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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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# HAND DELIVERED

September 27, 2011

Jeff R. Derouen **Executive Director Public Service Commission** 211 Sower Boulevard P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

> RE: P.S.C. Case No. 2009-00459

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Enclosed please find and accept for filing the original and ten copies of Kentucky Power Company's 2012 Distribution Vegetation Management Plan. The Plan is being filed in compliance with paragraph 5(c)(i) of the May 19, 2010 Unanimous Settlement Agreement in the above case.

A copy of the plan is being served on the Attorney General.

Mark R. Overstreet

truly yours.

**MRO** 

cc: Dennis Howard II



SEP 27 2011

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Filed September 30, 2011 In Conformity With Paragraph 5(c) Of the Unanimous Settlement Agreement P.S.C. Case No. 2009-00459 Page 1 of 2

# Kentucky Power Company 2012 Distribution Vegetation Management Plan

#### **Overview**

On September 30, 2010, Kentucky Power filed its 2011 Distribution Vegetation Management Plan with the Public Service Commission. In the 2011 plan, the Company projected undertaking distribution vegetation management work to reclear or spray 2,295 miles of distribution lines at an estimated O&M cost of \$17.2 million. In the 2012 Plan which is attached as **EXHIBIT 1**, the Company projects to reclear or spray 2,355 miles of distribution lines at an estimated \$17.2 million.

Projected work and expenditures by district for 2010, 2011, and 2012 are set forth below:

District	Distr to be	ned Mil ibution Reclea sprayed	Line red or	to k (Inclu	nned Ad be Sprag ided in Reclea	yed Miles	Total Distribution Vegetation Management O&M Expenditures								
Year→	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012						
Hazard	333	1,022	1,150	854	1,062	1,100	2,230,528	6,012,155	5,940,089						
Pikeville	360	833	877	630	619	800	2,495,953	7,237,098	7,299,907						
Ashland	179	440	328	320	325	540	1,773,519	3,950,747	3,960,004						
Totals	872	2,295	2,355	1,804	2,006	2,440	6,500,000	17,200,000	17,200,000						

A circuit-by-circuit description of the proposed Distribution Vegetation management work plan for 2012, along with the associated O&M expenditures, is provided as **EXHIBIT 2**. **EXHIBIT 3** sets out by District the projected spraying expenditures during 2012. Finally, **EXHIBIT 4** provides on a district-by-district basis the projected total O&M expenditures during 2012.

As set out in more detail on **EXHIBITS 2-4** of this Plan, Kentucky Power projects that during 2012:

• Approximately 2,355 miles of distribution line will be recleared or sprayed by manual trimming, mechanical trimming, or herbicide treatment.

Filed September 30, 2011 In Conformity With Paragraph 5(c) Of the Unanimous Settlement Agreement P.S.C. Case No. 2009-00459 Page 2 of 2

- Herbicide will be applied to 1,210 miles covering approximately 2,440 acres with an O&M budget of over \$1.14 million.
- An estimated \$17.2 million will be spent on O&M for Distribution Vegetation Management, with \$16.4 million expected to be spent on planned maintenance, and \$0.8 million to be spent on unscheduled/reactive maintenance, as required.
- In addition to expenses for current forestry staff, reclearing, and ground and aerial spraying of herbicides, additional activities of the plan include:
  - reactive maintenance
  - contract foresters
  - stump grinding programs
  - tree replacement programs
  - a contractor safety, productivity and quality incentive program

Kentucky Power estimates it will take 7 years to perform a complete reclearing cycle of its distribution system and establish a 4-year cycle for its program. A complete inventory of all trees along distribution Rights-of-Way will not be made at this time. However, the Company will develop and maintain an inventory of "cycle-buster" trees as the program is moved to a 4-year cycle. (A cycle buster tree is one that has to be revisited before the circuit is due for its next cycle trim.)

Kentucky Power will use reasonable and prudent efforts to adhere to and carry out this Work Plan. Unforeseen circumstances may cause some deviations from the plan. These include major storms or the newly discovered need to do vegetation management on a distribution circuit not in the plan, but which is experiencing reliability problems. The company will inform the Commission of any such material deviation from its Plan.

# 2012 Kentucky Power Distribution Vegetation Management Plan

The 2012 Vegetation Management Plan will continue to focus on Full-Circuit Reclearing. Full-Circuit Reclearing is an integral part of our efforts to transition from a reactive-based maintenance program to a cycle-based maintenance approach that we began in July of 2010. Reclearing work will be prioritized and scheduled based on past tree-related reliability performance, field inspection of the right-of-way conditions, and the number of customers impacted. Approximately \$780,564 will be budgeted to address reactive reliability issues that develop throughout the year. This Unscheduled/Reactive funding represents about five percent of the total Vegetation Management O&M Budget.

