## **COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**

## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:

AN EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION OF THE FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2014

CASE NO. 2014-00228

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## PETITION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTION

Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E"), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, respectfully petitions the Commission to classify as confidential and protect from public disclosure certain information provided by LG&E in response to Question Nos. 12(a) and 19 of the Commission's data requests, as contained in the Appendix to the Commission's Order dated August 13, 2014. LG&E requests confidential protection for settlement agreements provided in response to Question No. 12(a) and for coal bid analysis information contained in Question No. 19. In support of this Petition, LG&E notes that the Commission has consistently treated this same kind of information as confidential in LG&E's previous fuel adjustment clause review proceedings.

In further support of this Petition, LG&E states as follows:

1. Under the Kentucky Open Records Act, the Commission is entitled to withhold from public disclosure information confidentially disclosed to it to the extent that open disclosure would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the entity disclosing the information to the Commission. <u>See KRS 61.878(l)(c)</u>. Public disclosure of the information identified herein would, in fact, prompt such a result for the reasons set forth below.

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2. Disclosure of the terms and conditions of LG&E's settlement of contract disputes would damage LG&E's competitive position and business interests. This information reveals the terms and conditions under which LG&E agreed to settle contract disputes with a coal supplier. If the Commission grants public access to the information requested in Question No. 12(a), LG&E's negotiating position in future litigation of contract disputes could be seriously compromised to the detriment of LG&E and its ratepayers by granting litigators access to terms and conditions LG&E has found acceptable in the past. As noted above, the Commission has treated such information as confidential in the past.

3. Disclosure of the factors underlying LG&E's bid analysis/selection process would damage LG&E's competitive position and business interests. This information reveals the business model the Company uses – the procedure it follows and the factors/inputs it considers – in evaluating bids for coal supply. If the Commission grants public access to the information requested in Question No. 19, potential bidders could manipulate the bid solicitation process to the detriment of LG&E and its ratepayers by tailoring bids to correspond to and comport with LG&E's bidding criteria and process. As noted above, the Commission has treated such information as confidential in the past.

4. The information for which LG&E is seeking confidential treatment is not known outside of LG&E, is not disseminated within LG&E except to those employees with a legitimate business need to know and act upon the information, and is generally recognized as confidential and proprietary information in the energy industry.

5. LG&E does not object to limited disclosure of the confidential information described herein, pursuant to an acceptable protective agreement, to intervenors with legitimate interests in reviewing the same for the purpose of participating in this case.

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6. In accordance with the provisions of 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, LG&E is filing with the Commission one copy of the Confidential Information highlighted and one electronic copy without the Confidential Information.

WHEREFORE, Louisville Gas and Electric Company respectfully requests the Commission grant confidential protection to the information designated as confidential for a period of five years from the date of filing the same.

Dated: August 27, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson K. Sturgeon Senior Corporate Attorney LG&E and KU Services Company 220 West Main Street Louisville Kentucky, 40202 Telephone: (502) 627-2088

Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric Company

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that Louisville Gas and Electric Company's August 27, 2014 electronic filing is a true and accurate copy of the documents being filed in paper medium, with the exception that unobscured versions of the documents are not being filed in electronic format under 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2)(e); that the electronic filing was transmitted to the Commission on August 27, 2014; that there are currently no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding; that a copy of the filing in paper medium is being hand-delivered to the Commission within two business days of this filing; and that on August 27, 2014, electronic mail notification of the electronic filing will be provided to the following:

Michael L. Kurtz Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street Suite 1510 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric Company