Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



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August 1, 2012

David L. Armstrong Chairman

James W. Gardner Vice Chairman

> Linda Breathitt Commissioner

PARTIES OF RECORD

Re: Case No. 2012-00119

Big Rivers Electric Corporation

Attached is a copy of the memorandum which is being filed in the record of the above-referenced case. If you have any comments you would like to make regarding the contents of the informal conference memorandum, please do so within five days of receipt of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Quang Nguyen, Staff Attorney, at 502-564-3940, Extension 256.

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Executive Director

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**Attachments** 



## INTRA-AGENCY MEMORANDUM

## KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TO: Case File

**FROM:** Quang D. Nguyen, Staff Attorney

**DATE:** July 31, 2012

**RE:** Case No. 2012-00119

Application of Big Rivers Electric Corporation for Approval to Issue Evidences of

Indebtedness

Pursuant to a Staff Notice issued on July 9, 2012, a telephonic informal conference was conducted on July 10, 2012. The purpose of the informal conference was to discuss Big Rivers Electric Corporation's ("Big Rivers") decision to postpone the proposed financing with the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation ("CFC") and CoBank, ACB ("CoBank"), which had recently been approved by the Commission on May 25, 2012. A list of the attendees is attached hereto.

In response to Commission Staff's questions, Big Rivers' counsel provided a detailed explanation and timeline of the recent events involving discussions and negotiations with Alcan Primary Products Corporation and Century Aluminum of Kentucky General Partnership (collectively "Smelters") and the risk and uncertainties surrounding the viability of the Smelters in the absence of certain rate relief requested by the Smelters. Given that uncertainty, Big Rivers informed both CFC and CoBank on June 22, 2012 of its decision to postpone the previously scheduled June 29, 2012 closing. Big Rivers noted that both CFC and CoBank concurred with its decision to postpone the closing. Big Rivers' counsel noted, however, that the company has now determined that it should go forward with the closing of the financing transactions because it has a better grasp of the issues involving the Smelters and, perhaps, how to manage those risks. Big Rivers advised that CFC and CoBank are still interested in proceeding with the closing and discussions with both financial institutions will be scheduled shortly to determine how to proceed.

Commission Staff requested, and Big Rivers agreed, that Big Rivers should file a written account of the company's decision to postpone the subject financing and the steps going forward. Further, Big Rivers shall file with the Commission any information concerning the rescheduling of the closing of the approved financing and any changes in the terms of the financing transactions.

There being no further discussions, the informal conference was adjourned.

Attachment

2012-00119

Kurt Boehn Jim Miller Mark Ittle Relp Ashworth Susen Gotlieb Karl Lyons Lane Kollen Informal Conference

July 10,2012

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Mike Kutz David a Swan Jeff Derouer PSC-FA
PSC-FA
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PSC-FA

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