061		2,679	816	450	412		145	438			8,974
	9	1,814	618		36		641	89	1,306		27			4,54
	10	1,722	3,098		83	1	564	1	603		6			6,256

Customer Interruptions by Cause

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Exhibit B Page 3 of 3

Sum of Cust Inter YearPowerOff 2010 2011 2011		EEE Cause Wildlife 2,933 360 369 315 505 158 788 1,605 488 549	Equipment Failure 2,796 4,009 501 1,760 2,539 4,966 849 11,184	Error 5 68	Other 57 492 10 6 237	Overload 3,428 6 4	Planned 232 157 480	Weather	Vegetation 137 678	Unknown 3 12,992	Public Accident 1,864	Lightning Strike	Loss of Transmission	Month Totals 8,0
2010	11 12 1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 7 8 9 9 10	2,933 360 369 315 505 158 788 1,605 488 549	Failure 2,796 4,009 501 1,760 2,539 4,966 849 11,184	5	57 492 10 6 237	3,428 6	232 157 480	144	137	3	Accident 1,864			Totals
2010	11 12 1 2 3 4 4 5 6 7 7 8 9 9 10	2,933 360 369 315 505 158 788 1,605 488 549	2,796 4,009 501 1,760 2,539 4,966 849 11,184	5	57 492 10 6 237	3,428 6	232 157 480	144	137	3	1,864	Suike	Transmission	
	12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 7 8 9 9	360 369 315 505 158 788 1,605 488 549	4,009 501 1,760 2,539 4,966 849 11,184		492 10 6 237	6	157 480						1 1	· ×
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9	369 315 505 158 788 1,605 488 549	501 1,760 2,539 4,966 849 11,184		10 6 237	6	480				825			23
	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	315 505 158 788 1,605 488 549	1,760 2,539 4,966 849 11,184		6 237			26	27	14	6,760			8
2011	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	505 158 788 1,605 488 549	2,539 4,966 849 11,184				751	485	149	5	85			3
2011	5 6 7 8 9 10	788 1,605 488 549	4,966 849 11,184				648	2,315	36	15	2,123			8
2011	6 7 8 9 10	1,605 488 549	11,184		176		118	159	99	131	7,453			13
2011	7 8 9 10	488 549			670		202	2,005	275	162	11			4
2011	9 10	549	4 85 1		527		297	9,502		340	788			28
2011	9 10		1,551		294	12	162	85		45	665			5
2011	10		2,782	1	5,494	5	510	236		14,046	109			24
2011		2,623	1,986	1,347	653		288	279	2,538	9,519	12			19
2011	11	3,705	13,476		746		631	3	446	23	1,401			20
2011		991	3,233		239		746	31	222	7,616	42			13
2011	12	53	20,011		426		768	1	2,466	120	475			24
	1	594	347		215		704		20	56	325			2
	2	574	9,749		323		371	81	2,335	3,589	2	200	8,745	25
	3	125	182		2,213		1,089	7,887	2,201	12	2,417	541		16
	4	160	3,015		480		172	3,444	5,101	13	3,006	2,115		17
	5	1,225	4,657		1,202		114	21	3,367	81	96	155		10
	6	4,496	8,209		2,487		146	4,388	521	7,220	1,925	2,701		32
	7	727	2,667		4,750		739	2,503	666	62	3,775	62		15
	8	513	781		3,025		879	10,220	2,843	130	5,042	1,084		24
	9	1,050	5,431		408		277	98	1,847	5,893	197	144		15
	10	2,136	28,532		1,466		569	1	212	26	5	6		32
	11	895	7,066		402		512	162	2,518	85	124	125		11
	12	189	5,251		170		267	2	27	2,138	63			8
2012	2	152	10,797		3,632		204	1,974	4,080	1,457	66	13		22
		251	1,605		179		201	3		31	37	110		5
	4	2,278 742	1,352 978		2,939		294	486	907	4,416	2,437	40		15
		3,121	711		98 85		273	67	3,049	2,133	775	1,571		9
	5	2,815	14,158	·	283		542 1,013	4	1,872	159	1,811	11		8
	7	1,354	19,527		283		346	170	.,	199	302	99		23
	8	1,038	1,106		2,015		1,759	0	4,344	173 1,867	53 1,038	1,999		28
	9	1,005	3,402		11,209		205	851	3,614	948	269	605 273		10
	10	1,005	7,961		218		516	1 100	2,380	948 550	1,504	273		21
	11	998	1,567		106		740	0	2,360	333	1,504	1		14
		362	639		212		1,495	82	1,650	1,463	515	58		3
	12			1									,	, n.

