### **BEFORE THE**

### **KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

4-00371
r-005/1
4-00372
.*

**DIRECT TESTIMONY** 

**AND EXHIBITS** 

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

**MARCH 6, 2015** 

# **BEFORE THE**

# KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371 )
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES	) CASE NO. 2014-00372 )
TABLE OF CONTEN	ГS
I. QUALIFICATIONS AND SUMMARY	1
II. REVIEW OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CON	NDITIONS5
III. DETERMINATION OF FAIR RATE OF RETURN	N13
Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF") Method	15
Capital Asset Pricing Model	23
Conclusions and Recommendations	29
IV. RESPONSE TO LGE AND KU TESTIMONY	35

# **BEFORE THE**

# KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the	Matter of:
	APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES ) COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ) CASE NO. 2014-00371 ITS ELECTRIC RATES )
In the	Matter of:
	APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ) ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN ) CASE NO. 2014-00372 ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND ) GAS RATES )
	DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RICHARD A. BAUDINO
	I. QUALIFICATIONS AND SUMMARY
Q.	Please state your name and business address.
A.	My name is Richard A. Baudino. My business address is J. Kennedy and Associates,
	Inc. ("Kennedy and Associates"), 570 Colonial Park Drive, Suite 305, Roswell,
	Georgia 30075.
Q.	What is your occupation and by whom are you employed?
A.	I am a consultant with Kennedy and Associates.
0	Places despuths recovered as a despution and associated as a second as a secon
Q.	Please describe your education and professional experience.
A.	I received my Master of Arts degree with a major in Economics and a minor in
	Statistics from New Mexico State University in 1982. I also received my Bachelor
	of Arts Degree with majors in Economics and English from New Mexico State in
	1979.

I began my professional career with the New Mexico Public Service Commission Staff in October 1982 and was employed there as a Utility Economist. During my employment with the Staff, my responsibilities included the analysis of a broad range of issues in the ratemaking field. Areas in which I testified included cost of service, rate of return, rate design, revenue requirements, analysis of sale/leasebacks of generating plants, utility finance issues, and generating plant phase-ins.

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

1

2

3

4

5

6

In October 1989, I joined the utility consulting firm of Kennedy and Associates as a Senior Consultant where my duties and responsibilities covered substantially the same areas as those during my tenure with the New Mexico Public Service Commission Staff. I became Manager in July 1992 and was named Director of Consulting in January 1995. Currently, I am a consultant with Kennedy and Associates.

14

15

Exhibit No. \_\_\_(RAB-1) summarizes my expert testimony experience.

# 16 Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?

- 17 A. I am testifying on behalf of the Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, Inc.
- 18 ("KIUC").

# 19 Q. What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony?

A. The purpose of my Direct Testimony is to address the allowed return on equity for regulated electric operations for Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities ("LGE", "KU", or "Companies"). I will also address the cost of debt, the appropriate capital structure, and the resulting overall weighted cost of capital for

1	LGE and KU. Finally, I will respond to the Direct Testimony of Dr. William Avera
2	and Mr. Adrien McKenzie, witnesses for the Companies.

### 3 Q. Please summarize your conclusions and recommendations.

Based on current financial market conditions, I recommend that the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("KPSC" or "Commission") adopt an 8.60% return on equity for LGE and KU in this proceeding. My recommendation is based on the results of a Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF") model analysis. My DCF analysis incorporates my standard approach to estimating the investor required return on equity and includes a group of 18 comparison companies and dividend and earnings growth forecasts from the Value Line Investment Survey, IBES, and Zacks.

A.

I also included two Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM") analyses for additional information. I did not incorporate the results of the CAPM in my recommendation, however the results from the CAPM support my 8.60% ROE recommendation for LGE and KU. In fact, my CAPM results are somewhat lower than my DCF results.

In Section IV, I respond to the testimony and ROE recommendation of the Companies' witnesses Avera/McKenzie. I will demonstrate that their recommended ROE of 10.64% significantly overstates the current investor required return. The current financial environment of low interest rates has been deliberately and methodically supported by Federal Reserve policy actions since 2009 and is ongoing. A 10.64% ROE for regulated electric utilities such as LGE and KU simply cannot be supported at this time and would contribute to a burdensome rate increase for

1	Kentucky ratepayers. Although the Companies are requesting a 10.50% ROE in this
2	case, I strongly recommend that the KPSC reject the Companies' requested ROE in
3	this proceeding.
4	

#### II. REVIEW OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

1

2 O. Mr. Baudino, what has the trend been in long-term capital costs over the last 3 few years? 4 A. Generally speaking, interest rates have declined over the last 10 years. Exhibit No. 5 (RAB-2) presents a graphic depiction of the trend in interest rates from January 6 2005 through December 2014. The interest rates shown in this exhibit are for the 20-7 year U.S. Treasury Bond and the average public utility bond from the Mergent Bond 8 Record. In January 2005, the average public utility bond yield was 5.80% and the 20-9 year Treasury Bond yield was 4.77%. As of December 2014 the average public 10 utility bond yield was 4.18%, representing a decline of 162 basis points, or 1.62% 11 from January 2005. Likewise, the 20-year Treasury bond declined to 2.55% in 12 December 2014, a decline of 2.22% (222 basis points) from January 2005. 13 0. Was there a significant change in Federal Reserve policy during the historical 14 period shown in Exhibit No. (RAB-2)? 15 A. Yes. In response to the 2007 financial crisis and severe recession that followed in 16 December 2007, the Federal Reserve ("Fed") undertook a series of steps to stabilize the economy, ease credit conditions, and lower unemployment and interest rates. 17 18 These steps are commonly known as Quantitative Easing ("OE") and were 19 implemented in three distinct stages: QE1, QE2, and QE3. The Fed's stated purpose 20 of QE was "to support the liquidity of financial institutions and foster improved 21 conditions in financial markets."1

http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/bst\_crisisresponse.htm

1	QET was implemented from November 2008 through approximately March 2010.
2	During this time, the Fed cut its key Federal Funds Rate to nearly 0% and purchased
3	\$1.25 trillion of mortgage-backed securities and \$175 billion of agency debt
4	purchases.
5	
6	QE2 was implemented in November 2010 with the Fed announcing that it would
7	purchase an additional \$600 billion of Treasury securities by the second quarter of
8	2011. <sup>2</sup>
9	
10	Beginning in September 2011, the Federal Reserve initiated a "maturity extension
11	program" in which it sold or redeemed \$667 billion of shorter-term Treasury
12	securities and used the proceeds to buy longer-term Treasury securities. This
13	program, also known as "Operation Twist" was designed by the Federal Reserve to
14	lower long-term interest rates and support the economic recovery.
15	
16	QE3 began in September 2012 with the Fed announcing an additional bond
17	purchasing program of \$40 billion per month of agency mortgage backed securities.
18	On June 19, 2013, the Federal Open Market Committee ("FOMC") issued a press
19	release indicating that it intended to extend "Operation Twist." In its press release,
20	the Federal Reserve stated:
21 22	To support a stronger economic recovery and to help ensure that inflation, over time, is at the rate most consistent with its

http://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/press/monetary/20101103a.htm

 dual mandate, the Committee decided to continue purchasing additional agency mortgage-backed securities at a pace of \$40 billion per month and longer-term Treasury securities at a pace of \$45 billion per month. The Committee is maintaining its existing policy of reinvesting principal payments from its holdings of agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities in agency mortgage-backed securities and of rolling over maturing Treasury securities at auction. Taken together, these actions should maintain downward pressure on longer-term interest rates, support mortgage markets, and help to make broader financial conditions more accommodative.

More recently, the Federal Reserve began to pare back its purchases of securities. For example, on January 29, 2014 the Federal Reserve stated that beginning in February 2014 it would reduce its purchases of long-term Treasury securities to \$35 billion per month. The Federal Reserve continued to reduce these purchases throughout the year and in a press release issued October 29, 2014 announced that it decided to close this asset purchase program in October.<sup>3</sup>

- Q. Since the Federal Reserve's announcements of scaling back and finally ending its purchases of long-term Treasury securities, what has the trend been in long-term Treasury yields so far in 2014?
- A. The yield on the 20-year Treasury bond has actually declined since the beginning of 2014. The January 2014 yield on the 20-year Treasury bond was 3.52%. The closing yield for the week ending February 27, 2015 was 2.39%, a decline of 113 basis points since January 2014. Average utility bond yields have followed a similar trend, starting January at 4.72% and declining to 3.69% as of February 27, 2015.

http://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/press/monetary/20141029a.htm

1	Q.	Mr. Baudino, why is it important to understand the Fed's actions with respect
2		to monetary policy since 2007?

A. The Fed's monetary policy actions since 2007 were deliberately undertaken to lower interest rates and support economic recovery. The Fed's actions have been quite successful in lowering interest rates given that the 20-year Treasury Bond yield in June 2007 was 5.29% and the public utility bond yield was 6.34%. The U.S. economy is currently in a low interest rate environment that, in my opinion, will continue at least through this year. As I will demonstrate later in my testimony, low interest rates have also significantly lowered investors' required return on equity for the stocks of regulated utilities.

## 11 Q. Has the Fed recently signaled that it is considering raising interest rates?

12 A. Yes. In the Fed's Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress on February 24,

2015 Chair Janet Yellen stated the following:

2015 Chair Janet Yellen stated the following:

"The FOMC's assessment that it can be patient in beginning to normalize policy means that the Committee considers it unlikely that economic conditions will warrant an increase in the target range for the federal funds rate for at least the next couple of FOMC meetings. If economic conditions continue to improve, as the Committee anticipates, the Committee will at some point begin considering an increase in the target range for the federal funds rate on a meeting-by-meeting basis."

Chair Yellen also stated "the Committee judges that a high degree of policy accommodation remains appropriate to foster further improvement in labor market conditions and to promote a return of inflation toward 2 percent over the medium term. Accordingly, the FOMC has continued to maintain the target range for the

http://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/testimony/yellen20150224a.htm

1		federal funds rate at 0 to 1/4 percent and to keep the Federal Reserve's holdings of
2		longer-term securities at their current elevated level to help maintain accommodative
3		financial conditions."
4		
5		It appears that for the time being, the Fed will not raise its Federal Funds Rate.
6 7	Q.	Are current interest rates indicative of investor expectations regarding future policy actions by the Federal Reserve?
8	A.	Yes. Securities markets are efficient and most likely reflect investors' expectations
9		about future interest rates. As Dr. Roger Morin pointed out in New Regulatory
10		Finance:
11 12 13 14		"A considerable body of empirical evidence indicates that U.S. capital markets are efficient with respect to a broad set of information, including historical and publicly available information."
15		I acknowledge that the U.S. economy is operating in a low interest rate environment.
16		It is likely at some point in the near future that the Federal Reserve will begin to raise
17		short-term interest rates. However, the timing and the level of any such move are not
18		known at this time. It is important to realize that investor expectations of higher
19		interest rates, if any, are already embodied in current securities prices, which include
20		debt securities and stock prices.
21		
22		It would not be advisable for utility regulators to raise ROEs in anticipation of higher
23		interest rates that may or may not occur.
		<del></del>

Morin, Roger A., New Regulatory Finance, Public Utilities Reports, Inc. (2006) at 279.

2	Ų.	whole?
3	A.	The Value Line Investment Survey's February 20, 2015 summary report on the
4		Electric Utility (East) Industry noted the following regarding interest rates and utility
5		stocks.
6 7 8 9 10		"Like fixed-income securities, utility stocks are sensitive to interest rates. (This is true for all utilities, not just electrics.) The environment of low interest rates in the past several years has been a boon for utility equities. This was evident in 2014, when a decline in rates from an already-low level allowed EEI's index of stocks to produce a 29% total return.  * * *
12 13 14 15 16		Low interest rates have lasted longer than most people expected, but few expect rates to stay this low permanently. The previous section discussed the risk that utility investors face when rates start to rise. Of course, things won't necessarily unfold this way—these stocks are also affected by other factors, including company-specific events—but utility investors must be cognizant of this.
18 19 20 21		So far in 2015, most electric utility stocks have either risen or fallen very little. The industry's average dividend yield is 3.4%. We continue to believe that most of these equities are expensively priced."
22		Edison Electric Institute ("EEI") recently reported that the utility industry's
23		average credit rating was BBB+ by the third quarter of 2014.6 EEI reported that
24		credit outlooks remained stable to positive due to "derisking of business models
25		through renewed focus on regulated activities and improved industry regulation."
26		
27		The 2014 Ibbotson SBBI Classic Yearbook published by Morningstar stated the
28		following with respect to the outlook for utilities in 2014:
29 30 31		Adding to the sector's attractiveness going into 2014 is its average 4 percent dividend yield, nearly double the average S&P 500 dividend yield and more than 1 percentage point higher than 10-year U.S Treasuries. Our

<sup>6</sup> EEI Q3 2014 Financial Update, Credit Ratings, page 1.

1	analysis of returns going back 20 years suggests that 10-year U.S.
2	Treasuries could climb to 4 percent from 3 percent today, with little
3	impact on utilities' total returns. We think utilities with 3 percent to 5
4	percent earnings growth prospects during the next few years offer a
5	compelling risk-adjusted total-return package for any investor. <sup>7</sup>

#### Q. What do you conclude from the aforementioned quotes?

Utilities continue to be safe, solid stock choices for investors. Even with uncertainty regarding the Federal Reserve's decision on when to raise interest rates, utilities' prices have made solid gains since the beginning of 2014. For example, the Dow Jones utility average opened January 2014 at 490.31 and closed at 594.17 at the end of February 2015. This represents a gain of 21.2%. Morningstar indicated that interest rates could rise 100 basis points with little effect on utilities' overall return. The current low interest rate environment continues to favor utility stocks.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

A.

It appears that the Fed will continue a relatively accommodating stance with respect to monetary policy and has signaled that it does not intend to raise short-term interest rates at this time. The volatile economic conditions that were present in the 2008 -2009 period are over and the U.S. economy continues to slowly recover from the recession that began in 2007.

#### Q. What are the current credit ratings and bond ratings for LGE and KU?

2014 Ibbotson SBBI Classic Yearbook, Morningstar, page 31.

1	A.	Standard and Poor's ("S&P") current credit rating for the Companies is BBB and
2		their first mortgage bond rating is A Moody's current long-term issuer rating for
3		the Companies is A3, with a rating of A1 for their first mortgage bonds.

