

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF BIG RIVERS)
ELECTRIC CORPORATION,)
LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC)
COMPANY, WESTERN KENTUCKY)
ENERGY CORP., WESTERN) CASE NO. 97-204
KENTUCKY LEASING CORP.,)
AND LG&E STATION TWO INC. FOR)
APPROVAL OF WHOLESALE RATE)
ADJUSTMENT FOR BIG RIVERS)
ELECTRIC CORPORATION AND FOR)
APPROVAL OF TRANSACTION)

O R D E R

On January 27, 1998, Big Rivers Electric Corporation, Louisville Gas and Electric Company, Western Kentucky Energy Corp., Western Kentucky Leasing Corp. WKE Station Two Inc., Southwire Company and Alcan Aluminum Corp., collectively, filed a notice that a proposed resolution had been reached regarding the unforeseen cost issue identified by the Commission at the conclusion of the November 24, 1997 hearing and requested: (1) an informal conference to discuss among the parties the terms of the proposed resolution and the need for further discovery and a hearing; and (2) a suspension of the existing briefing schedule. The notice further states that the proposed resolution is complex and has not yet been reduced to writing but will be submitted as soon as the documentation is complete.

Based on the notice and good cause having been shown, the Commission finds that an informal conference should be held and an extension of time should be granted for the filing of briefs. However, in recognition of the fact that the 10 month statutory review period

provided by KRS 278.190(3) will expire on April 30, 1998, an indefinite extension cannot be granted. Therefore, the Commission will allow a two week extension for the filing of briefs on all issues except the unforeseen cost issue. To the extent the discussions at the informal conference demonstrate the need for further discovery and a hearing on the unforeseen cost issue, a schedule for filing supplemental briefs on that issue will be established at a future date.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. An informal conference shall be held on Wednesday, February 4, 1998 at 1:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, in Conference Room 1 of the Commission's offices at 730 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of discussing the proposed resolution of the unforeseen cost issue and the need for additional discovery and a hearing.
2. The briefing schedule set forth in the January 8, 1998 Order is modified to the extent that any party may file an initial brief no later than February 13, 1998, and reply briefs may be filed no later than February 27, 1998.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 29th day of January, 1998.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



For the Commission

ATTEST:



Executive Director