2012-Worst-10 Analysis-Action

	Sum			I							· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	of			Feeder	SAIDI	Feeder	SAIFI	Feeder	CAIDI		Analysis and Major Contributing	
Rank	Ranks	Circuit Name	Substation Name-Feeder	SAIDI	Rank	SAIFI	Rank	CAIDI	Rank	SubCirc	Outage Category	Action Taken or Planned
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	
											because of equipment failure	
1	4.0	H9323040042	WHITE TOWER (304) 000042	156.5	3	1.6	1	95.8	60	304-42		Broken Transmission Insulator was repaired.
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	
											because of equipment failure	
2	6.0	H9323040041	WHITE TOWER (304) 000041	142.2	4	1.6	2	90.6	63	304-41	outages.	Broken Transmission Insulator was repaired.
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	
											because of equipment failure	1) Broken Transmission Line River crossing was
3	7.0	H9321520042	HEBRON (152) 000042	160.6	2	1.3	5	123.2	38	152-42	outages.	repaired. 2)Public Accident broken pole replaced.
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	
											because of equipment failure	
4	14.0	H9323040043	WHITE TOWER (304) 000043	106.2	10	1.4	4	75.4	79	304-43	outages.	Broken Transmission Insulator was repaired.
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	Heavy tree growth area. This circuit was
5	15.0	H9320420041	CONSTANCE (42) 000041	119.1	8	1.1	7	106.6	49	042-41	because of vegetation outages.	aggressively trimmed October 2012
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	
	17.0	10000000000		100.0							because of equipment failure	Broken Transmission Insulator was repaired at the
6	17.0	H9320860041	BEAVER (86) 000041	102.2	11	1.3	6	80.8	73	086-41	outages.	time of the outage.
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	1) Outage of unknown origin. 2) Tree removed
7	10.0	10000000		122.2	_			4474	10		because of equipment failure and	from line. (Tree 27 feet outside of ROW fell into
- <i>'</i>	18.0	H9320590046	WILDER (59) 000046	123.2	7	1.1	11	117.1	40	059-46	unknown cause outages.	our distribution line.)
												Tree removed from line. (Tree outside of ROW
												fell into another tree outside ROW causing it to
8	27.0	1022000042	KENTON (9) 000043	120.4			24	170.0	22	000 40	This circuit is on the worst-10 list	drop onto our distribution line.) Last major trim
-°	27.0	H9520090045	KENTON (9) 000043	128.4	6	0.8	21	170.2	23	009-43	because of vegetation outages.	was 12/2011
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	
9	270	40220500041	W/II DER (59) 000041	77 4	10			66.0			because of equipment failure and	Blown cable terminator was replaced on terminal
	27.0	113520390041	WILDER (59) 000041	72.4	18	1.1	9	66.2	91	059-41	unknown cause outages.	pole near substation feeder exit.
											This size within an the warst 10 list	1) Broken Transmission Line River crossing
											This circuit is on the worst-10 list	insulator was repaired. 2)Transmission
10	280	49321520041	HEBRON (152) 000041	91.6	12	0.8	16	116.0	1		because of equipment failure and	Equipment repaired at Miami Fort Generation
	20.0	113321320041		31.0	12	0.8	10	110.0	42	152-41	unknown cause outages.	station