- 4 Q. Has LGE's and KU's parent company, PPL Corporation, made recent statements regarding the operations and risks of its Kentucky electric utility companies?
- 7 A. Yes. In a February 25, 2015 presentation to the Credit Suisse 20th Annual Energy 8 Summit, PPL noted that Kentucky has a "constructive regulatory environment that 9 provides a timely return on a substantial amount of planned capex over the next 5 10 years." PPL Corp. also cited other supportive recovery mechanisms that include 11 construction work in progress, fuel adjustment clauses, gas supply clause adjustment 12 and Demand Side Management recovery. Please refer to Exhibit No. (RAB-3) 13 for an excerpt from this presentation. These mechanisms tend to lower the 14 Companies' business risk and, correspondingly, their cost of equity.

2 Q. Please describe the methods you employed in estimating a fair rate of return for the electric operations of LGE and KU. 3

> I employed a Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF") analysis using a group of regulated electric utilities. My DCF analysis is my standard constant growth form of the model that employs four different growth rate forecasts from the Value Line Investment Survey, IBES, and Zacks. I also employed Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM") analyses using both historical and forward-looking data. Although I did not rely on the CAPM for my recommended 8.60% ROE for LGE and KU, the results from the CAPM tend to support this recommendation.

#### Q. What are the main guidelines to which you adhere in estimating the cost of 12 equity for a firm?

Generally speaking, the estimated cost of equity should be comparable to the returns of other firms with similar risk structures and should be sufficient for the firm to attract capital. These are the basic standards set out by the United States Supreme Court in Federal Power Comm'n v. Hope Natural Gas Co., 320 U.S. 591 (1944) and Bluefield W.W. & Improv. Co. v. Public Service Comm'n, 262 U.S. 679 (1922).

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

1

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

13

14

15

16

17

A.

A.

From an economist's perspective, the notion of "opportunity cost" plays a vital role in estimating the return on equity. One measures the opportunity cost of an investment equal to what one would have obtained in the next best alternative. For example, let us suppose that an investor decides to purchase the stock of a publicly traded electric utility. That investor made the decision based on the expectation of dividend payments and perhaps some appreciation in the stock's value over time; however, that investor's opportunity cost is measured by what she or he could have invested in as the next best alternative. That alternative could have been another utility stock, a utility bond, a mutual fund, a money market fund, or any other number of investment vehicles.

A.

The key determinant in deciding whether to invest, however, is based on comparative levels of risk. Our hypothetical investor would not invest in a particular electric company stock if it offered a return lower than other investments of similar risk. The opportunity cost simply would not justify such an investment. Thus, the task for the rate of return analyst is to estimate a return that is equal to the return being offered by other risk-comparable firms.

### Q. What are the major types of risk faced by utility companies?

In general, risk associated with the holding of common stock can be separated into three major categories: business risk, financial risk, and liquidity risk. Business risk refers to risks inherent in the operation of the business. Volatility of the firm's sales, long-term demand for its product(s), the amount of operating leverage, and quality of management are all factors that affect business risk. The quality of regulation at the state and federal levels also plays an important role in business risk for regulated utility companies.

Financial risk refers to the impact on a firm's future cash flows from the use of debt in the capital structure. Interest payments to bondholders represent a prior call on the firm's cash flows and must be met before income is available to the common shareholders. Additional debt means additional variability in the firm's earnings, leading to additional risk.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

18

1

2

Liquidity risk refers to the ability of an investor to quickly sell an investment without a substantial price concession. The easier it is for an investor to sell an investment for cash, the lower the liquidity risk will be. Stock markets, such as the New York and American Stock Exchanges, help ease liquidity risk substantially. Investors who own stocks that are traded in these markets know on a daily basis what the market prices of their investments are and that they can sell these investments fairly quickly. Many electric utility stocks are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and are considered liquid investments.

- 12 Q. Are there any sources available to investors that quantify the total risk of a company?
- A. Bond and credit ratings are tools that investors use to assess the risk comparability of firms. Bond rating agencies such as Moody's and Standard and Poor's perform detailed analyses of factors that contribute to the risk of a particular investment. The end result of their analyses is a bond and/or credit rating that reflect these risks.

# Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF") Model

- 19 Q. Please describe the basic DCF approach.
- A. The basic DCF approach is rooted in valuation theory. It is based on the premise that
  the value of a financial asset is determined by its ability to generate future net cash
  flows. In the case of a common stock, those future cash flows generally take the
  form of dividends and appreciation in stock price. The value of the stock to

investors is the discounted present value of future cash flows. The general equation 1 2 then is:

$$V = \frac{R}{(1+r)} + \frac{R}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{R}{(1+r)^3} + \cdots + \frac{R}{(1+r)^n}$$

V = asset value3 Where: 4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

20

21

22

23

R = yearly cash flows

 $r = discount \ rate$ 

This is no different from determining the value of any asset from an economic point of view; however, the commonly employed DCF model makes certain simplifying assumptions. One is that the stream of income from the equity share is assumed to be perpetual; that is, there is no salvage or residual value at the end of some maturity date (as is the case with a bond). Another important assumption is that financial markets are reasonably efficient; that is, they correctly evaluate the cash flows relative to the appropriate discount rate, thus rendering the stock price efficient relative to other alternatives. Finally, the model I typically employ also assumes a constant growth rate in dividends. The fundamental relationship employed in the DCF method is described by the formula:

$$k = \frac{D_1}{P_0} + g$$

16 Where:  $D_1$  = the next period dividend 17  $P_0$  = current stock price g = expected growth rate 18 k = investor-required return19

> Under the formula, it is apparent that "k" must reflect the investors' expected return. Use of the DCF method to determine an investor-required return is complicated by the need to express investors' expectations relative to dividends, earnings, and book value over an infinite time horizon. Financial theory suggests that stockholders

purchase common stock on the assumption that there will be some change in the rate of dividend payments over time. We assume that the rate of growth in dividends is constant over the assumed time horizon, but the model could easily handle varying growth rates if we knew what they were. Finally, the relevant time frame is prospective rather than retrospective.

### 6 Q. What was your first step in conducting your DCF analysis for LGE and KU?

A. My first step was to construct a comparison group of companies with a risk profile
that is reasonably similar to the Companies. Since LGE and KU are subsidiaries of
PPL Corp., they do not have publicly traded stock. Thus, one cannot estimate a DCF
cost of equity on the Companies directly. It is necessary to use a group of companies
that are similarly situated and have reasonably similar risk profiles to LGE and KU.

# 12 Q. Please describe your approach for selecting a comparison group of electric companies.

I used several criteria to select a comparison group. First, using the February 2015 issue of AUS Utility Reports, I selected electric and combination electric and gas companies whose bonds were rated A by either Moody's or Standard and Poor's. LGE and KU currently carry senior secured bond ratings of A- from S&P and A1 from Moody's, so using the either/or criterion for a A rating assures that the companies in the comparison group carry bond ratings that are similar to or slightly below the Companies' senior bond ratings.

A.

1	From that group, I then selected companies that derived at least 50% of total revenue
2	from regulated electric operations, according to AUS Utility Reports, and that had
3	long-term earnings growth forecasts from Value Line and either Zacks or IBES.
4	
5	From this group, I then eliminated companies that had recently cut or eliminated
6	dividends, were recently or currently involved in merger activities, or had recent
7	experience with significant earnings fluctuations. Companies that did not pass these
8	screens are not appropriate candidates to which one can apply the DCF formula
9	because of unrepresentative market prices (in terms of companies that are merger
10	candidates) or non-constant growth in earnings or dividends. I also eliminated any
11	companies that had recently been or were currently being restructured in a significant
12	way. These screens eliminated the following companies:
13	
14	NextEra Energy - acquisition of Hawaiian Electric.
15	Pepco Holdings, Inc being acquired by Exelon.
16	• PG&E Corp uncertainties of effect on earnings from San Bruno gas
17	pipeline explosion.
18	PPL Holdings - spin-off of unregulated energy supply business.
19	TECO Energy - pending acquisition of New Mexico Gas Company.
20	Wisconsin Energy Corp acquisition of Integrys, Inc.

The resulting comparison group of 18 electric companies that I used in my analysis is shown in the table below.<sup>8</sup>

TABLE 1			
	COMPARISON O	SROUP	
		S&P	Moody's
		Bond	Bond
	Company	<u>Rating</u>	Rating
1	ALLETE, Inc.	A-	А3
2	Alliant Energy Corporation	A-	A2/A3
3	Avista Corporation	A-	Baa1
4	CMS Energy Corporation	BBB+/BBB	A3/Baa1
5	Consolidated Edison, Inc.	A-/BBB+	A3
6	Dominion Resources, Inc.	A-	A3/Baa1
7	Duke Energy Corporation	BBB+	A3
8	Edison International	BBB+	A2/A3
9	Empire District Electric Co.	A-	Baa1
10	Eversource Energy	Α-	A3/Baa1
11	IDACORP, Inc.	A-	A3
12	NorthWestern Corp.	NR	A3
13	OGE Energy	BBB+	A3
14	Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	BBB	A3/Baa1
15	Portland General Electric Company	A-	A3
16	Southern Company	Α	A3/Baa1
17	Westar Energy, Inc.	A-	A3/Baa1
18	Xcel Energy Inc.	A-	A3
Source: AUS Monthly Utility Report, February 2015			

- 4 Q. What was your first step in determining the DCF return on equity for the comparison group?
- A. I first determined the current dividend yield, D<sub>1</sub>/P<sub>0</sub>, from the basic equation. My general practice is to use six months as the most reasonable period over which to estimate the dividend yield. The six-month period I used covered the months from September 2014 through February 2015. I obtained historical prices and dividends

Northeast Utilities changed its name to Eversource Energy during February. As such, I made this name change in Table 1 and in my attached exhibits.

1		from Yahoo! Finance. The annualized dividend divided by the average monthly
2		price represents the average dividend yield for each month in the period.
3		
4		The resulting average dividend yield for the comparison group is 3.42%. These
5		calculations are shown in Exhibit No(RAB-4).
6 7	Q.	Having established the average dividend yield, how did you determine the investors' expected growth rate for the electric comparison group?
8	A.	The investors' expected growth rate, in theory, correctly forecasts the constant rate
9		of growth in dividends. The dividend growth rate is a function of earnings growth
10		and the payout ratio, neither of which is known precisely for the future. We refer to
l 1		a perpetual growth rate since the DCF model has no arbitrary cut-off point. We must
12		estimate the investors' expected growth rate because there is no way to know with
13		absolute certainty what investors expect the growth rate to be in the short term, much
14		less in perpetuity.
15		
16		For my analysis in this proceeding, I used three major sources of analysts' forecasts
17		for growth. These sources are The Value Line Investment Survey, Zacks, and IBES.
18		This is the method I typically use for estimating growth for my DCF calculations.
19	Q.	Please briefly describe Value Line, Zacks, and IBES.
20	A.	The Value Line Investment Survey is a widely used and respected source of investor
21		information that covers approximately 1,700 companies in its Standard Edition and
22		several thousand in its Plus Edition. It is updated quarterly and probably represents
23		the most comprehensive of all investment information services. It provides both

1 historical and forecasted information on a number of important data elements. Value 2 Line neither participates in financial markets as a broker nor works for the utility 3 industry in any capacity of which I am aware. 4 5 Zacks gathers opinions from a variety of analysts on earnings growth forecasts for 6 numerous firms including regulated electric utilities. The estimates of the analysts 7 responding are combined to produce consensus average estimates of earnings 8 growth. I obtained Zacks' earnings growth forecasts from its web site. 9 10 Like Zacks, IBES also compiles and reports consensus analysts' forecasts of 11 earnings growth. I obtained these forecasts from Yahoo! Finance. 12 Why did you rely on analysts' forecasts in your analysis? Q. 13 Return on equity analysis is a forward-looking process. Five-year or ten-year A. 14 historical growth rates may not accurately represent investor expectations for 15 dividend growth. Analysts' forecasts for earnings and dividend growth provide 16 better proxies for the expected growth component in the DCF model than historical 17 growth rates. Analysts' forecasts are also widely available to investors and one can 18 reasonably assume that they influence investor expectations. 19 Q. Please explain how you used analysts' dividend and earnings growth forecasts in your constant growth DCF analysis. 20 21 Page 1, Columns (1) through (5) of Exhibit No. (RAB-5) shows the forecasted Q. 22 dividend, earnings, and retention growth rates from Value Line and the earnings 23 growth forecasts from IBES and Zacks. In my analysis I used four of these growth rates: dividend and earnings growth from Value Line and earnings growth from Zacks and IBES. It is important to include dividend growth forecasts in the DCF model since the model calls for forecasted cash flows. Value Line is the only sources of which I am aware that forecasts dividend growth and my approach gives this forecast equal weight with the three earnings growth forecasts.

# 6 Q. How did you proceed to determine the DCF return of equity for the comparison group?

To estimate the expected dividend yield (D<sub>1</sub>), the current dividend yield must be moved forward in time to account for dividend increases over the next twelve months. I estimated the expected dividend yield by multiplying the current dividend yield by one plus one-half the expected growth rate.

A.

Page 2 of Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_(RAB-5) presents my standard method of calculating dividend yields, growth rates, and return on equity for the comparison group of companies. The DCF Return on Equity Calculation section shows the application of each of four growth rates I used in my analysis to the current group dividend yield of 3.42% to calculate the expected dividend yield. I then added the expected growth rates to the expected dividend yield. In evaluating investor expected growth rates, I use both the average and the median values for the group under consideration. The calculations of the resulting DCF returns on equity for both methods are presented on page 2 of Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_(RAB-5). Please note that Zacks did not have earnings growth rate estimates for ALLETE and Avista Corp. For these companies I substituted the corresponding IBES growth rates.

### Q. What are the results of your constant growth DCF model?

A. The DCF results for the constant growth DCF approach are shown on page 2 of Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_(RAB-5). For the average growth rates, the results range from 8.24% to 8.82%, with the average of these results being 8.57%. Using the median growth rates, the results range from 8.00% to 9.02%, with the average of these results being 8.44%.

