

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE JOINT APPLICATION OF THE UTILITIES:)
INTER COUNTY ENERGY COOPERATIVE)
CORPORATION, KENTUCKY POWER COMPANY,)
D/B/A AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER, KENTUCKY)
UTILITIES COMPANY, LOUISVILLE GAS AND)
ELECTRIC, OWEN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE,)
SHELBY ENERGY COOPERATIVE, THE UNION) CASE NO. 99-441
LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER COMPANY)
COLLECTIVELY CALLED (UTILITIES) FOR)
APPROVAL OF A PILOT METER TESTING PLAN)
PURSUANT TO 807 KAR 5:041, SECTIONS 13, 15,)
16, 17 AND 22)

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that the Utilities shall file the original and 10 copies of the following information with the Commission with a copy to all parties of record by January 21, 2000. Each copy should be placed in a bound volume with each item tabbed. When a number of sheets are required for an item, each sheet should be indexed appropriately. The Utilities shall furnish with each response the name of the witness who will be available to respond to questions concerning each item of information requested should a public hearing be scheduled.

1. If the Utility plans to have new meter devices tested by the manufacturer:
 - a. Provide information demonstrating that all requirements noted in 807 KAR 5:006, Section 16, will be met.

b. Provide information demonstrating that all requirements noted in 807 KAR 5:041, Section 14(1) & (2), will be met.

c. Will the Utilities sample test the new meters tested by the manufacturers?

(1) If yes, provide information regarding the type of sample testing of new metering devices the utility will perform. Specifically, what Acceptable Quality Levels (AQL), Lot Size, and Inspection Level would be used?

(2) If no, explain why.

d. Provide information demonstrating that all requirements noted in 807 KAR 5:006, Section 17(1)(a), will be met.

2. Provide, for each utility, the number of meters tested each year beginning with 1996. Indicate for each year whether the numbers represent testing under a periodic or an approved sample-testing program.

3. Refer to the Utilities application, Appendix A, II (B)(3)(b). Explain why the acceptability criteria will be based on an upper limit of 102 percent and a lower limit of 98 percent instead of an upper limit of 101 percent and a lower limit of 99 percent.

4. Refer to the Utilities application, Appendix A, II (D)(3)(b). Explain why the Utilities did not limit the lot size to a maximum of 10,000 meters.

5. Refer to the Utilities application, Appendix A, II(C)(3). Explain why meters removed from service will not be tested.

6. Refer to the Utilities application, Appendix A, III (B)(2). Explain why instrument transformers removed from service will not be tested.

7. Refer to the Utilities application, Appendix A, III (A)(1). Explain why the performance of a mechanical or lagged demand register shall be acceptable when the error in demand registration does not exceed ± 4 percent instead of ± 2 percent.
8. How many electromechanical and ball/jewel bearing suspension meters are operated by each utility in 1999?
9. Is there an early removal program for the jewel bearing suspension meters? Explain.
10. Provide the criteria for segregating the meters into homogeneous control groups.
11. Provide criteria for combining control groups.
12. Refer to the joint application. The Utilities have requested several deviations from Commission regulations. Provide a list of the deviations requested and the rationale for requesting each one of them. Explain in detail.
13. Provide the estimated savings, for each individual utility, for implementing the pilot meter-testing plan.
14. Provide the plan for early removal of the control group when its sample does not meet prescribed performance standards.
15. What is the anticipated largest control lot size? What is the smallest acceptable sample size?
16. Explain and provide any written information that supports the elimination of the 25-year service life for the meters. What is the proposed service life in the plan?
17. What is the rationale for selecting inspection level II, and AQL of 2.5?

18. Refer to the Utilities application, page 6 of the Appendix A. Explain the rationale of establishing an additional lot when a sample of a control group fails the test.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 29th day of December, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director