Kentucky Resources Council, Inc.

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October 6, 2003

Docket Coordinator
Kentucky State Siting Board on
Electric Generation and Transmission Siting
211 Sower Boulevard
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602



Re: THE APPLICATION OF THOROUGHBRED GENERATING COMPANY, LLC FOR A MERCHANT POWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE IN MUHLENBERG COUNTY, KENTUCKY; CASE NO. 2002-00150

Dear Docket Coordinator:

Please find enclosed, for filing, the original and ten (10) copies of the Direct Testimony Of Intervenor Gary Watrous. A copy was faxed today for filing and all parties have been served by mail and by email.

Thank you for your assistance in filing this.

Cordially,

Counsel for Movant

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION SITING

RECEIVED KENTUCKY STATE BOARD ON

OCT 0 7 2003

ELECTRIC GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION SITING

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF THOROUGHBRED)	
GENERATING COMPANY LLC FOR A)	
MERCHANT POWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION) 2002-0015	0
CERTIFICATE IN MUHI ENBERG COUNTY KY	Ì	

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF INTERVENOR GARY WATROUS

1 Please state your name, address, and your occupation. 2 My name is Gary Watrous, and I am a resident of Jefferson 3 County, Kentucky. My address is 2711 West Main Street, 4 Louisville, Kentucky, 40202. I am an architect specializing in 5 solar and energy efficient design. 6 From whom do you purchase electricity? 7 From Louisville Gas & Electric. 8 Please summarize your concerns about the proposed 9 Thoroughbred power plant siting. 10 As a resident of Metro Louisville who is in the business of designing 11 buildings, my business depends on the need for new housing 12 construction, which in turn relies on the desirability of this community 13 to potential home buyers. The air quality in Metro Louisville, both in terms of fine particulate pollution and ozone pollution, is currently 14 15 attaining the ozone and particulate standards, but very likely to be 16 reclassified as non-attainment for the new health-based standards that

- 1 have been adopted and become enforceable within the next few years.
- 2 The economic health of the Louisville Metro region is dependent on the
- 3 quality of our environment, particularly air quality, since being classified as
- 4 non-attainment imposes a health burden and both direct and indirect costs
- on the local economy, including industries and other sectors.
- 6 A component of our local air quality problems are caused by emissions
- 7 of particulate matter and precursors of ozone from upwind sources,
- 8 including the TVA power plant at Paradise in Muhlenberg County. Also,
- 9 emissions of toxic air pollutants such as mercury are of concern. Given
- 10 our current pollution situation, any new emissions of particulates and
- ozone precursors is of concern to the region's economy.
- 11 Does the Thoroughbred application consider the potential economic
- 12 impact of the new plant emissions on the Louisville Metro region?
- 13 It is my understanding that the application did not discuss or analyze the
- 14 potential negative economic impact on the Louisville Metro region, though
- 15 KRS 278.706(2)(j) requires "[a]n analysis of the proposed facility's
- 16 economic impact on the affected region and the state."
- 17 Are there other concerns that you have regarding the facility?
- 18 Yes. The adverse economic effects of the additional emissions on the
- 19 Mammoth Cave area are of concern to me, as a visitor of that area,
- and a member of the Sierra Club, since the protection of the air quality
- and in particular the visibility of the area is an integral part of safeguarding
- that unique resource for current and future users. The addition of

1 emissions of sulfur oxides, nitrogen oxides and particulates, and air toxics 2 such as mercury into that airshed has the potential to lower air quality 3 within the park and surrounding areas, lessening the desirability of visiting the park and adversely affecting the economic health of the area. 4 5 Won't the Thoroughbred emissions be offsetting current emissions 6 of those same air pollutants from other sources? Not necessarily. While Thoroughbred has represented that it anticipated 7 8 selling wholesale power as a merchant power plant both within and 9 outside of the state, it also admitted that it has no contracts for sale of 10 power within the state. In the absence of such contracts, it is more 11 prudent and appropriate for the Siting Board to assume that 12 Thoroughbred's pollutant emissions and discharges will be in addition to, 13 rather than offsetting or replacing, the existing pollution burden on local 14 and regional economies from coal-fired power plants. 15 How would you propose that Thoroughbred mitigate that potential 16 harm to the economies of the region and state from its addition of 17 new air toxics, NOx and sulfur oxides? 18 If Thoroughbred acquires contracts with existing utilities to replace current 19 generation from other plants that are operating less efficiently in terms of 20 pollutant emissions, or otherwise offsets an amount of each pollutant from 21 existing sources so that there is no net decrease in air quality or increase

in pollutant loading then that would mitigate the potential adverse effect on 1 the regional economy. Such an offset would also be necessary to address 2 3 other consequences such as water consumption and discharges of 4 thermal and other water pollutants, which may affect other economically 5 beneficial uses of the waterbodies. Are there other concerns that you have regarding the proposed 6 7 facility's compliance with the siting board requirements? 8 My concerns regarding the impact of the new facility on the reliability of 9 the transmission grid, and the who pays the costs of any needed 10 upgrades, will be addressed by other parties and I will not comment on 11 them in order to minimize duplication. There is one other area of concern, 12 which is the lack of discussion of mitigating any adverse impacts from 13 the siting and construction of new transmission lines. The application 14 indicates that new transmission lines will be constructed in order to link the 15 facility to the existing grid, yet the application does not include a 16 consideration of the impacts of the siting, design and location of those 17 lines. Where transmission lines are part of a merchant power plant 18 project, they should be included as part of the application in order that the 19 impacts of the project can be considered as a whole rather than being 20 piecemealed. If the transmission line routing impacts are not assessed at 21 the same time as the power plant itself, the range of mitigation options is 22 reduced, since the approval of the location of the plant will necessarily 23 limit the range of alternatives for routing transmission corridors and lines.

- 1 Does this complete your testimony?
- 2 Yes.

AFFIDAVIT

Gary Watrous

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by Gary Watrous, this day of October, 2003.

Nade Hampton Fehr

My commission expires 2/20/20

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Direct Testimony of Intervenor Gary Watrous was served this 6th day of October, 2003 by priority first-class mail to all parties on the service list and has been e-mailed to all parties whose e-mail was listed on the Service List.

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