### Capital Asset Pricing Model

8 Q. Briefly summarize the Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM") approach.

The theory underlying the CAPM approach is that investors, through diversified portfolios, may combine assets to minimize the total risk of the portfolio. Diversification allows investors to diversify away all risks specific to a particular company and be left only with market risk that affects all companies. Thus, the CAPM theory identifies two types of risks for a security: company-specific risk and market risk. Company-specific risk includes such events as strikes, management errors, marketing failures, lawsuits, and other events that are unique to a particular firm. Market risk includes inflation, business cycles, war, variations in interest rates, and changes in consumer confidence. Market risk tends to affect all stocks and cannot be diversified away. The idea behind the CAPM is that diversified investors are rewarded with returns based on market risk.

A.

Within the CAPM framework, the expected return on a security is equal to the riskfree rate of return plus a risk premium that is proportional to the security's market, or non-diversifiable, risk. Beta is the factor that reflects the inherent market risk of a security and measures the volatility of a particular security relative to the overall market for securities. For example, a stock with a beta of 1.0 indicates that if the market rises by 15%, that stock will also rise by 15%. This stock moves in tandem with movements in the overall market. Stocks with a beta of 0.5 will only rise or fall 50% as much as the overall market. So with an increase in the market of 15%, this stock will only rise 7.5%. Stocks with betas greater than 1.0 will rise and fall more than the overall market. Thus, beta is the measure of the relative risk of individual securities vis-à-vis the market.

Based on the foregoing discussion, the equation for determining the return for a security in the CAPM framework is:

$$K = Rf + \beta(MRP)$$

13 Where: K = Required Return on equity14 Rf = Risk-free rate
15  $MRP = Market \ risk \ premium$ 16  $\beta = Beta$ 

This equation tells us about the risk/return relationship posited by the CAPM. Investors are risk averse and will only accept higher risk if they expect to receive higher returns. These returns can be determined in relation to a stock's beta and the market risk premium. The general level of risk aversion in the economy determines the market risk premium. If the risk-free rate of return is 3.0% and the required return on the total market is 15%, then the risk premium is 12%. Any stock's required return can be determined by multiplying its beta by the market risk

remium. Stocks with betas greater than 1.0 are considered riskier than the overall
narket and will have higher required returns. Conversely, stocks with betas less than
.0 will have required returns lower than the market as a whole.

# 4 Q. In general, are there concerns regarding the use of the CAPM in estimating the return on equity?

Yes. There is some controversy surrounding the use of the CAPM.<sup>9</sup> There is evidence that beta is not the primary factor in determining the risk of a security. For example, Value Line's "Safety Rank" is a measure of total risk, not its calculated beta coefficient. Beta coefficients usually describe only a small amount of total investment risk.

A.

There is also substantial judgment involved in estimating the required market return. In theory, the CAPM requires an estimate of the return on the total market for investments, including stocks, bonds, real estate, etc. It is nearly impossible for the analyst to estimate such a broad-based return. Often in utility cases, a market return is estimated using the S&P 500 or the return on Value Line's stock market composite. However, these are limited sources of information with respect to estimating the investor's required return for all investments. In practice, the total market return estimate faces significant limitations to its estimation and, ultimately, its usefulness in quantifying the investor required ROE.

For a more complete discussion of some of the controversy surrounding the use of the CAPM, refer to A Random Walk Down Wall Street by Burton Malkiel, pp. 206 - 211, 2007 edition.

In the final analysis, a considerable amount of judgment must be employed in determining the risk-free rate and market return portions of the CAPM equation. The analyst's application of judgment can significantly influence the results obtained from the CAPM. My past experience with the CAPM indicates that it is prudent to use a wide variety of data in estimating investor-required returns. Of course, the range of results may also be wide, indicating the difficulty in obtaining a reliable estimate from the CAPM.

### Q. How did you estimate the market return portion of the CAPM?

A.

A.

The first source I used was the Value Line Investment Analyzer, Plus Edition, for February 25, 2015. This edition covers several thousand stocks. The Value Line Investment Analyzer provides a summary statistical report detailing, among other things, forecasted growth rates for earnings and book value for the companies Value Line follows as well as the projected total annual return over the next 3 to 5 years. I present these growth rates and Value Line's projected annual return on page 2 of Exhibit No.\_\_\_\_(RAB-6). I included median earnings and book value growth rates. The estimated market returns using Value Line's market data range from 9.00% to 11.05%. The average of these three market returns is 10.02%.

### Q. Is this a change to how you calculated expected market return in the past?

Yes. In my past testimonies I used the average expected growth rates for earnings and book value from Value Line in calculating an expected market return. However, I have concluded that using median growth rates is likely a more accurate method of estimating the central tendency of Value Line's large data set. Average earnings and book value growth rates may be unduly influenced by very high or very low 3 - 5

year growth rates that are unsustainable in the long run. For example, Value Line's Statistical Summary shows both the highest and lowest value for earnings and book value growth forecasts. For earnings growth, Value Line showed the highest earnings growth forecast to be 98% and the lowest growth rate to be -25.5%. The median growth rate is not influenced by such extremes because it represents the middle value of the range of earnings growth rates.

A.

I also added Value Line's projected 3-5 year percentage annual total return from the Statistical Summary, which in this case is 9.0%. This projected annual return is substantially less than the DCF return on the Value Line companies of 11.05%, suggesting that the DCF ROE for the Value Line companies may be overstated. However, I believe that using both of these measures of expected returns on the market provide a reasonable range of possible outcomes in this proceeding.

### 14 Q. Please continue with your market return analysis.

I also considered a supplemental check to the Value Line projected market return estimates. Morningstar publishes a study of historical returns on the stock market in its *Ibbotson SBBI 2014 Classic Yearbook*. Some analysts employ this historical data to estimate the market risk premium of stocks over the risk-free rate. The assumption is that a risk premium calculated over a long period of time is reflective of investor expectations going forward. Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_(RAB-7) presents the calculation of the market returns using the historical data.

### Q. Please explain how this historical risk premium is calculated.

A. Exhibit No. \_\_\_(RAB-7) shows both the geometric and arithmetic average of yearly historical stock market returns over the historical period from 1926 - 2013. The average annual income return for 20-year Treasury bond is subtracted from these historical stocks returns to obtain the historical market risk premium of stock returns over long-term Treasury bond income returns. The historical market risk premium range is 5.01% - 7.01%.

### 7 Q. Did you add an additional measure of the historical risk premium in this case?

Yes. Morningstar reported the results of a study by Dr. Roger Ibbotson and Dr. Peng Chen indicating that the historical risk premium of stock returns over long-term government bond returns has been significantly influenced upward by substantial growth in the price/earnings ("P/E") ratio for stocks from 1980 through 2001. Morningstar recommended adjusting this growth in the P/E ratio for stocks out of the historical risk premium because "it is not believed that P/E will continue to increase in the future." Morningstar's adjusted historical arithmetic market risk premium is 6.12%, which I have also included in Exhibit No. \_\_\_(RAB-7).

### 16 Q. How did you determine the risk free rate?

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

A.

17 A. I used the average yields on the 20-year Treasury bond and five-year Treasury note
18 over the six-month period from August 2014 through January 2015. This was the
19 latest available data from the Federal Reserve's Selected Interest Rates (Daily) H.15
20 web site during the preparation of my Direct Testimony. The 20-year Treasury bond

<sup>2014</sup> Ibbotson SBBI Classic Yearbook, Morningstar, pp. 156 - 158.

is often used by rate of return analysts as the risk-free rate, but it contains a significant amount of interest rate risk. The five-year Treasury note carries less interest rate risk than the 20-year bond and is more stable than three-month Treasury bills. Therefore, I have employed both of these securities as proxies for the risk-free rate of return. This approach provides a reasonable range over which the CAPM return on equity may be estimated.

### 7 Q. How did you determine the value for beta?

- A. I obtained the betas for the companies in the electric company comparison group from most recent Value Line reports. The average of the Value Line betas for the comparison group is 0.73.
- 11 Q. Please summarize the CAPM results.
- 12 A. For my forward-looking CAPM return on equity estimates, the CAPM results are 7.71% 8.01%. Using historical risk premiums, the CAPM results are 6.34% 7.79%.

### 15 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 16 Q. Please summarize the cost of equity results for your DCF and CAPM analyses.
- 17 A. Table 2 below summarizes my return on equity results using the DCF and CAPM for my comparison group of companies.

TABLE 2 SUMMARY OF ROE ESTIMATES		
Baudino DCF Methodology: Average Growth Rates - High - Low - Average Median Growth Rates: - High - Low - Average	8.82% 8.24% 8.57% 9.02% 8.00% 8.44%	
CAPM: - 5-Year Treasury Bond - 20-Year Treasury Bond - Historical Returns	7.71% 8.01% 6.34% - 7.79%	

1

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

A.

### 2 Q. What is your recommended return on equity for LGE and KU?

A. I recommend that the KPSC adopt an 8.60% return on equity for the Companies. My recommendation is consistent with the average DCF results from my constant growth DCF model. Based on current market evidence, an 8.60% return on equity is fair and reasonable for A-rated, lower risk electric utility companies like LGE and KU.

# 7 Q. Mr. Baudino, are you concerned that your recommended cost of equity is too low?

No, not at all. All of the market evidence I examined fully supports my ROE recommendation for the Companies in this proceeding. As I described in Section II of my testimony, the U. S. economy is in a low interest rate environment, one that has been supported in a deliberate and considered fashion by Federal Reserve monetary policy. Both my DCF and CAPM ROE estimates show that the investor required ROE for LGE and KU, as well as other regulated electric and gas utilities, reflects this low interest rate environment. An 8.60% ROE recommendation for A-

1	rated electric utilities such as LGE and KU is by no means too low in the current
2	economic and financial environment

- 3 Q. Do you have any recommended adjustments to the Companies' requested cost of debt?
- 5 Yes. On page 22, lines 6 through 16 of his LGE Direct Testimony, Company A. 6 witness Blake testified that LGE's cost of long-term debt included a projected 7 issuance of \$550 million of secured debt in October 2015. Interest on this debt was 8 included in the forecasted cost of debt using current market interest rates, according 9 to Mr. Blake's testimony. According to Schedule J-3, \$300 million of this issuance 10 carries a coupon rate of 4.40% and \$250 million carries a coupon rate of 3.89%. Mr. 11 Blake further testified that LGE and KU expect to provide updates to its cost of longterm debt as this case progresses.<sup>11</sup> 12
- 13 Q. Are the coupon rates included for this projected debt issuance consistent with current rates on A-rated utility bonds?
- 15 A. The coupon rates assumed by the Companies for this new long-term debt issuance 16 are slightly higher than current A-rated utility debt. According to Moody's Credit 17 Trends, as of February 27, 2015 the yield on A-rated long-term utility bonds was 18 3.69%. This indicates that yields are lower than the coupon rates included by LGE 19 and KU in their respective Schedules J-3.
- Q. Did you make an adjustment to the coupon rates for the Companies' projected long-term debt issuance?

Mr. Blake also explained this adjustment in his KU Direct Testimony, pp. 20 - 21.

- 1 A. Yes. I reduced the rates on the projected issuance to 3.70%, which approximates the
  2 current yield on A-rated public utility debt as reported by Moody's Credit Trends.
  3 Please refer to Exhibit No. \_\_\_(RAB-8), pages 1 and 2, which show the recalculation
  4 of LGE's and KU's cost of long-term debt with the 3.70% coupon rates for the
  5 projected debt issuance. This lowers LGE's cost of long-term debt slightly to 4.04%
  6 from 4.16%. KU's cost of debt declines to 3.99% from 4.07%. 12
- 7 Q. What is your recommended weighted cost of capital?
- A. My weighted cost of capital is based on the capital structure, cost of debt, and cost of equity recommended by Mr. Kollen and myself. Mr. Kollen addresses the Company's cost of short-term debt. Table 3 below presents my weighted cost of capital for LGE and KU.

Exhibit No. \_\_\_(RAB-8) was derived from spreadsheets the Companies provided in response to PSC 1-59.

TABLE 3 Louisville Gas & Electric Weighted Cost of Capital			
	Pct.	Cost Rate	Weighted <u>Cost</u>
Short-Term Debt	4.46%	0.30%	0.01%
Long-term Debt	42.79%	4.04%	1.73%
Common Equity	52.75%	8.60%	4.54%
Total	100.00%		6.28%
Kentucky Utilities Weighted Cost of Capital			
	Pct.	Cost Rate	Weighted Cost
Short-Term Debt	2.98%	0.30%	0.01%
Long-term Debt	44.00%	3.99%	1.76%
Common Equity	53.02%	8.60%	4.56%
Total	100.00%		6.32%

A.

# 2 Q. How do the Companies' requested capital structure compare with the capital structure of your comparison group?

Table 4 below presents the 2013 equity and debt ratios for the companies in my comparison group as well as the group average capital structure components. These numbers were taken from the most recent Value Line reports for each company. LGE's and KU's requested common equity ratios of 52.75% and 53.02%, respectively, are higher than the comparison group's average equity ratio of 49.4%. Other things being equal, this shows that the Companies have lower financial risk than my comparison group.

# TABLE 4 Comparison Group Capital Structure

	Common <u>Equity</u>	Preferred <u>Equity</u>	Long-term <u>Debt</u>
ALLETE, Inc.	55.4%	0.0%	44.6%
Alliant Energy Corporation	50.8%	3.1%	46.1%
Avista Corporation	48.6%	0.0%	51.4%
CMS Energy Corporation	32.2%	0.3%	67.5%
Consolidated Edison, Inc.	53.9%	0.0%	46.1%
Dominion Resources, Inc.	37.3%	0.8%	61.9%
Duke Energy Corporation	52.0%	0.0%	48.0%
Edison International	46.2%	8.1%	45.7%
Empire District Electric Co.	50.2%	0.0%	49.8%
Eversource Energy	54.8%	0.9%	44.3%
IDACORP, Inc.	53.4%	0.0%	46.6%
NorthWestern Corp.	46.5%	0.0%	53.5%
OGE Energy	56.9%	0.0%	43.1%
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	60.0%	0.0%	40.0%
Portland General Electric	48.7%	0.0%	51.3%
Southern Company	45.8%	2.7%	51.5%
Westar Energy, Inc.	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%
Xcel Energy Inc.	46.7%	0.0%	53.3%
Averages	49.4%	0.9%	49.7%

1

1	IV. RESPONSE TO	LGE AND	KU TESTIMONY
1	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I		IZO I DOLLINION

- 2 Q. Have you reviewed the Direct Testimony of Dr. Avera and Mr. McKenzie?
- 3 A. Yes.