2012-Worst-10 SAIDI

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Exhibit D Page 1 of 1

Rank	Substation Name-Feeder	Feeder	SAIDI	Feeder	SAIFI	Feeder	CAIDI	Cult Cine	
	Substation Name-reeder	SAIDI	Rank	SAIFI	Rank	CAIDI	Rank	SubCirc	Major Outage Category
1	HEBRON (152) 000042	160.6	2	1.3	5	123.2	38	152-42	Equipment Failure
2	WHITE TOWER (304) 000042	156.5	3	1.6	1	95.8	60	304-42	Equipment Failure
3	WHITE TOWER (304) 000041	142.2	4	1.6	2	90.6	63	304-41	Equipment Failure
4	KENTON (9) 000043	128.4	6	0.8	21	170.2	23	009-43	Vegetation
5	WILDER (59) 000046	123.2	7	1.1	11	117.1	40	059-46	Unknown
6	CONSTANCE (42) 000041	119.1	8	1.1	7	106.6	49	042-41	Vegetation
7	WHITE TOWER (304) 000043	106.2	10	1.4	4	75.4	79	304-43	Equipment Failure
8	BEAVER (86) 000041	102.2	11	1.3	6	80.8	73	086-41	Equipment Failure
9	HEBRON (152) 000041	91.6	12	0.8	16	116.0	42	152-41	Equipment Failure
10	WILDER (59) 000041	72.4	18	1.1	9	66.2	91	059-41	Equipment Failure

Duke Energy Kentucky Reliability Report and Vegetation Management For Calendar Year 2012 Exhibit E Page 1 of 1

Rank	Substation Name-Feeder	Feeder	SAIDI	Feeder	SAIFI	Feeder	CAIDI	SubCirc	Major Quitage Catagory
Kank	Substation Name-Leeder	SAIDI	Rank	SAIFI	Rank	CAIDI	Rank	SUDCITC	Major Outage Category
1	WHITE TOWER (304) 000042	156.5	3	1.63	1	95.8	60	304-42	Equipment Failure
2	WHITE TOWER (304) 000041	142.2	4	1.57	2	90.6	63	304-41	Equipment Failure
3	WHITE TOWER (304) 000043	106.2	10	1.41	4	75.4	79	304-43	Equipment Failure
4	HEBRON (152) 000042	160.6	2	1.30	5	123.2	38	152-42	Equipment Failure
5	BEAVER (86) 000041	102.2	11	1.27	6	80.8	73	086-41	Equipment Failure
6	CONSTANCE (42) 000041	119.1	8	1.12	7	106.6	49	042-41	Vegetation
7	WILDER (59) 000041	72.4	18	1.09	9	66.2	91	059-41	Vegetation
8	WILDER (59) 000046	123.2	7	1.05	11	117.1	40	059-46	Unknown
9	HEBRON (152) 000041	91.6	12	0.79	16	116.0	42	152-41	Equipment Failure
10	KENTON (9) 000043	128.4	6	0.75	21	170.2	23	009-43	Lightning

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Rank	Substation Name-Feeder	Feeder	SAIDI	Feeder	SAIFI	Feeder	CAIDI	SubCirc	Major Outage
	Substation Name reeder	SAIDI	Rank	SAIFI	Rank	CAIDI	Rank	SUDCILC	Category
1	KENTON (9) 000043	128.4	6	0.8	21	170.2	23	009-43	Vegetation
2	HEBRON (152) 000042	160.6	2	1.3	5	123.2	38	152-42	Equipment Failure
3	WILDER (59) 000046	123.2	7	1.1	11	117.1	40	059-46	Public Accident
4	HEBRON (152) 000041	91.6	12	0.8	16	116.0	42	152-41	Lightning
5	CONSTANCE (42) 000041	119.1	8	1.1	7	106.6	49	042-41	Wildlife
6	WHITE TOWER (304) 000042	156.5	3	1.6	1	95.8	60	304-42	Lightning
7	WHITE TOWER (304) 000041	142.2	4	1.6	2	90.6	63	304-41	Weather
8	BEAVER (86) 000041	102.2	11	1.3	6	80.8	73	086-41	Lightning
9	WHITE TOWER (304) 000043	106.2	10	1.4	4	75.4	79	304-43	Vegetation
10	WILDER (59) 000041	72.4	18	1.1	9	66.2	91	059-41	Public Accident

