## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION OF EAST KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.'S NEED FOR THE GILBERT UNIT AND THE KENTUCKY PIONEER ENERGY, LLC PURCHASE POWER AGREEMENT	) ) ) )	CASE NO. 2003-00030
THE APPLICATION OF EAST KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR APPROVAL TO PURCHASE POWER AGREEMENT	) ) )	CASE NO. 2000-00079

## <u>COMMISSION STAFF S FIRST DATA REQUEST</u> TO EAST KENTUCKY POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.

Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Commission Staff requests that East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. (East Kentucky) file the original and 5 copies of the following information with the Commission on or before July 28, 2003, with a copy to all parties of record. Each copy of the information requested 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 appropriately indexed, for example, Item 1(a), Sheet 2 of 6. Include with each response the name of the witness who will be responsible for responding to questions relating to the information provided. Careful attention should be given to copied material to ensure its legibility. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request. 1. Does East Kentucky have any employees qualified to review and analyze the technical feasibility of the gasification process, utilizing coal and refuse-derived fuel, proposed by the Kentucky Pioneer Project? If yes,

a. Provide their names and qualifications.

b. Explain in detail why in 2002 East Kentucky hired a consultant to analyze the technology proposed to be utilized by the Kentucky Pioneer Project rather than having such review done by the employees.

c. Provide a detailed explanation of why East Kentucky's employees did not file testimony in this case to discuss whether additional development work is required to enable the gasification technology to be applied in the manner envisioned by the Kentucky Pioneer Project.

2. Describe in detail the substance of all meetings, discussions, reports, or conversations since June 2002 between East Kentucky and Kentucky Pioneer that related to the June 2002 conclusions of East Kentucky's consultant.

3. Has East Kentucky's consultant issued any further report or conclusions since June 2002 on the gasification technology to be utilized by the Kentucky Pioneer Project? If yes, provide copies.

4. Does East Kentucky's consultant now agree that no additional development work is required to enable the gasification technology to be applied in the manner envisioned by the Kentucky Pioneer Project? If no, explain in detail why East Kentucky's consultant does not agree and why East Kentucky continues to pursue a project that requires additional development work to be commercially feasible.

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5. Refer to the testimony of David Eames. At page 2, lines 1-4, reference is made to Exhibit I to the testimony and to KPE beginning operation in 2008. Exhibit I to the testimony also reflects KPE being included in 2008. At page 3, line 18, reference is made to a KPE start-up in mid-2006.

a. What is East Kentucky's current estimated start-up date for the Kentucky Pioneer Project?

b. If other than mid-2006, file a revised response to Staff Information Request Item No. 7, originally filed on February 13, 2003, reflecting the later start-up date.

c. If mid-2006 remains the estimated start-up date for the Kentucky Pioneer Project, provide a revised Exhibit I, based on the mid-2006 start-up date.

6. Provide copies of any minutes of East Kentucky's Board of Directors meetings since August 13, 2002 which contain a reference to the Kentucky Pioneer Project, the gasification technology to be utilized therein, or the related purchase power agreement.

Thomas M. Dorman Executive Director Public Service Commission P. O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

DATED: <u>July 17, 2003</u>

cc: Parties of Record