12

KU.

- 4 Q. Please summarize your conclusions with respect to their testimony and return on equity recommendation.
- A. Dr. Avera's and Mr. McKenzie's<sup>13</sup> recommended 10.64% return on equity is grossly overstated and is completely unjustified in the current low interest rate environment.

  As I shall demonstrate later in this section of my testimony, the Company witnesses systematically made judgments that served to inflate their ROE results, particularly for the DCF and CAPM. As such, the Company witnesses provided very little useful guidance for the Commission with respect to the investor required ROE for LGE and
- 13 Q. Beginning on page 12, the Company witnesses contended that current capital market conditions do not provide a representative basis on which to evaluate a fair ROE and that prevailing capital market conditions are "an anomaly" (page 13, lines 3 and 4). Do you agree with this assertion?
- 17 A. No. The fact is that the economy is in a low interest rate environment that is being
  18 supported quite deliberately by Federal Reserve policy. The Federal Reserve has
  19 supported the current low interest rate environment for several years, so it is hardly an
  20 "anomaly" as the Company witnesses characterized it. Lower current capital costs are

For ease of reference, I will refer to Dr. Avera and Mr. McKenzie as "Company witnesses".

1	not consistent with the LGE witnesses' 10.64% recommendation return on equity in this
2	proceeding.
3	

J

Furthermore, current financial market conditions do indeed provide a representative basis for estimating the cost of equity capital for LGE and KU, and for utilities generally. The fact that interest rates are relatively low by historical standards does not preclude the rate of return analyst from making a reasonable assessment of investor required ROEs using current stock prices and interest rates.

Q. On page 14 of the Company witnesses' Direct Testimony, Figure 2 shows higher forecasted interest rates through 2018 from several different forecasting sources. Should the Commission increase its allowed return on equity based on these higher interest rate forecasts?

13 A.

No. Higher interest rates have been forecasted for the last few years and they have not come to pass. Please refer to Table 5 below, which presents forecasted interest rates for 2014 included in Dr. Avera's Direct Testimony filed with the Florida Public Service Commission in Docket No. 120015-EI on behalf of Florida Power and Light Company ("FPL"). Dr. Avera's testimony was filed on March 19, 2012. Exhibit No.

\_\_\_(RAB-9) provides his Exhibit WEA-2, which contains the sources of the interest rate forecasts used by Dr. Avera in that case. These interest rate forecasts were from

November 25, 2011 through January 23, 2012.

TAB	LE 5
Avera FP&	d Interest Rates L Testimony . 120015-El
30-Year Treasury - Value Line - IHS Global - Blue Chip	2014 4.5% 4.5% 4.5%
AA Utility - IHS Global - EIA	5.6% 5.7%

On page 29 of his Direct Testimony in Docket No. 120015-EI Dr. Avera testified that there was a "clear consensus that the cost of permanent capital will be higher in the 2012 - 2016 timeframe" and that current cost of capital estimates were conservative "because they are likely to understate investors' requirements at the time the rates set in this proceeding become effective."

Obviously, time has proven that the higher interest rate forecasts contained in Dr. Avera's FPL testimony failed to materialize. The current 30-year Treasury bond yield is approximately 2.60% and the Aa utility bond at the end of February 2015 was 3.63%, around 200 basis points lower than the forecasts presented by Dr. Avera. This points out why interest rate forecasts should not be used to justify higher (or lower) returns on equity than those based on current market conditions.

I will now address the Company witnesses' various approaches to estimating the investor required ROE for LGE and KU.

#### DCF Model

- 2 Q. Briefly summarize the Company witnesses' approach to the DCF model.
- 3 A. The Company witnesses constructed a group of electric and gas utilities for purposes
- of estimating the DCF ROE for the Companies. They used several sources of growth
- 5 rate forecasts, which included IBES, Zacks, Reuters, and Value Line as well as an
- 6 estimate of sustainable growth.

7

10

11

12

23

24

1

8 In their Exhibit No. 5, the Company witnesses adjusted their DCF ROE results by

9 excluding certain company ROE results that, in their view, were too low. These

results ranged from 3.4% to 7.4%. They did not exclude any DCF ROE results for

being too high. After excluding low-end DCF results, their resulting range was 9.0%

to 9.7% using an average of the remaining results. The midpoints ranged from 9.5%

13 to 10.5%.

- 14 Q. Please respond to the Company witnesses' approach to formulating their DCF recommendation to the Commission.
- 16 A. Dr. Avera and Mr. McKenzie conducted a highly biased approach in formulating
  17 their DCF recommendations. They applied a test for excluding ROE results that, in
  18 their view, were too low but failed to examine whether any results should be
  19 excluded as being too high. In fact, there are several results that could be rejected as
  20 being too high based on current market conditions. For example, the average
  21 Commission-allowed ROE for 2013 that was reported by the Company witnesses in
  22 their Exhibit No. 8 was 10.02. In their response to LGE PSC-2, Question No. 45, the

Company witnesses updated their risk premium analysis and showed that average

2014 Commission allowed ROE was 9.92%. With recent Commission allowed

1		ROES of around 10%, the Company witnesses included ROEs in their Exhibit No. 5
2		ranging from 11.4% to 13.1%. A review of Commission allowed returns contained
3		in their Exhibit No. 8 reveals that 2002 was the last year that allowed returns on
4		equity were as high as 11%. Further, the last Commission allowed return near 13%
5		was in 1989.
6		
7		It is abundantly clear that the LGE witnesses' one-sided approach to excluding ROE
8		results from their DCF analysis had the effect of inflating their DCF ROE
9		recommendation.
10 11	Q.	Have you conducted an alternative analysis that includes all of the DCF results from the Company witnesses' Exhibit No. 5?
12	A.	Yes. Table 6 below presents the average and median ROEs utilizing all of the DCF
13		results from the Company witnesses' Exhibit No. 5. For purposes of Table 5, I
14		excluded the retention growth results since the Company witnesses gave less weight
15		to that measure of growth.

9.5% 8.7% 9.6% 12.6% 7.6%	8.2% 13.1% 9.1% 10.1%	Zacks 8.7% 12.5% NA	13.1%
8.7% 9.6% 12.6% 7.6%	13.1% 9.1% 10.1%	12.5% NA	8.7% 13.1%
9.6% 12.6% 7.6%	9.1% 10.1%	NA	
12.6% 7.6%	10.1%		
7.6%			NA
	0.001	NA	NA
	8.0%	8.6%	8.0%
10.3%	10.6%	9.9%	10.6%
6.5%	7.2%	7.4%	7.2%
9.1%	9.8%	9.1%	9.8%
10.1%	9.5%	9.9%	9.5%
9.4%	9.1%	9.1%	9.1%
8.1%	7.1%	7.1%	7.1%
5.4%	5.7%	3.4%	6.9%
11.7%	10.0%	10.2%	9.7%
6.9%	10.4%	10.4%	10.4%
9.0%	10.9%	9.6%	10.9%
6.1%	5.9%	6.2%	8.3%
9.2%	8.8%	8.6%	8.8%
8.6%	10.1%	10.1%	10.1%
12.6%	8.1%	8.3%	8.1%
9.0%	9.0%	8.8%	9.2%
9.1%	9.1%	9.1%	9.1%
	9.1% 10.1% 9.4% 8.1% 5.4% 11.7% 6.9% 9.0% 6.1% 9.2% 8.6% 12.6%	9.1% 9.8% 10.1% 9.5% 9.4% 9.1% 8.1% 7.1% 5.4% 5.7% 11.7% 10.0% 6.9% 10.4% 9.0% 10.9% 6.1% 5.9% 9.2% 8.8% 8.6% 10.1% 12.6% 8.1%	9.1%       9.8%       9.1%         10.1%       9.5%       9.9%         9.4%       9.1%       9.1%         8.1%       7.1%       7.1%         5.4%       5.7%       3.4%         11.7%       10.0%       10.2%         6.9%       10.4%       10.4%         9.0%       10.9%       9.6%         6.1%       5.9%       6.2%         9.2%       8.8%       8.6%         8.6%       10.1%       10.1%         12.6%       8.1%       8.3%         9.0%       9.0%       8.8%         9.1%       9.1%       9.1%

1 2

Rather than arbitrarily excluding low-end results, I recommend that the median be used as an alternative measure of central tendency. As I testified in Section III, the median is not affected by extremely high or low results, but instead represents the middle value of the data set. If there are concerns about results that are either too high or too low, the median may be used as an additional reference for the investor required ROE.

Table 6 shows that when all results are considered, the average and median results from the Company witnesses' DCF analyses are quite close. In my opinion, this

suggests that low-end results are offset by high-end results. Table 6 also shows how the Company witnesses' one-sided approach to excluding individual DCF results biased their results upward. If all DCF results are considered, the Company witnesses' average and median ROEs are quite close to my recommended ROE of 8.60%.

# **ECAPM**

A.

- Q. Beginning on page 41 of their Direct Testimony, the Company witnesses describe the Empirical CAPM ("ECAPM") analysis. Is this a reasonable method to use to estimate the investor required ROE for LGE and KU?
  - No. The ECAPM is supposed to account for the possibility that the CAPM understates the return on equity for companies with betas less than 1.0. I believe it is highly unlikely that investors use the ECAPM formulation shown in Company witnesses' Exhibit No. 7 to "correct" CAPM returns for electric utilities. To the extent investors use the CAPM to estimate their required returns, I believe it is much more likely that they use the traditional CAPM equation that I used in Section III of my testimony. The Company witnesses presented no evidence that investors use the adjustment factors contained their ECAPM analyses. Moreover, the use of an adjustment factor to "correct" the CAPM results for companies with betas less than 1.0 suggests that published betas by such sources as Value Line are incorrect and that investors should not rely on them. In fact, the Company witnesses testified on page 44, lines 3 through 5 of their LGE Direct Testimony that investors rely on Value Line betas in evaluating returns for utility common stocks.
- Q. Please continue your evaluation of the results of the Company witnesses' ECAPM analysis.

I disagree with the Company witnesses' general formulation of the ECAPM and in particular with their estimate of the expected market return. They estimated the market return portion of the ECAPM by estimating the current market return for dividend paying stocks in the S&P 500. This limited the so-called "market" return to only 408 companies.

A.

A.

The market return portion of the CAPM or ECAPM should represent the most comprehensive estimate of the total return for all investment alternatives, not just a small subset of publicly traded stocks. In practice, of course, finding such an estimate is difficult and is one of the more thorny problems in estimating an accurate ROE when using the CAPM. If one limits the market return to stocks, then there are more comprehensive measures of the stock market available, such as the Value Line Investment Survey that I used in my CAPM analysis. Value Line's projected earnings growth used a sample of 2,280 stocks and its book value growth estimate used 1,531 stocks. Value Line's projected annual percentage return included 1,664 stocks. These are much broader samples than the LGE witnesses' limited sample of dividend paying stocks from the S&P 500.

9 sr 10 es 11 R

# Q. Did the Company witnesses overstate the expected market return component of the ECAPM.

Yes, most definitely. My forward-looking market returns show an expected return on the market of around 10%, far less than the 13.1% expected return result for the limited sample of companies that the Company witnesses used for their ECAPM market return.

It is also instructive to look at long-term historical risk premiums in connection with current expected returns. The historical risk premiums I included from Morningstar range from 5.01% to 7.01%. In stark contrast, the market premium used by the Company witnesses is 9.7%.

A.

- On pages 44 through 45 of their Direct Testimony, the Company witnesses explained that they incorporated a size adjustment to their ECAPM results, thereby increasing the average ECAPM cost of equity from 11.1% to 11.9%. Is this size adjustment appropriate?
  - No. The data that the Company witnesses relied upon to make this adjustment came from the *Ibbotson SBBI 2014 Classic Yearbook* published by Morningstar. The groups of companies from which the Company witnesses took this significant upward adjustment to their ECAPM results contain many unregulated companies. Further, the decile groups from which these adjustments were taken had average betas ranging from 0.91 to 1.30. These betas are greatly in excess of the their utility group average beta of 0.72, suggesting that the companies the Company witnesses used to make their size adjustment are more risky than the regulated utilities that comprise their utility group. There is no evidence to suggest that the size premium used by the Company witnesses applies to regulated utility companies, which on average are quite different from the group of companies included in the Morningstar research on size premiums. I recommend that the Commission reject the Company witnesses' size premium in the CAPM ROE.
  - Q. On page 45 of their Direct Testimony, the Company witnesses recommended using projected bond yields in their risk premium and ECAPM ROE models. Should the Commission consider using forecasted bond yields in its ROE analysis in this proceeding?

Definitely not. Current interest rates and bond yields embody all of the relevant market data and expectations of investors, including expectations of changing future interest rates. The forecasted bond yields used by the Company witnesses are speculative at best and may never come to pass. Current interest rates present tangible market evidence of investor return requirements today, and these are the interest rates and bond yields that should be used in both the ECAPM and in the bond yield plus risk premium analysis. To the extent that investors give forecasted interest rates any weight at all, they are already incorporated in current securities prices.

A.

Further, the Company witnesses' use of forecasted bond yields results in overstated ECAPM results that are completely out of line with recent Commission-allowed ROEs. I mentioned earlier that the average Commission-allowed ROE was 9.92% in 2014. Using forecasted bond yields in the ECAPM and with the size adjustment implies a cost of equity of 12.2%. Without the size adjustment the ECAPM result would be 11.4%. Both of these ROE estimates are far in excess of recently allowed Commission returns and should be rejected by the Commission.

#### **Utility Risk Premium**

- 20 Q. Please summarize the Company witnesses' risk premium approach.
- A. The Company witnesses developed an historical risk premium using Commissionallowed returns for regulated utility companies from 1974 through 2013. They also used regression analysis to estimate the value of the inverse relationship between

interest rates and risk premiums during that period. On page 49 of their LGE Direct

Testimony, the Company witnesses calculated the risk premium return on equity to

be 10.09% using the current BBB utility bond yield and 11.25% using a forecasted

bond yield.