Duke Energy Kentucky's Vegetation Management Plan

<u>Goals</u>

Duke Energy's goals for its Vegetation Management Operations are to balance the need for reliable utility service with safe and cost-effective vegetation management practices that preserve our local communities' natural surroundings, aesthetics and the environment. Targeted herbicides provide one of the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly means of controlling undesirable vegetation.

Safety

Our goals are to work safely at all times to achieve a zero injury culture and to minimize the safety risk of vegetation and conductor contacts. Serious or fatal shocks can occur when working in trees near power lines. Duke Energy strives to minimize that risk by trimming properly in accordance with industry tree trimming safety standards.

Reliability

Duke Energy's electric service reliability, as measured by SAIFI and SAIDI, has improved in recent years due in part to our more rigorous tree trimming practices. Duke Energy strives to trim its Kentucky distribution circuits every four-and-one-half years and transmission every six years.

Tree Care Standards

Duke Energy requires its employees and contractors to prune trees in accordance with American National Standards Institute ("ANSI") and National Arborist Association ("NAA") standards. The relevant standards are ANSI Z133, Safety in Tree Trimming Operations, and ANSI A300, Safety in Tree Care Operations. These ANSI standards were developed in cooperation with the NAA. Additionally, Duke Energy follows the practices in Field <u>Guide for Qualified Line Clearance Tree Workers</u> by Dr. Alex L. Shigo, former head of the U.S. Forest Service. In rural areas, Duke Energy may authorize its contractors to use mechanized pruning equipment.

Tree Trimming Specifications

69KV and above Transmission Lines

- 15 feet clearance to the side from all conductors.
- 15 feet clearance below the lowest conductor.
- No overhanging/encroaching branches permitted.

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• Trim to the previously established widths of our right-of-way and practice established beyond the 15 feet widths.

<u>3 Phase Primary Lines</u>

- 10 feet clearance to the side from all conductors.
- 10 feet clearance below the conductors.
- No overhanging/encroaching branches.

Single Phase and Two Phase Primary lines

- 10 feet clearance to the side from all conductors.
- 10 feet clearance below the conductors.
- Overhang: all live branches above the conductors shall be removed to a minimum height of 15 feet, and at a 45-degree angle. All dead and structurally weak branches overhanging any primary voltage wires shall be removed.
- Underneath the primary: 10 feet clearance from the conductors to the closest limbs beneath the phases.

Secondary Lines

- 5 feet clearance to the side from the secondary line.
- 5 feet clearance above and below the secondary line.

Services Lines

• 1 foot swing clearance from all service lines.

Brush/Wood Removal

- Circuit maintenance brush is removed, wood cut into movable pieces.
- Customer may request off-cycle maintenance in accordance with the clearance standards above brush and wood is customer's responsibility.
- Storm Work no brush or wood removal.

Customer Notification

- Duke Energy customers are notified of tree trimming being done on their property by door hanger cards.
- Duke Energy requires its contractors to contact local government officials prior to beginning work in the community.

Right Tree In The Right Place

• Duke Energy will cooperate in tree removal with local government officials as needed.

Determination of Need to Perform Maintenance/Evaluation of Plan Effectiveness

Duke Energy regularly monitors its SAIFI and SAIDI measures. If SAIFI or SAIDI were to significantly decline, Duke Energy would evaluate whether to modify its vegetation management practices, including its right-of-way clearing cycle, in order to improve SAIFI and SAIDI performance. Duke Energy also monitors the performance of individual circuits. In an individual circuit has a significant number of outages, Duke Energy will perform off-cycle tree trimming as needed. Duke Energy also monitors industry tree trimming standards and modifies its tree trimming practices as necessary to meet or exceed industry standards.