Kentucky Power's service territory covers one of the most heavily forested areas of the country. Our spray program is a vital component of our Vegetation Management Plan. ULV (Ultra Low Volume), high-volume foliar, basal, cut-surface, and aerial application techniques will be utilized depending on the brush conditions. The goal is to treat 2,440 acres of brush in 2012.

The 2012 Vegetation Management Plan also includes \$2,550,000 of forestry capital. This funding will be utilized to remove trees larger than 18 inches in diameter, widen rights-of-way, and for TGR (Tree Growth Regulator) application.

The 2012 Kentucky Power Distribution Management Plan projection for the three districts in its service territory is:

#### 2012 KENTUCKY POWER DISTRIBUTION VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

AREA	PLANNED MILES	PLANNED SPRAY ACRES	UNSCHEDULED REACTIVE O&M FUNDING	SCHEDULED O&M FUNDING	TÖTAL O&M FUNDING	FORESTRY CAPITAL FUNDING
HAZARD	1,150	1,100	\$200,000	\$ 5,740,089	\$ 5,940,089	\$ 940,793
PIKEVILLE	877	800	\$222,483	\$ 7,077,424	\$ 7,299,907	\$ 904,030
ASHLAND	328	540	\$358,081	\$ 3,601,923	\$ 3,960,004	\$ 705,177
TOTALS	2,355	2,440	\$780,564	\$16,419,436	\$17,200,000	\$2,550,000

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		COMMENTS	Full Circuit Reclear	Full Circuit Reclear		Partial Circuit Reclear - Bucks Branch	Full Circuit Reclear	Full Circuit Reclear	mish ruii Oircuit Recleal statted iii 2011 Fiili Circuit Reclear	Full Circuit Reclear	begin Full Circuit Reclear (Little Mud Ck & Prater Ck) to be completed in 2013			finish Full Circuit Reclear started in 2011	Spring Full Circuit Reclear started in 2011		T	7	T	Full Circuit Reclear					Full Circuit Reclear	$\top$				Full Circuit Reclear	1	$\top$		finish Full Circuit Reclear started in 2011	0:							
		TOTAL	\$368,550	\$1,095,120	\$368,550	\$96,525	\$17,550	\$863,460	\$514,250	\$863,460	\$614,250	\$368,550	\$263,250	\$379,080	\$642,400	\$455,540	\$307.980	\$280.250	\$90,270	\$403,560	\$863,170	\$1,065,540	\$477,900	\$737,500	\$358,720	\$348,600	\$458,395	\$349,440	\$174,720	\$510.720	\$604.800	\$336,000	\$430,080	\$887,040	\$16,954,240							
		PROJECTE D O&M COST per MILE	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$18,000	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$14,000	49 000	\$9,500	\$9,000	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$10,500	\$9,000	\$12,500	\$10,000	49,000	\$12,500	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000								
IT PLAN		FORESTRY CAPITAL ASSOCIATED WITH	\$53,550	\$159,120	\$53,550	\$14,025	\$2,550	\$125,460	\$89,250	\$125,460	\$89,250	\$53,550	\$38,250	\$55,080	\$122,400	\$55,640	\$45.000 \$45.000	\$40,300	\$13,770	\$61,560	\$131,670	\$162,540	\$72,900	\$112,500	\$54,720	\$11,100	\$84,295	\$37,440	\$18,720	\$18,720	\$64.800	\$36,000	\$46,080	\$95,040	\$2,388,140							
AGEMENT		O&M	ļ	\$936,000	\$315,000	\$82,500	\$15,000	\$738,000	\$525,000	\$738,000	\$525,000	\$315,000	\$225,000	\$324,000	\$720,000	\$392,000	\$350,000	\$237 500	\$76.500	\$342,000	\$731,500	\$903,000	\$405,000	\$625,000	\$304,000	499,000	\$374,100	\$312,000	\$156,000	\$156,000	\$540,000	\$300,000	\$384,000	\$792,000	\$14,566,100							
N WAN		MILES	21.0	52.0	21.0	5.5	1,5	41.0	35.0	41.0	35.0	21.0	15.0	18.0	40.0	28.0	30.0	25.0	8.5	36.0	77.0	86.0	45.0	50.0	30.4	0.01	28.0	26	13	13	30	25	32	99	1,145							
ATIO		LINE	21.0	52.0	21.0	56.0	1.5	41.0	44.0	0.74	112.0	51.0	49.0	42.0	75.0	53.0	746.0	0.00	41.0	36.0	77.0	86.0	45.0	103.0	30.4	10.0	150.0	26	13	13	2	119	94	158	2,130							
/EGET		CIRCUIT		3412901	3408101	3408103	3408102	3202201	3409502	3410502	3400301	3403201	3200202	3411901	3411902	3409303	3308002	3311101	3301402	3311103	3303903	3308503	3307301	3308402	3312901	3309101	3303902	3008001	3008002	3001202	200000	3103101	3007906	3000201	Totals							
DISTRIBUTION VEGETATION MANA	4	E CIRCIIIT NAME		Distribution	Printer	Martin	Black Diamond	Lovely	Levisa	Island Creek	Mud Creek	Ligon	Vulcan	Shelby	Robinson Creek	Hagerhill	Lower Rocknouse	Kedbird	Airnort Gardens	Wendover	Hals Fork	Big Creek	Ary Hiner	Carr Creek	Kona	Whitesburg	Wooton	49th Street		S 29th Street	Double 303	Globe	Walbridge	Fallsburg South	TOTALS				The second secon			
	RECLEARING PLAN	DISTRICT STATION NAME	Birton	Weeksbury	Salisbury	Salisbury	Salisbury	Lovely	Burdine	Draffin S. Pilceville	Betsv Lavne	Beaver Creek	Barrenshe	Fords Branch	Fords Branch	Kenwood	Collier	Stinnett	Combs	Stinnett	Leslie	Bonnyman	Bulan	Beckham	Jenkins	Whitesburg	Hazard	47th Street	47th Street	Howard Collins	vuitianu	Olive Hill	Busseyville	Big Sandy	RECLEARING TOTALS							
2012 KPCO	RECLE.	DISTRICT	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PKV	PK	PKV	HAZ	HAZ	HA7	HA7	HAZ	HAZ	HAZ	HAZ	HAZ	HAZ	HAZ	ASH	ASH	ASH	HOW .	ASH	ASH	ASH								