# 5 Q. Please respond to the Company witnesses' risk premium analysis.

Generally, the bond yield plus risk premium approach is imprecise and can only provide very general guidance on the current authorized ROE for a regulated electric utility. Risk premiums can change substantially over time and with varying risk perceptions of investors. As such, this approach is a "blunt instrument", if you will, for estimating the ROE in regulated proceedings. In my view, a properly formulated DCF model using current stock prices and growth forecasts is far more reliable and accurate than the bond yield plus risk premium approach, which relies on an historical risk premium analysis over a certain period of time.

14

15

16

17

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

A.

Finally, for the reasons I discussed earlier, the use of forecasted bond yields is inappropriate and should be rejected.

#### Flotation Costs

- 18 Q. Beginning on page 49 of their Direct Testimony, the Company witnesses discuss flotation costs. Are flotation costs a legitimate consideration for the Commission's determination of ROE in this proceeding?
- A. No. The Company witnesses recommended that the Commission consider adding an adjustment of 14 basis to recognize flotation costs. A flotation cost adjustment attempts to recognize and collect the costs of issuing common stock. Such costs typically

include legal, accounting, and printing costs as well as broker fees and discounts.

In my opinion, it is likely that flotation costs are already accounted for in current stock prices and that adding an adjustment for flotation costs amounts to double counting. A DCF model using current stock prices should already account for investor expectations regarding the collection of flotation costs. Multiplying the dividend yield by a 4% flotation cost adjustment, for example, essentially assumes that the current stock price is wrong and that it must be adjusted downward to increase the dividend yield and the resulting cost of equity. I do not believe that this is an appropriate assumption. Current stock prices most likely already account for flotation costs, to the extent that such costs are even accounted for by investors.

#### **Expected Earnings Approach**

- Q. Beginning on page 55 of their LGE Direct Testimony, the Company witnesses presented an expected earnings approach based on expected returns on equity using Value Line's rates of return on common equity for electric utilities over its 2017 2019 forecast horizon. Is this a reasonable method for estimating the current required return on equity in this proceeding?
  - A. No. The Commission should not rely on forecasted utility ROEs for 2017 2019 for the same reasons that it should not rely on interest rate forecasts. These forecasts return on equity have little value in today's market, especially considering that current DCF returns are significantly lower than these forecasts. Once again, I recommend that the Commission rely on current market data as the best measure of investor required returns today, and not forecasted accounting returns on book equity several years from now.

### Low Risk Non-Utility DCF

- Q. Beginning of page 57 of their LGE Direct Testimony, the Company witnesses present the results of a low-risk non-utility DCF model. Is it appropriate to use a group of unregulated companies to estimate a fair return on equity for LGE and KU?
- A. Absolutely not. The Company witnesses' use of unregulated non-utility companies to estimate a fair rate of return for LGE and KU is completely inappropriate and should be rejected by the Commission.

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

1

Utilities have protected markets, e.g. service territories, and may increase the prices they charge in the face of falling demand or loss of customers. This is contrary to competitive, unregulated companies who often lower their prices when demand for their products decline. Generally, the non-utility companies simply do not have these characteristics and must compete with other firms selling the same product for sales and for customers. Obviously, the non-utility companies have higher overall risk structures than a lower risk electric company like LGE or KU and will have higher required returns from their shareholders. It is not at all surprising that the Company witnesses' ROE results for their Non-Utility Proxy Group were substantially higher than the results for their utility group. Given the higher business risk for the non-utility group of companies, this is exactly the result that would have been expected. However, these results do not form any kind of reasonable basis to estimate the investor required ROE for LGE and KU. Quite the contrary, the returns from the non-utility proxy group are a good measure of returns that are, by definition, substantially in excess of those to be expected in the utility segment.

- 1 Q. Does this complete your Direct Testimony?
- 2 A. Yes.

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES	:	Case No. 2014-00371	
IN THE MATTER OF: THE APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES		Case No. 2014-00372	

## AFFIDAVIT OF RICHARD A. BAUDINO

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	)
COUNTY OF Sur	)

Richard A. Baudino being first duly sworn, deposes and states that:

- 1. He is a consultant with J. Kennedy & Associates, Inc.;
- 2. He is the witness who sponsors the accompanying testimony entitled "Direct Testimony and Exhibits of Richard A. Baudino;"
  - 3. Said testimony was prepared by him and under his direction and supervision;
- 4. If inquiries were made as to the facts and schedules in said testimony he would respond as therein set forth; and
- 5. The aforesaid testimony and schedules are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed before me this 4 day of March, 2015, by Richard A. Baudino.

Notary Public My Commission expires: 4.9-18

# **BEFORE THE**

# KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES	)
COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF	) CASE NO. 2014-00371
ITS ELECTRIC RATES	)
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

**EXHIBITS** 

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

# ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

**MARCH 6, 2015** 

# **BEFORE THE**

# KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF	) CASE NO. 2014-00371
ITS ELECTRIC RATES	)
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
<b>ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN</b>	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

EXHIBIT (RAB-1)

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

# ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

**MARCH 6, 2015** 

#### RESUME OF RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### **EDUCATION**

New Mexico State University, M.A. Major in Economics Minor in Statistics

New Mexico State University, B.A. Economics English

Thirty-two years of experience in utility ratemaking and the application of principles of economics to the regulation of electric, gas, and water utilities. Broad based experience in revenue requirement analysis, cost of capital, rate of return, cost and revenue allocation, and rate design.

#### **REGULATORY TESTIMONY**

Preparation and presentation of expert testimony in the areas of:

Cost of Capital for Electric, Gas and Water Companies Electric, Gas, and Water Utility Cost Allocation and Rate Design Revenue Requirements Gas and Electric industry restructuring and competition Fuel cost auditing Ratemaking Treatment of Generating Plant Sale/Leasebacks

#### RESUME OF RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### **EXPERIENCE**

1989 to

**Present:** Kennedy and Associates: Consultant - Responsible for consulting assignments in the

> area of revenue requirements, rate design, cost of capital, economic analysis of generation alternatives, electric and gas industry restructuring/competition and water utility issues.

1982 to

1989: New Mexico Public Service Commission Staff: Utility Economist - Responsible for

> preparation of analysis and expert testimony in the areas of rate of return, cost allocation, rate design, finance, phase-in of electric generating plants, and sale/leaseback transactions.

#### **CLIENTS SERVED**

Occidental Chemical

#### **Regulatory Commissions**

Louisiana Public Service Commission Georgia Public Service Commission New Mexico Public Service Commission

#### Other Clients and Client Groups

PSI Industrial Group Ad Hoc Committee for a Competitive

Electric Supply System Large Power Intervenors (Minnesota)

Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. Tyson Foods

Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers West Virginia Energy Users Group

Arkansas Gas Consumers The Commercial Group

AK Steel Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group

South Florida Hospital and Health Care Assn. Armco Steel Company, L.P.

Assn. of Business Advocating PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance

**Tariff Equity** Philadelphia Area Industrial Energy Users Gp.

CF&I Steel, L.P. West Penn Power Intervenors

Climax Molybdenum Company **Duquesne Industrial Intervenors** 

Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Co. Met-Ed Industrial Users Gp.

General Electric Company Penelec Industrial Customer Alliance

Holcim (U.S.) Inc. Penn Power Users Group **IBM** Corporation Columbia Industrial Intervenors

**Industrial Energy Consumers** U.S. Steel & Univ. of Pittsburg Medical Ctr.

Kentucky Industrial Utility Consumers Multiple Intervenors

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Maine Office of Public Advocate Missouri Office of Public Counsel Large Electric Consumers Organization Newport Steel University of Massachusetts - Amherst

Northwest Arkansas Gas Consumers WCF Hospital Utility Alliance

Maryland Energy Group West Travis County Public Utility Agency

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
10/83	1803, 1817	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Southwestern Electric Coop.	Rate design.
11/84	1833	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission Palo Verde	El Paso Electric Co.	Service contract approval, rate design, performance standards for nuclear generating system
1983	1835	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Public Service Co. of NM	Rate design.
1984	1848	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Sangre de Cristo Water Co.	Rate design.
02/85	1906	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Southwestern Public Service Co.	Rate of return.
09/85	1907	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Jornada Water Co.	Rate of return.
11/85	1957	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Southwestern Public Service Co.	Rate of return.
04/86	2009	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Phase-in plan, treatment of sale/leaseback expense.
06/86	2032	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Sale/leaseback approval.
09/86	2033	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Order to show cause, PVNGS audit.
02/87	2074	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Diversification.
05/87	2089	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Fuel factor adjustment.
08/87	2092	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Rate design.
10/87	2146	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Public Service Co. of New Mexico	Financial effects of restructuring, reorganization.
07/88	2162	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	El Paso Electric Co.	Revenue requirements, rate design, rate of return.

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject	
01/89	2194	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Plains Electric G&T Cooperative	Economic development.	
1/89	2253	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Plains Electric G&T Cooperative	Financing.	
08/89	2259	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Homestead Water Co.	Rate of return, rate design.	
10/89	2262	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Public Service Co. of New Mexico	Rate of return.	
09/89	2269	NM	New Mexico Public Service Commission	Ruidoso Natural Gas Co.	Rate of return, expense from affiliated interest.	
12/89	89-208-TF	AR	Arkansas Electric Energy Consumers	Arkansas Power & Light Co.	Rider M-33.	
01/90	U-17282	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Gulf States Utilities	Cost of equity.	
09/90	90-158	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Consumers	Louisville Gas & Electric Co.	Cost of equity.	
09/90	90-004-U	AR	Northwest Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Western Gas Co.	Cost of equity, transportation rate.	
12/90	U-17282 Phase IV	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Gulf States Utilities	Cost of equity.	
04/91	91-037-U	AR	Northwest Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Western Gas Co.	Transportation rates.	
12/91	91-410- EL-AIR	ОН	Air Products & Chemicals, Inc., Armco Steel Co., General Electric Co., Industrial Energy Consumers	Cincinnati Gas & Electric Co.	Cost of equity.	
05/92	910890-EI	FL	Occidental Chemical Corp.	Florida Power Corp.	Cost of equity, rate of return.	
09/92	92-032-U	AR	Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Louisiana Gas Co.	Cost of equity, rate of return, cost-of-service.	
09/92	39314	ID	Industrial Consumers for Fair Utility Rates	Indiana Michigan Power Co.	Cost of equity, rate of return.	

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
09/92	92-009-U	AR	Tyson Foods	General Waterworks	Cost allocation, rate design.
01/93	92-346	KY	Newport Steel Co.	Union Light, Heat & Power Co.	Cost allocation.
01/93	39498	IN	PSI Industrial Group	PSI Energy	Refund allocation.
01/93	U-10105	MI	Association of Businesses Advocating Tariff Equality (ABATE)	Michigan Consolidated Gas Co.	Retum on equity.
04/93	92-1464- EL-AIR	ОН	Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Armco Steel Co., Industrial Energy Consumers	Cincinnati Gas & Electric Co.	Return on equity.
09/93	93-189-U	AR	Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Louisiana Gas Co.	Transportation service terms and conditions.
09/93	93-081-U	AR	Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Louisiana Gas Co.	Cost-of-service, transportation rates, rate supplements; return on equity; revenue requirements.
12/93	U-17735	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission Staff	Cajun Electric Power Cooperative	Historical reviews; evaluation of economic studies.
03/94	10320	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers	Louisville Gas & Electric Co.	Trimble County CWIP revenue refund.
4/94	E-015/ GR-94-001	MN	Large Power Intervenors	Minnesota Power Co.	Evaluation of the cost of equity, capital structure, and rate of return.
5/94	R-00942993	PA	PG&W Industrial Intervenors	Pennsylvania Gas & Water Co.	Analysis of recovery of transition costs.
5/94	R-00943001	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania charge proposals.	Evaluation of cost allocation, rate design, rate plan, and carrying
7/94	R-00942986	PA	Armco, Inc., West Penn Power Industrial Intervenors	West Penn Power Co.	Return on equity and rate of return.
7/94	94-0035- E-42T	w	West Virginia Energy Users' Group	Monongahela Power Co.	Return on equity and rate of return.

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
8/94	8652	MD	Westvaco Corp. Co.	Potomac Edison	Return on equity and rate of return.
9/94	930357-C	AR	West Central Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corp.	Evaluation of transportation service.
9/94	U-19904	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Gulf States Utilities	Return on equity.
9/94	8629	MD	Maryland Industrial Group	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.	Transition costs.
11/94	94-175-U	AR	Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkla, Inc.	Cost-of-service, rate design, rate of return.
3/95	RP94-343- 000	FERC	Arkansas Gas Consumers	NorAm Gas Transmission	Rate of return.
4/95	R-00943271	PA	PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance	Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.	Return on equity.
6/95	U-10755	MI	Association of Businesses Advocating Tariff Equity	Consumers Power Co.	Revenue requirements.
7/95	8697	MD	Maryland Industrial Group	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.	Cost allocation and rate design.
8/95	95-254-TF U-2811	AR	Tyson Foods, Inc.	Southwest Arkansas Electric Cooperative	Refund allocation.
10/95	ER95-1042 -000	FERC	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Systems Energy Resources, Inc.	Return on Equity.
11/95	I-940032	PA	Industrial Energy Consumers of Pennsylvania	State-wide - all utilities	Investigation into Electric Power Competition.
5/96	96-030-U	AR	Northwest Arkansas Gas Consumers	Arkansas Western Gas Co.	Revenue requirements, rate of return and cost of service.
7/96	8725	MD	Maryland Industrial Group	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.,Potomac Electric Power Co. and Constellation Energy Corp.	Return on Equity.
7/96	U-21496	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Central Louisiana Electric Co.	Return on equity, rate of return.
9/96	U-22092	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Return on equity.

