#### **COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**

#### **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In The Matter Of:

The Application Of Kentucky Power Company For: (1) A Certificate Of Public Convenience And Necessity Authorizing The Company To Close Big Sandy Plant Coal Ash Impoundment; And (2) For All Other Required Approvals And Relief

Case No. 2015-00152

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#### KENTUCKY POWER COMPANY'S MOTION FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Kentucky Power Company ("Kentucky Power" or "Company") moves the Public Service Commission of Kentucky pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2), for an Order granting confidential treatment to the identified portions of Attachment 1 to Commission Staff Data Request 1-8. Specifically, Kentucky Power seeks confidential treatment for information relating to the projected costs of the ash pond closure projects at the Amos and Gavin Plants. The Amos and Gavin Plants are not owned by Kentucky Power. The plants are owned, respectively, by Appalachian Power Company and AEP Generation Resources, Inc. (collectively, the "Affiliates"), which, like Kentucky Power, are wholly-owned subsidiaries of American Electric Power Company, Inc. Appalachian Power Company provides regulated electric service in Virginia and West Virginia and participates in the wholesale power market. AEP Generation Resources is a competitive (unregulated) generation company.

Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13, Kentucky Power is filing under seal those portions of the document identified above containing confidential information with the confidential portions highlighted in yellow. Kentucky Power is also filing redacted versions of

the affected document. Kentucky Power will notify the Commission when it determines the information for which confidential treatment is sought is no longer confidential.

## A. <u>The Requests And The Statutory Standard.</u>

Kentucky Power does not object to filing the identified information for which it is seeking confidential treatment, but requests that the identified portions of the responses be excluded from the public record and public disclosure.

KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1) excludes from the Open Records Act:

Upon and after July 15, 1992, records confidentially disclosed to an agency or required to be disclosed to it, generally recognized as confidential or proprietary, which if openly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the entity that disclosed the records.

This exception applies to the following information for which Kentucky Power is seeking confidential treatment:

#### 1. <u>Attachment 1 to Kentucky Power's Response to Staff 1-8.</u>

Kentucky Power seeks confidential treatment for the identified portions of Attachment 1 to the Company's response to Staff 1-8. This data request seeks information regarding the projected costs for the ash pond closure projects at the Amos and Gavin Plants. This information belongs to the Affiliates and not Kentucky Power. The Affiliates, however, are willing to allow Kentucky Power to provide the information to assist the Commission's evaluation in this case if confidential treatment is provided.

The projected cost data for which Kentucky Power seeks confidential treatment is not publicly available. As an unregulated entity, AEP Generation Resources is not required to make the forecasts publicly available. Although Appalachian Power Company is regulated, it is not required by the applicable regulatory bodies to make the forecasted data public. Moreover, the Affiliates operate in the competitive electricity market, and releasing the forecasted data would allow competitors to gain specific information regarding the Affiliate's projected capital expenditures, as well as gain insights into their potential strategies underlying market participation that would not be otherwise know in the competitive marketplace. In turn, this could allow competitors to alter their own market participation strategies to gain an unfair advantage to themselves and to the harm of the Affiliates. This could take the form of the Affiliates receiving lower prices for its sales or paying higher prices for its purchases than would otherwise be the case. This type of specific forecasted production and cost information is not available in competitive markets.

Kentucky Power is seeking confidential treatment for the identified information until such time as the identified projects are complete.

# B. <u>The Identified Information is Generally Recognized As Confidential and</u> <u>Proprietary and Public Disclosure Of It Will Result In An Unfair Commercial</u> <u>Advantage For the Affiliates' Customers.</u>

The identified information required to be disclosed by Kentucky Power in response to Staff 1-8 is highly confidential. Dissemination of the information for which confidential treatment is being requested is restricted by Kentucky Power, its parent, AEP, and its affiliates (including Appalachian Power and AEP Generation Resources). The Company, AEP, and its affiliates take all reasonable measures to prevent its disclosure to the public as well as persons within the Company and the Affiliates who do not have a need for the information. The information is not disclosed to persons outside Kentucky Power, AEP, or its affiliates. Within those organizations, the information is available only upon a confidential need-to-know basis that does not extend beyond those employees with a legitimate business need to know and act upon the identified information.

## C. The Identified Information Is Required To Be Disclosed To An Agency.

The identified information is by the terms of the Commission's Order required to be disclosed to the Commission. The Commission is a "public agency" as that term is defined at KRS 61.870(1). Any filing should be subject to a confidentiality order and any party requesting such information should be required to enter into an appropriate confidentiality agreement.

WHEREFORE, Kentucky Power respectfully requests the Commission to enter an Order:

1. According confidential status to and withholding from public inspection the identified information; and

2. Granting Kentucky Power all further relief to which it may be entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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COUNSEL FOR KENTUCKY POWER COMPANY

# **Certificate of Service**

A copy of the foregoing was filed using the Public Service Commission of Kentucky's electronic filing service, which will send an e-mail message to:

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this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2015.

Mark R. Overstreet