### KENTUCKY POWER FORESTRY PLAN Terminology

#### Feeder Breaker Zone

Synonymous with Station Zone. Segment of line extending from the circuit station breaker to the first operating device. This zone includes unfused taps, but does not include fused taps.

#### Full Circuit Reclear

Entire circuit from the station breaker to the end of the circuit.

#### Recloser Zone

Line segment extending from a specific recloser to the next operating device. This zone includes unfused taps, but does not include fused taps.

#### Partial Reclear

A portion of the circuit is planned for reclearing.

#### BID JOB

Planned reclearing work released as an open, lump-sum bid for competing contractors.

#### Finish Full Circuit Reclear

Reclearing scheduled to complete Full Circuit Reclear that began in the previous year.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Recloser Zone

Line segment beginning at the second operating device beyond the station circuit breaker extending to the next operating device. This zone includes unfused taps, but does not include fused taps.

#### Quality-of-Service Work

Tree trimming or removal work scheduled for a line segment to address reliability issues. This work does not conform to reclearing specifications (e.g.-Hotspotting).

DISTRIBUTION	VEGETATION	MANAGEMENT	SPRAY PLAN
KPCO 2012			

	SPRAY		
DISTRICT	MILES	ACRES	O&M BUDGET
PKV	480	800	\$350,000
HAZ	660	1100	\$527,565
ASH	70	540	\$266,000
Totals	1210	2440	\$1,143,565

Kentucky Power Company	2012	Distribution Vegetation Management O&M Forestry Plan-Summary	ACTIVITY Total O&M Pikeville Hazard Ashland	\$14,566,100 \$6,495,500 \$4,974,600 \$	\$1,143,565 \$350,000 \$527,565 \$266,00	0\$ 0\$	0\$ 0\$	Reactive Maintenance \$780,564 \$222,483 \$200,000 \$	\$270,000 \$90,000 \$90,000	\$4,000 \$0	\$10,000 \$0 \$6,000	121 121 121 121 121 121 121 121 121 121	\$204,000	TOTAL \$1		September 30, 2009 O&M Test Year Level \$7,200,000	Settlement O&M Incremental Level \$10,000,000	Total Annual O&M Distribution Vegetation \$17,200,000	Forestry Capital \$2,550,000	Total KPCO Forestry Budget \$19,750,000		Reclearing,	Aerial Saw	and Spray	Miles	Pikeville 877	Hazard 1,150	Ashland 328	Total 2,355
				CNIONI	COLIND OPPAY	AEDIAI ADRAY	AEDIAI CAM	MENIAL OF 14	CONTRACT FORESTERS	CONTRACT CONTROL			INTEDNAL Existing		A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O	Sep		1000			The second secon								