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
					-
1/97	RP96-199- 000	FERC	The Industrial Gas Users Conference	Mississippi River Transmission Corp.	Revenue requirements, rate of return and cost of service.
3/97	96-420-U	AR	West Central Arkansas Gas Corp.	Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corp.	Revenue requirements, rate of return, cost of service and rate design.
7/97	U-11220	MI	Association of Business Advocating Tariff Equity	Michigan Gas Co. and Southeastern Michigan Gas Co.	Transportation Balancing Provisions.
7/97	R-00973944	PA	Pennsylvania American Water Large Users Group	Pennsylvania- American Water Co.	Rate of return, cost of service, revenue requirements.
3/98	8390 <b>-</b> U	GA	Georgia Natural Gas Group and the Georgia Textile Manufacturers Assoc.	Atlanta Gas Light	Rate of return, restructuring issues, unbundling, rate design issues.
7/98	R-00984280	PA	PG Energy, Inc. Intervenors	PGE Industrial	Cost allocation.
8/98	U-17735	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Cajun Electric Power Cooperative	Revenue requirements.
10/98	97-596	ME	Maine Office of the Public Advocate	Bangor Hydro- Electric Co.	Return on equity, rate of return.
10/98	U-23327	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	SWEPCO, CSW and AEP	Analysis of proposed merger.
12/98	98-577	ME	Maine Office of the Public Advocate	Maine Public Service Co.	Return on equity, rate of return.
12/98	U-23358	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Return on equity, rate of return.
3/99	98-426	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, Inc.	Louisville Gas and Electric Co	Return on equity.
3/99	99-082	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, Inc.	Kentucky Utilities Co.	Return on equity.
4/99	R-984554	PA	T. W. Phillips Users Group	T. W. Phillips Gas and Oil Co.	Allocation of purchased gas costs.
6/99	R-0099462	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania	Balancing charges.
10/99	U-24182	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States,Inc.	Cost of debt.

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
10/99	R-00994782	PA	Peoples Industrial Intervenors	Peoples Natural Gas Co.	Restructuring issues.
10/99	R-00994781	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania	Restructuring, balancing charges, rate flexing, alternate fuel.
01/00	R-00994786	PA	UGI Industrial Intervenors	UGI Utilities, Inc.	Universal service costs, balancing, penalty charges, capacity Assignment.
01/00	8829	MD & United State	Maryland Industrial Gr. es	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.	Revenue requirements, cost allocation, rate design.
02/00	R-00994788	PA	Penn Fuel Transportation	PFG Gas, Inc., and	Tariff charges, balancing provisions.
05/00	U-17735	LA	Louisiana Public Service Comm.	Louisiana Electric Cooperative	Rate restructuring.
07/00	2000-080	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Consumers	Louisville Gas and Electric Co.	Cost allocation.
07/00	U-21453 U-20925 (SC) U-22092 (SC) (Subdocket E)		Louisiana Public Service Commission	Southwestern Electric Power Co.	Stranded cost analysis.
09/00	R-00005654	PA	Philadelphia Industrial And Commercial Gas Users Group.	Philadelphia Gas Works	Interim relief analysis.
10/00	U-21453 U-20925 (SC) U-22092 (SC) (Subdocket B)		Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Restructuring, Business Separation Plan.
11/00	R-00005277 (Rebuttal)	PA	Penn Fuel Transportation Customers	PFG Gas, Inc. and North Penn Gas Co.	Cost allocation issues.
12/00	U-24993	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Return on equity.
03/01	U-22092	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Stranded cost analysis.
04/01	U-21453 U-20925 (SC) U-22092 (SC) (Subdocket B) (Addressing C		Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Restructuring issues.
04/01	R-00006042	PA	Philadelphia Industrial and Commercial Gas Users Group	Philadelphia Gas Works	Revenue requirements, cost allocation and tariff issues.

	Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
•						
	11/01	U-25687	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Return on equity.
	03/02	14311-U	GA	Georgia Public Service Commission	Atlanta Gas Light	Capital structure.
	08/02	2002-00145	КҮ	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers	Columbia Gas of Kentucky	Revenue requirements.
	09/02	M-00021612	PA	Philadelphia Industrial And Commercial Gas Users Group	Philadelphia Gas Works	Transportation rates, terms, and conditions.
	01/03	2002-00169	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers	Kentucky Power	Return on equity.
	02/03	02S-594E	CO	Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company	Aquila Networks – WPC	Return on equity.
	04/03	U-26527	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Gulf States, Inc.	Return on equity.
	10/03	CV020495AI	B GA	The Landings Assn., Inc.	Utilities Inc. of GA	Revenue requirement & overcharge refund
	03/04	2003-00433	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers	Louisville Gas & Electric	Return on equity, Cost allocation & rate design
	03/04	2003-00434	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers	Kentucky Utilities	Return on equity
	4/04	04S-035E	со	Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company, Goodrich Corp., Holcim (U.S.) Inc., and The Trane Co.	Aquila Networks – WPC	Return on equity.
	9/04	U-23327, Subdocket B	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Southwestern Electric Power Company	Fuel cost review
	10/04	U-23327 Subdocket A	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Southwestern Electric Power Company	Return on Equity
	06/05	050045-EI	FL	South Florida Hospital and HeallthCare Assoc.	Florida Power & Light Co.	Return on equity
	08/05	9036	MD	Maryland Industrial Group	Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.	Revenue requirement, cost allocation, rate design, Tariff issues.
	01/06	2005-0034	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers, Inc.	Kentucky Power Co.	Return on equity.

Date	Case Jι	ırisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
03/06	05-1278- E-PC-PW-42T	WV	West Virginia Energy Users Group	Appalachian Power Company	Return on equity.
04/06	U-25116 Commission	LA	Louisiana Public Service	Entergy Louisiana, LLC	Transmission Issues
07/06	U-23327 Commission	LA	Louisiana Public Service	Southwestern Electric Power Company	Return on equity, Service quality
08/06	ER-2006- 0314	МО	Missouri Office of the Public Counsel	Kansas City Power & Light Co.	Return on equity, Weighted cost of capital
08/06	06S-234EG	СО	CF&I Steel, L.P. & Climax Molybdenum	Public Service Company of Colorado	Return on equity, Weighted cost of capital
01/07	06-0960-E-42T Users Group	WV	West Virginia Energy	Monongahela Power & Potomac Edison	Return on Equity
01/07	43112	AK	AK Steel, Inc.	Vectren South, Inc.	Cost allocation, rate design
05/07	2006-661	ME	Maine Office of the Public Advocate	Bangor Hydro-Electric	Return on equity, weighted cost of capital.
09/07	07-07-01	СТ	Connecticut Industrial Energy Consumers	Connecticut Light & Power	Return on equity, weighted cost of capital
10/07	05-UR-103	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group, Inc.	Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Return on equity
11/07	29797	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Cleco Power :LLC & Southwestern Electric Power	Lignite Pricing, support of settlement
01/08	07-551-EL-AIR	ОН	Ohio Energy Group	Ohio Edison, Cleveland Electric, Toledo Edison	Return on equity
03/08	07-0585, 07-0585, 07-0587, 07-0588, 07-0589, 07-0590, (consol.)	IL	The Commercial Group	Ameren	Cost allocation, rate design
04/08	07-0566	IL	The Commercial Group	Commonwealth Edison	Cost allocation, rate design
06/08	R-2008- 2011621	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of PA	Cost and revenue allocation, Tariff issues
07/08	R-2008- 2028394	PA	Philadelphia Area Industrial Energy Users Group	PECO Energy	Cost and revenue allocation, Tariff issues

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
07/08	R-2008- 2039634	PA	PPL Gas Large Users Group	PPL Gas	Retainage, LUFG Pct.
08/08	6680-UR- 116	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Wisconsin P&L	Cost of Equity
08/08	6690-UR- 119	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Wisconsin PS	Cost of Equity
09/08	ER-2008- 0318	МО	The Commercial Group	AmerenUE	Cost and revenue allocation
10/08	R-2008- 2029325	PA	U.S. Steel & Univ. of Pittsburgh Med. Ctr.	Equitable Gas Co.	Cost and revenue allocation
10/08	08-G-0609	NY	Multiple Intervenors	Niagara Mohawk Power	Cost and Revenue allocation
12/08	27800-U	GA	Georgia Public Service Commission	Georgia Power Company	CWIP/AFUDC issues, Review financial projections
03/09	ER08-1056	FERC	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Entergy Services, Inc.	Capital Structure
04/09	E002/GR-08- 1065	MN	The Commercial Group	Northern States Power	Cost and revenue allocation and rate design
05/09	08-0532	IL	The Commercial Group	Commonwealth Edison	Cost and revenue allocation
07/09	080677-EI	FL	South Florida Hospital and Health Care Association	Florida Power & Light	Cost of equity, capital structure, Cost of short-term debt
07/09	U-30975	LA	Louisiana Public Service Commission	Cleco LLC, Southwestern Public Service Co.	Lignite mine purchase
10/09	4220-UR-116	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Northern States Power	Class cost of service, rate design
10/09	M-2009- 2123945	PA	PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance	PPL Electric Utilities	Smart Meter Plan cost allocation
10/09	M-2009- 2123944	PA	Philadelphia Area Industrial Energy Users Group	PECO Energy Company	Smart Meter Plan cost allocation
10/09	M-2009- 2123951	PA	West Penn Power Industrial Intervenors	West Penn Power	Smart Meter Plan cost allocation
11/09	M-2009- 2123948	PA	Duquesne Industrial Intervenors	Duquesne Light Company	Smart Meter Plan cost allocation
11/09	M-2009- 2123950	PA	Met-Ed Industrial Users Group Penelec Industrial Customer Alliance, Penn Power Users Group	Metropolitan Edison, Pennsylvania Electric Co., Pennsylvania Power Co.	Smart Meter Plan cost allocation

Date	Case	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
03/10	09-1352-	WV E-42T	West Virginia Energy Users Group	Monongahela Power	Return on equity, rate of return Potomac Edison
03/10	E015/GR- 09-1151	MN	Large Power Intervenors	Minnesota Power	Return on equity, rate of return
04/10	2009-00459	кү	Kentucky Industrial Utility Consumers	Kentucky Power	Return on equity
04/10	2009-00548 2009-00549	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Consumers	Louisville Gas and Electric, Kentucky Utilities	Return on equity.
05/10	10-0261-E- GI	WV	West Virginia Energy Users Group	Appalachian Power Co./ Wheeling Power Co.	EE/DR Cost Recovery, Allocation, & Rate Design
05/10	R-2009- 2149262	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of PA	Class cost of service & cost allocation
06/10	2010-00036	KY	Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government	Kentucky American Water Company	Return on equity, rate of return, revenue requirements
06/10	R-2010- 2161694	PA	PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance	PPL Electric Utilities	Rate design, cost allocation
07/10	R-2010- 2161575	PA	Philadelphia Area Industrial Energy Users Group	PECO Energy Co.	Return on equity
07/10	R-2010- 2161592	PA	Philadelphia Area Industrial Energy Users Group	PECO Energy Co.	Cost and revenue allocation
07/10	9230	MD	Maryland Energy Group	Baltimore Gas and Electric	Electric and gas cost and revenue allocation; return on equity
09/10	10-70	MA	University of Massachusetts- Amherst	Western Massachusetts Electric Co.	Cost allocation and rate design
10/10	R-2010- 2179522	PA	Duquesne Industrial Intervenors	Duquesne Light Company	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design
11/10	P-2010- 2158084	PA	West Penn Power Industrial Intervenors	West Penn Power Co.	Transmission rate design
11/10	10-0699- E-42T	WV	West Virginia Energy Users Group	Appalachian Power Co. & Wheeling Power Co.	Return on equity, rate of Return
11/10	10-0467	IL	The Commercial Group	Commonwealth Edison	Cost and revenue allocation and rate design
04/11	R-2010- 2214415	PA	Central Pen Gas Large Users Group	UGI Central Penn Gas, Inc.	Tariff issues, revenue allocation
07/11	R-2011- 2239263	PA	Philadelphia Area Energy Users Group	PECO Energy	Retainage rate

Date	Case J	urisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
08/11	R-2011- 2232243	PA	AK Steel	Pennsylvania-American Water Company	Rate Design
08/11	11AL-151G	СО	Climax Molybdenum	PS of Colorado	Cost allocation
09/11	11-G-0280	NY	Multiple Intervenors	Coming Natural Gas Co.	Cost and revenue allocation
10/11	4220-UR-117	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Northern States Power	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design
02/12	11AL-947E	СО	Climax Molybdenum, CF&I Steel	Public Service Company of Colorado	Return on equity, weighted cost of capital
07/12	120015-EI	FL	South Florida Hospitals and Health Care Association	Florida Power and Light Co,	Return on equity, weighted cost of capital
07/12	12-0613-E-PC	WV	West Virginia Energy Users Group	American Electric Power/APCo	Special rate proposal for Century Aluminum
07/12	R-2012- 2290597	PA	PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance	PPL Electric Utilities Corp.	Cost allocation
09/12	05-UR-106	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Class cost of service, cost and revenue allocation, rate design
09/12	2012-00221 2012-00222	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Consumers	Louisville Gas and Electric, Kentucky Utilities	Return on equity.
10/12	9299	MD	Maryland Energy Group	Baltimore Gas & Electric	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design Cost of equity, weighted cost of capital
10/12	4220-UR-118	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Northern States Power Company	Class cost of service, cost and revenue allocation, rate design
10/12	473-13-0199	TX	Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor	Cross Texas Transmission, LLC	Return on equity, capital structure
01/13	R-2012- 2321748 et al.	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania	Cost and revenue allocation
02/13	12AL-1052E	CO	Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining, Holcim (US) Inc.	Black Hills/Colorado Electric Utility Company	Cost and revenue allocations
06/13	8009	VT	IBM Corporation	Vermont Gas Systems	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design
07/13	130040-EI	FL	WCF Hospital Utility Alliance	Tampa Electric Co.	Return on equity, rate of return
08/13	9326	MD	Maryland Energy Group	Baltimore Gas and Electric	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design, special rider

 Date	Case .	Jurisdict.	Party	Utility	Subject
08/13	P-2012- 2325034	PA	PP&L Industrial Customer Alliance	PPL Electric Utilities, Corp.	Distribution System Improvement Charge
09/13	4220-UR-119	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Northern States Power Co.	Class cost of service, cost and revenue allocation, rate design
11/13	13-1325-E-PC	WV	West Virginia Energy Users Group	American Electric Power/APCo	Special rate proposal, Felman Production
06/14	R-2014- 2406274	PA	Columbia Industrial Intervenors	Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design
08/14	05-UR-107	WI	Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group	Wisconsin Electric Power Co.	Cost and revenue allocation, rate design
10/14	ER13-1508 et al.	FERC	Louisiana Public Service Comm.	Entergy Services, Inc.	Return on equity
11/14	14AL-0660E	СО	Climay Mahihdanum Co. and	Public Service Co. of Colorado	Datum on anythy waighted and of posited
11/14	14AL-0000E	CO	Climax Molybdenum Co. and CFI Steel, LP	Public Service Co. of Colorado	Return on equity, weighted cost of capital
11/14	R-2014- 2428742	PA	AK Steel	West Penn Power Company	Cost and revenue allocation
12/14	42866	TX	West Travis Co. Public Utility Agency	Travis County Municipal Utility District No. 12	Response to complain of monopoly power
3/15	2014-00371 2014-00372	KY	Kentucky Industrial Utility Customers	Louisville Gas & Electric, Kentucky Utilities	Return on equity, cost of debt, cost of capital

# **BEFORE THE**

# **KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES	5 ) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371 )
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS ANI	<b>)</b> )
ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

**EXHIBIT (RAB-2)** 

**OF** 

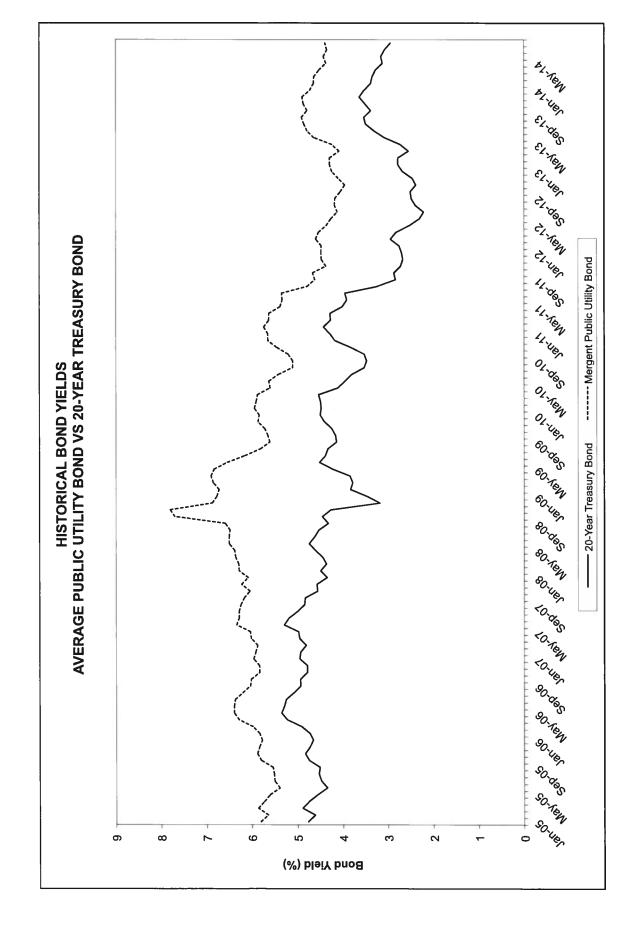
RICHARD A. BAUDINO

# ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

**MARCH 6, 2015** 



#### **BEFORE THE**

# **KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371
ITS ELECTRIC RATES	)
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

**EXHIBIT (RAB-3)** 

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

# ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

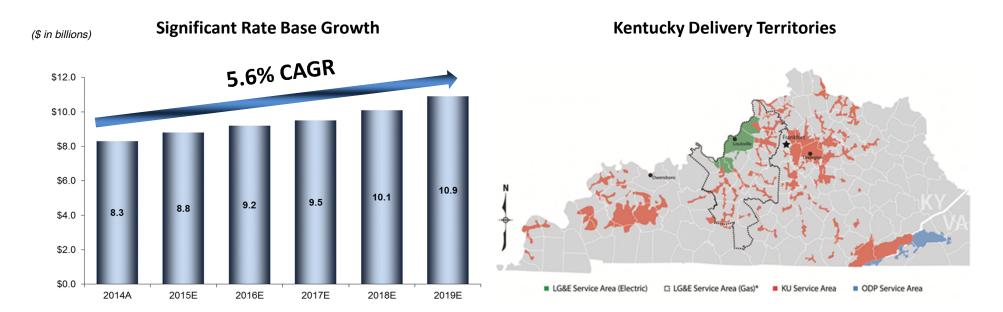
**MARCH 6, 2015** 



# **Kentucky Regulated Segment Investment Highlights**



- Efficient, well-run utilities focused on safety, reliability and customer service
- Constructive regulatory environment that provides a timely return on a substantial amount of planned capex over the next 5 years
  - Environmental Cost Recovery (ECR): \$2.3 billion estimated spend on projects approved by the KPSC with a 10.25% ROE – virtually no regulatory lag
  - Other supportive recovery mechanisms include Construction Work In Progress, Fuel Adjustment Clause,
     Gas Supply Clause Adjustment and Demand Side Management recovery



© PPL Corporation 2015 7

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF	) CASE NO. 2014-00371
ITS ELECTRIC RATES	)
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

**EXHIBIT (RAB-4)** 

OF

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

# COMPARISON GROUP AVERAGE PRICE, DIVIDEND AND DIVIDEND YIELD

		Feb-15	Jan-15	Dec-14	Nov-14	Oct-14	Sep-14
ALLETE	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	57.770 52.380 55.075 0.505 3.67% 3.80%	59.730 54.300 57.015 0.490 3.44%	57.970 50.490 54.230 0.490 3.61%	53.260 49.560 51.410 0.490 3.81%	52.680 44.190 48.435 0.490 4.05%	48.820 44.390 46.605 0.490 4.21%
Alliant Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	69.350 62.890 66.120 0.550 3.33% 3.29%	70.800 65.300 68.050 0.510 3.00%	69.780 61.940 65.860 0.510 3.10%	63.730 61.350 62.540 0.510 3.26%	62.300 55.380 58.840 0.510 3.47%	59.360 54.690 57.025 0.510 3.58%
Avista Corp.	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	37.650 33.280 35.465 0.330 3.72% 3.72%	38.340 34.910 36.625 0.318 3.47%	37.370 33.200 35.285 0.318 3.60%	35.980 33.190 34.585 0.318 3.68%	35.960 30.550 33.255 0.318 3.82%	32.880 30.450 31.665 0.318 4.02%
CMS Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	38.120 34.280 36.200 0.290 3.20% 3.27%	38.660 34.650 36.655 0.270 2.95%	36.870 32.790 34.830 0.270 3.10%	33.460 32.050 32.755 0.270 3.30%	32.910 29.590 31.250 0.270 3.46%	30.830 29.150 29.990 0.270 3.60%
Consolidated Edison	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	69.690 62.370 66.030 0.650 3.94% 4.01%	72.250 65.360 68.805 0.630 3.66%	68.920 62.620 65.770 0.630 3.83%	64.730 61.450 63.090 0.630 3.99%	64.000 56.400 60.200 0.630 4.19%	58.120 55.800 56.960 0.630 4.42%
Dominion Resources	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	78.880 71.610 75.245 0.600 3.19% 3.28%	79.890 75.330 77.610 0.600 3.09%	80.890 71.340 76.115 0.600 3.15%	74.590 71.340 72.965 0.600 3.29%	72.240 65.530 68.885 0.600 3.48%	71.330 67.290 69.310 0.600 3.46%

## COMPARISON GROUP AVERAGE PRICE, DIVIDEND AND DIVIDEND YIELD

		Feb-15	Jan-15	Dec-14	Nov-14	Oct-14	Sep-14
Duke Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	87.290 77.790 82.540 0.795 3.85% 3.93%	89.970 82.610 86.290 0.795 3.69%	87.290 80.160 83.725 0.795 3.80%	83.900 78.510 81.205 0.795 3.92%	82.680 74.330 78.505 0.795 4.05%	75.210 72.950 74.080 0.795 4.29%
Edison International	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	68.460 62.310 65.385 0.417 2.55% 2.39%	69.590 64.780 67.185 0.417 2.48%	68.740 62.780 65.760 0.355 2.16%	63.660 61.390 62.525 0.355 2.27%	62.900 55.880 59.390 0.355 2.39%	59.540 54.120 56.830 0.355 2.50%
Empire District Electric	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	30.940 24.330 27.635 0.260 3.76% 3.71%	31.490 29.160 30.325 0.260 3.43%	31.200 27.400 29.300 0.260 3.55%	28.870 27.520 28.195 0.255 3.62%	29.240 24.090 26.665 0.255 3.83%	25.950 24.000 24.975 0.255 4.08%
Eversource Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	56.520 50.420 53.470 0.393 2.94% 3.12%	56.830 52.930 54.880 0.393 2.86%	56.660 49.930 53.295 0.393 2.95%	50.920 48.650 49.785 0.393 3.16%	49.980 44.370 47.175 0.393 3.33%	46.570 43.880 45.225 0.393 3.48%
IDACORP	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	68.400 60.900 64.650 0.470 2.91% 2.94%	70.480 65.040 67.760 0.470 2.77%	70.050 61.350 65.700 0.470 2.86%	63.520 60.550 62.035 0.470 3.03%	64.120 53.390 58.755 0.430 2.93%	56.970 53.200 55.085 0.430 3.12%
Northwestern Corp.	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	58.340 52.700 55.520 0.400 2.88% 3.03%	59.710 55.260 57.485 0.400 2.78%	58.700 52.020 55.360 0.400 2.89%	54.420 51.400 52.910 0.400 3.02%	53.450 45.140 49.295 0.400 3.25%	49.550 45.120 47.335 0.400 3.38%

# COMPARISON GROUP AVERAGE PRICE, DIVIDEND AND DIVIDEND YIELD

	;	Feb-15	Jan-15	Dec-14	Nov-14	Oct-14	Sep-14
OGE Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	35.750 32.120 33.935 0.250 2.95% 2.78%	36.480 33.440 34.960 0.250 2.86%	36.700 32.850 34.775 0.250 2.88%	37.900 35.640 36.770 0.250 2.72%	37.560 33.060 35.310 0.250 2.83%	37.760 35.150 36.455 0.225 2.47%
Pinnacle West	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	70.710 63.810 67.260 0.595 3.54% 3.71%	73.310 67.690 70.500 0.595 3.38%	71.110 62.600 66.855 0.595 3.56%	63.500 60.610 62.055 0.595 3.84%	61.560 54.590 58.075 0.568 3.91%	57.740 54.130 55.935 0.568 4.06%
Portland General Electric	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	40.260 36.040 38.150 0.280 2.94% 3.06%	41.040 37.820 39.430 0.280 2.84%	40.310 36.510 38.410 0.280 2.92%	37.290 35.500 36.395 0.280 3.08%	36.860 32.070 34.465 0.280 3.25%	34.550 31.700 33.125 0.275 3.32%
Southern Company	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	51.140 45.220 48.180 0.525 4.36% 4.43%	53.160 48.840 51.000 0.525 4.12%	51.280 47.070 49.175 0.525 4.27%	47.970 46.300 47.135 0.525 4.46%	47.690 43.550 45.620 0.525 4.60%	44.820 43.040 43.930 0.525 4.78%
Westar Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	43.310 38.600 40.955 0.350 3.42% 3.61%	44.030 40.330 42.180 0.350 3.32%	43.150 38.520 40.835 0.350 3.43%	39.620 37.240 38.430 0.350 3.64%	37.910 33.730 35.820 0.350 3.91%	37.070 33.760 35.415 0.350 3.95%
Xcel Energy	High Price (\$) Low Price (\$) Avg. Price (\$) Dividend (\$) Mo. Avg. Div. 6 mos. Avg.	37.840 34.600 36.220 0.300 3.31% 3.52%	38.350 35.600 36.975 0.300 3.25%	37.580 33.490 35.535 0.300 3.38%	34.100 32.950 33.525 0.300 3.58%	33.760 30.180 31.970 0.300 3.75%	32.480 30.120 31.300 0.300 3.83%
Average Dividend Yield		3.42%					

Source: Yahoo! Finance

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371
In the Matter of:	,
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

EXHIBIT (RAB-5)

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

### COMPARISON GROUP DCF Growth Rate Analysis

<u>Company</u>	(1) Value Line <u>DPS</u>	(2) Value Line <u>EPS</u>	(3) Value Line <u>B x R</u>	(4) <u>Zacks</u>	(5) <u>IBES</u>
ALLETE, Inc.	4.00%	6.00%	3.50%	6.00%	6.00%
Alliant Energy Corporation	4.50%	6.00%	5.00%	4.90%	5.40%
Avista Corporation	4.50%	5.50%	3.00%	5.00%	5.00%
CMS Energy Corporation	6.00%	6.50%	6.00%	6.20%	6.73%
Consolidated Edison, Inc.	2.50%	2.50%	3.00%	3.00%	2.77%
Dominion Resources, Inc.	7.50%	7.50%	4.50%	6.30%	5.83%
Duke Energy Corporation	2.50%	5.00%	3.00%	4.70%	4.41%
Edison International	9.50%	2.50%	5.50%	7.10%	3.53%
Empire District Electric Co.	4.50%	4.00%	3.50%	3.00%	3.00%
Eversource Energy	7.00%	8.00%	4.00%	6.40%	6.25%
IDACORP, Inc.	8.00%	1.50%	3.50%	4.00%	3.00%
NorthWestern Corp.	6.50%	6.50%	4.00%	7.60%	7.60%
OGE Energy	9.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.60%	5.10%
Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	3.00%	4.00%	3.50%	4.00%	4.20%
Portland General Electric Company	4.50%	5.00%	4.00%	5.90%	5.26%
Southern Company	3.50%	4.00%	4.50%	3.60%	3.40%
Westar Energy, Inc.	3.00%	6.00%	4.50%	3.80%	3.37%
Xcel Energy Inc.	5.00%	5.50%	4.00%	4.70%	4.51%
Averages	5.31%	5.08%	4.14%	5.10%	4.74%
Median Values	4.50%	5.50%	4.00%	4.95%	4.76%

Sources: Value Line Investment Survey, December 19,2014 and January 30 and February 20, 2015

Yahoo! Finance for IBES growth rates retrieved February 27, 2015

Zacks growth rates retrieved February 27, 2015

IBES growth rates were used in the Zacks column for ALLETE and Avista

	COMPARISON DCF RETURN O				
	(1) Value Line <u>Dividend Gr.</u>	(2) Value Line <u>Earnings Gr.</u>	(3) Zack's <u>Earning Gr.</u>	(4) IBES <u>Earning Gr.</u>	(5) Average of All Gr. Rates
Method 1: Dividend Yield	3.42%	3.42%	3.42%	3.42%	3.42%
Average Growth Rate	5.31%	5.08%	5.10%	4.74%	5.06%
Expected Div. Yield	<u>3.51%</u>	<u>3.51%</u>	<u>3.51%</u>	<u>3.50%</u>	<u>3.51%</u>
DCF Return on Equity	8.82%	8.59%	8.61%	8.24%	8.57%
Method 2:					
Dividend Yield	3.42%	3.42%	3.42%	3.42%	3.42%
Median Growth Rate	4.50%	5.50%	4.95%	4.76%	4.93%
Expected Div. Yield	<u>3.50%</u>	3.52%	3.51%	3.50%	<u>3.51%</u>
DCF Return on Equity	8.00%	9.02%	8.46%	8.26%	8.44%

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES	)
COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF	) CASE NO. 2014-00371
ITS ELECTRIC RATES	)
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

**EXHIBIT (RAB-6)** 

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

# COMPARISON GROUP Capital Asset Pricing Model Analysis Comparison Group

#### 20-Year Treasury Bond, Value Line Beta

Line <u>No.</u>		Value Line
1	Market Required Return Estimate	10.02%
2 3	Risk-free Rate of Return, 20-Year Treasury Bond Average of Last Six Months	2.71%
4 5	Risk Premium (Line 1 minus Line 3)	7.32%
6	Comparison Group Beta	0.73
7 8	Comparison Group Beta * Risk Premium (Line 5 * Line 6)	5.31%
9 10	CAPM Return on Equity (Line 3 plus Line 8)	8.01%
	5-Year Treasury Bond, Value Line Beta	
1	Market Required Return Estimate	10.02%
2 3	Risk-free Rate of Return, 5-Year Treasury Bond Average of Last Six Months	1.60%
4 5	Risk Premium (Line 1 minus Line 3)	8.43%
6	Comparison Group Beta	0.73
7 8	Comparison Group Beta * Risk Premium (Line 5 * Line 6)	6.11%
9 10	CAPM Return on Equity (Line 3 plus Line 8)	7.71%

#### **COMPARISON GROUP Capital Asset Pricing Model Analysis Comparison Group**

#### **Supporting Data for CAPM Analyses**

#### 20 Year Treasury Bond Data

#### 5 Year Treasury Bond Data

	Avg. Yield		Avg. Yield
August-14	2.94%	August-14	1.63%
September-14	3.01%	September-14	1.77%
October-14	2.77%	October-14	1.55%
November-14	2.76%	November-14	1.62%
December-14	2.55%	December-14	1.64%
January-15	<u>2.20%</u>	January-15	<u>1.37%</u>
6 month average	2.71%	6 month average	1.60%
Source: www.federalreserve.go	v Selected Inter	est Rates (Dalily) - H 15	

Source: www.federalreserve.gov, Selected Interest Rates (Dalily) - H.15

Value Line Market Return Data:			Value
		Comparison Group Betas:	<u>Line</u>
Forecasted Data:			
		ALLETE, Inc.	0.80
Value Line Median Growth Rates	s:	Alliant Energy Corporation	0.80
Earnings	12.00%	Avista Corporation	0.80
Book Value	<u>8.50%</u>	CMS Energy Corporation	0.70
Average	10.25%	Consolidated Edison, Inc.	0.60
Median Dividend Yield	<u>0.76%</u>	Dominion Resources, Inc.	0.70
Estimated Market Return	11.05%	Duke Energy Corporation	0.60
		Edison International	0.75
Value Line Projected 3-5 Yr.		Empire District Electric Co.	0.70
Median Annual Total Return	9.00%	Eversource Energy	0.75
		IDACORP, Inc.	0.80
Average of Projected Mkt.		NorthWestern Corp.	0.70
Returns	10.02%	OGE Energy	0.90
		Pinnacle West Capital Corp.	0.70
Source: Value Line Investment S	Survey	Portland General Electric Company	0.80
for Windows retreived February	25, 2015	Southern Company	0.55
•		Westar Energy, Inc.	0.75
		Xcel Energy Inc.	<u>0.65</u>
		Average	0.73

Source: Value Line Investment Survey

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the	Matter of:	
	APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371 )
In the	Matter of:	
	APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00372 )

EXHIBIT (RAB-7)

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

# COMPARISON GROUP Capital Asset Pricing Model Analysis Historic Market Premium

	Geometric Mean	Arithmetic Mean	Adjusted Arithmetic Mean
Long-Term Annual Return on Stocks	10.10%	12.10%	
Long-Term Annual Income Return on Long-Term Treas. Bonds	<u>5.09%</u>	<u>5.09%</u>	
Historical Market Risk Premium	5.01%	7.01%	6.12%
Comparison Group Beta, Value Line	0.73	0.73	0.73
Beta * Market Premium	3.63%	5.08%	4.44%
Current 20-Year Treasury Bond Yield	<u>2.71%</u>	<u>2.71%</u>	<u>2.71%</u>
CAPM Cost of Equity, Value Line Beta	<u>6.34</u> %	<u>7.79</u> %	7.14%

Source: Ibbotson SBBI 2014 Classic Yearbook, Morningstar, pp. 39 - 40, 152, 157 - 158

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC RATES	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371 )
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND GAS RATES	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00372 )

**EXHIBIT (RAB-8)** 

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

# LG&E REVISED COST OF LONG-TERM DEBT

												ANNUAL COST	L COST		
							3	UNAMORT. LOSS					AMORT, LOSS		
LINE	PRT ISSUED	COUPON	DATE ISSUED	MATURITY DATE (DAY/MO/YR)	AVERAGE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT	UNAMORT. (DISCOUNT) OR I	ON UNAMORT DEBT REACOURED EXPENSE DEBT	ON REACOURED DEBT	CARRYING	INTEREST	AMORT (DISCOUNT) AMORT DEBT OR PREMIUM EXPENSE	AMORT, DEBT EXPENSE	ON REACOUIRED DEBT	CREDIT AND OTHER FEES	TOTAL
		3	(8)	(0)	(Q)	(E)	(4)	(5)	(H=D+E-F-G)	(I=AzD)	(7)	(K)	3	(M)	(N=I+J+K+L+M)
		*	ì		49	w	••	; <b>w</b>		•	•	•	'n	w	5
-	GAE PCB Variable due June 1 2033	1.60%	Apr. 26, 2007	June 1, 2033	35,200,000	•	77,291	571,863	34,550,846	563,200		54,562	32,902		850.664
• •	CARE PCB 4 60% due June 1, 2033	4.60%	Apr. 26, 2007	June 1, 2033	60,000,000	•	827,998	829,165	58,342,836	2,760,000		47,541	47,705		2,855,246
۰ ۳	G&E PCB Variable due Aug 1, 2030	1.96%	Aug. 9, 2000	Aug 1, 2030	83,335,000	•	564.534	2,095,404	80,675,062	1,630,935		38,791	-	254,997	2,068,706
ت ،	LG&E PCB Variable due Sep 1, 2027	1.96%	Sep. 11, 2001	Sep 1, 2027	10,104,000	•	237,948	•	9,866,052	197,744		20,436	•	30,403	248,583
	LG&E PCB Variable due Sep 1, 2026	1.25%	Mar, 6, 2002	Sep 1, 2026	22,500,000		105,857	825,874	21,568,269	281,250	•	9,943		•	368,789
9	LGAE PCB Variable Series CC due Sep 1, 2026	1.25%	Mar. 6, 2002	Sep 1, 2026	27,500,000		115,097	697,508	26,687,395	343,750		10,811		•	420,079
7 L	LG&E PCB Variable Series DD due Nov 1, 2027	1.45%	Mar. 22, 2002	Nov 1, 2027	35,000,000		130,121	580,349	34,289,530	507,500	•	11,018		•	567,658
2	CASE PCB Variable Series EE due Nov 1, 2027	1.45%	Mar. 22, 2002	Nov 1, 2027	35,000,000		130,143	578,221	34,291,636	507,500		11,020	48,960	•	567,480
- i	LG&E_PCB Variable due Oct 1, 2032	1.96%	Oct. 23, 2002	Oct 1, 2032	41,665,000	4	623,500	934,937	40,106,563	815,418		37,297	55,927	146,578	1,055,220
10 F	.G&E PCB due Oct 1,2033	1.65%	Nov. 20, 2003	Oct 1,2033	128,000,000	4	191,357	5,542,462	122,266,180	2,112,000		152,432	.,		2,578,766
1	LG&E PCB due May 1, 2027	1.45%	May 19, 2000	May 1, 2027	25,000,000		49,364	1,399,892	23,550,744	361,601		53,858			539,264
12 L	G&E PCB due Feb 1, 2035	3,00%	Apr. 13, 2005	Feb 1, 2035	40,000,000	•	253,633	1,614,655	38,131,713	1,200,000		70,946	84,769		1,355,715
13	G&E PCB due June 1, 2033	1,15%	Apr. 26, 2007	June 1, 2033	31,000,000		896'06	615,895	30,293,137	356,500	•	64,342	35,435		456,277
14 L	.G&E_FMB due Nov. 15, 2015	1.625%	Nov. 16, 2010	Nov. 15, 2015	93,750,000	(14,189)	41,762		93,694,049	1,523,438	869'89	196,128			1,786,203
15 L	.G&E_FMB due Nov. 15, 2040	5.125%	Nov. 16, 2010	Nov. 15, 2040	285,000,000	(2,571,033)	2,965,651		279,463,316	14,806,250	103,560	119,456	87		14,829,266
16 L	.G&E_FMB due Nov 1, 2043	4.65%	Nov. 14, 2013	Nov. 15, 2043	250,000,000	(1,672,426)	2,547,906		245,779,668	11,625,000	60,120	91,587			11,776,707
17 L	.G&E_2015 Projected Issuance due 2045	3.70%	Oct. 1, 2015	Oct. 1, 2045	225,000,000				225,000,000	8,325,000					8,325,000
38 L	.G&E_2015 Projected Issuance due 2025	3.70%	Oct. 1, 2015	Oct. 1, 2025	187,500,000	•			187,500,000	6,937,500					6,937,500
J 61	JNAM EXP-S-3 SHELF REGISTRATION 3/15				•	•	•		•	•	•				
20 R	Revolving Credit Facility				•		2,083,920	204,197	(2,288,117)	4:		584,249	57,249	625,000	1,266,498
21 Ji	JP Morgan Chase Bank 5.495% - Trimble Co. 2000 Series A						•	٠	•	3,950,097					3,950,097
22	Morgan Stanley Capital Services 3.657% - Louisville Metro 2003 Series A							7	83	935,549					935,549
23 M	Worgan Stanley Capital Services 3.645% - Louisville Metro 2003 Series A				9				2.5	931,709					931,709
24 B	Bank of America - Louisville Metro 2003 Series A							*	0	947,709					947,709
25 R	Regulatory Llability - Swap Hedging FMB						2	1	2	(1,410,166)					(1,410,166)
			POTATOT	ı	1,615,554,000	(4.257,649)	11,037,050	16,490,423	1,583,768,878	60,009,485	230,318	1,574,417	1,137,301	1,056,978	64 008 500
				1											

EMBEDDED COST OF LONG-TERM DEBT (N / H)

#### KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY FOR AN ADJUSTMENT OF	) ) CASE NO. 2014-00371
ITS ELECTRIC RATES	) CASE NO. 2014-003/1
In the Matter of:	
APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND	)
<b>ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN</b>	) CASE NO. 2014-00372
ADJUSTMENT OF ITS ELECTRIC AND	)
GAS RATES	)

EXHIBIT (RAB-9)

**OF** 

RICHARD A. BAUDINO

#### ON BEHALF OF

KENTUCKY INDUSTRIAL UTILITY CUSTOMERS, INC.

J. KENNEDY AND ASSOCIATES, INC. ROSWELL, GEORGIA

Docket No. 120015-EI Interest Rate Trends Exhibit WEA-2, Page 1 of 1

	Current (a)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
30-Yr. Treasury						
Value Line (b)	3.4%	3.9%	4.1%	4.5%	5.0%	
IHS Global Insight (c)	3.4%	3.3%	3.8%	4.5%	5.1%	5.3%
Blue Chip (d)	3.4%	3.7%	4.2%	4.8%	5.3%	5.5%
AAA Corporate						
Value Line (b)	4.2%	4.6%	4.7%	5.2%	5.7%	
IHS Global Insight (c)	4.2%	4.2%	4.5%	5.1%	6.0%	6.2%
Blue Chip (d)	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%	5.4%	5.8%	6.2%
S&P (e)	4.2%	4.2%	4.6%	5.1%	6.0%	
AA Utility						
IHS Global Insight (c)	4.3%	4.4%	4.9%	5.6%	6.5%	6.8%
EIA (f)	4.3%	4.7%	4.8%	5.7%	6.8%	6.9%

<sup>(</sup>a) Based on monthly average bond yields for the six-month period Jul. - Dec. 2011 reported at www.credittrends.moodys.com and http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/data.htm.

<sup>(</sup>b) The Value Line Investment Survey, Forecast for the U.S. Economy (Nov. 25, 2011).

<sup>(</sup>c) IHS Global Insight, U.S. Economic Outlook at 25 (Dec. 2011).

<sup>(</sup>d) Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, Vol. 30, No. 12 (Dec. 1, 2011).

<sup>(</sup>e) Standard & Poor's Corporation, "U.S. Economic Forecast: Just Like Ol' Times," *RatingsDirect* (Jan. 12, 2012).

<sup>(</sup>f) Energy Information Administration, Annual Energy Outlook 2012, Early Release (Jan. 23, 2012).