COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC JOINT APPLICATION OF)	
LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC)	
COMPANY AND KENTUCKY UTILITIES)	
COMPANY FOR REVIEW, MODIFICATION,)	CASE NO. 2017-00441
AND CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN)	
EXISTING DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT)	
AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS)	

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF RICK E. LOVEKAMP MANAGER, REGULATORY STRATEGY/POLICY LG&E AND KU SERVICES COMPANY

Filed: April 24, 2018

Q. Please state your name, position, and business address.

- 2 A. My name is Rick E. Lovekamp. I am Manager of Regulatory Strategy/Policy for LG&E
- and KU Services Company, which provides services to Louisville Gas and Electric
- 4 Company ("LG&E") and Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") (collectively
- 5 "Companies"). My business address is 220 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 6 Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
- 7 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to address the testimony by witness Kenneth
- 8 E. Baker filed on behalf of Wal-Mart Stores East, LP and Sam's East, Inc. (collectively
- 9 "Walmart") regarding the Companies' proposed industrial opt-out from demand-side
- management and energy-efficiency ("DSM-EE") programs and charges. Although the
- 11 Companies appreciate Walmart's significant energy-conservation efforts, it remains
- the Companies' view that the General Assembly did not intend to include commercial
- customers, including large retailers like Walmart, in the industrial opt-out provided in
- 14 KRS 278.285(3). In addition, as I discuss below, the Commission's authority
- 15 concerning DSM-EE programs does not extend to approving a program proposed by
- an entity other than a utility, including the "self-direct" program proposed by Mr.
- Baker, which is effectively a DSM-EE opt-out for commercial customers that is
- 18 contrary to the requirements of KRS 278.285(3). Also, I note that the Companies
- already offer and are proposing to continue offering what is in many respects a self-
- direct program, though one with benefits that potentially exceed those of other self-
- 21 direct programs, namely the Nonresidential Rebates Program.
- 22 Q. What are the statutory criteria for an industrial customer to opt out of DSM-EE
- 23 **under KRS 278.285(3)?**

1 Α. As indicated by the bracketed numbers I have included in the statutory text below, KRS 2 278.285(3) provides four criteria for an industrial customer to opt out of a utility's 3 DSM-EE programs and costs: 4 The commission shall allow [1] individual industrial 5 customers [2] with energy intensive processes [3] to 6 implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures in 7 lieu of measures approved as part of the utility's demandside management programs [4] if the alternative 8 9 measures by these customers are not subsidized by other 10 customer classes. 11 The Companies' opt-out proposal attempts to give substance to each of the statutory 12 criteria in a way that is consistent with the plain meaning of the text and other Kentucky 13 statutes and Commission precedent. A summary of the Companies' opt-out proposal 14 is below: 15 1. Industrial customers are defined to be nonresidential customers engaged in 16 activities primarily using electricity or gas in a process or processes involving 17 either the extraction of raw materials from the earth or a change of raw or 18 unfinished materials into another form or product. 19 2. Customers with energy-intensive processes are defined to be those taking 20 service under rates for customers with high electric or gas demand. Only meters 21 served under those high-demand rates are eligible to opt out. 22 3. Customers self-certify that they have implemented cost-effective energy 23 efficiency measures not subsidized by other rate classes related to the meters 24 they seek to opt out. 25 4. To minimize gaming and subsidization concerns, customers cannot opt out any 26 meter that has participated in a DSM-EE program for 36 full billing cycles after

ceasing to participate in the program.

2 meaning of the first two statutory criteria in an attempt to construe large retail stores 3 with high load factors as industrial customers with energy intensive processes. 4 The Companies' Definition of "Industrial Customer" Is Consistent with Relevant Authorities; Walmart's Proposed Definition Is Not 5 6 Q. Mr. Baker asserts, "The Commission should reject the industrial opt-out as 7 proposed by the Companies because it arbitrarily excludes energy intensive customers taking service under industrial rates"

Do the Companies have 8 9 industrial rates? 10 A. The Companies do not have industrial rates for electric service; rather, the Companies' 11 electric rate schedules for firm, non-temporary service are almost exclusively 12 distinguished by electrical demand rather than the purpose for which the customer uses the service.² LG&E does have an industrial rate for gas sales service, namely Rate 13

Walmart's proposed opt-out approach, on the other hand, distorts the plain

Q. Mr. Baker argues that because the General Assembly did not define "industrial" in KRS Chapter 278, the Commission has "considerable latitude" to determine who may opt out by defining the term.³ Do you agree?

IGS. Notably, no Walmart locations take service under Rate IGS. Therefore, the

Companies' opt-out proposal does not "arbitrarily exclude[] energy intensive

A. Certainly the Commission may exercise its authority to interpret KRS 278.285(3) within reasonable bounds of the plain meaning and express language of the statute. But the notion that Mr. Baker appears to advocate, namely that the Commission should

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customers taking service under industrial rates."

¹ Baker at 3

² Exceptions are for service to residences, volunteer fire departments, and all-electric schools.

³ Baker at 7.

work from a clean slate in defining "industrial," is incorrect. Instead, the Commission's exercise of discretion should be guided by Kentucky statutes, standard energy-sector definitions, and the Commission's own precedent.

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Although Mr. Baker is correct that the General Assembly did not define the term in KRS Chapter 278, it did define "industrial entity" in KRS 56.440(6) to be "any corporation, partnership, person, or other legal entity, whether domestic or foreign, which will itself or through its subsidiaries and affiliates construct and develop a manufacturing, processing, or assembling facility on the site of an industrial development project financed pursuant to this chapter." In KRS 139.010(15)(a), the General Assembly defined "machinery for new and expanded industry" in relevant part to be machinery "[u]sed directly in a manufacturing or processing production process" Also, the General Assembly has repeatedly treated "commercial" or "business" as being distinct from "industrial." In the context of these Kentucky statutory provisions, the Companies' proposed definition of industrial customers as "[n]onresidential customers ... engaged in activities primarily using electricity [or gas] in a process or processes involving either the extraction of raw materials from the earth or a change of raw or unfinished materials into another form or product" is entirely reasonable and consistent with the General Assembly's repeated usage and definition of similar terms.

The Companies' proposed definition of industrial is also consistent with other commonly accepted definitions, particularly with respect to the energy sector. For

⁴ *E.g.*, KRS 177.830 defines "Commercial or industrial zone," "Unzoned commercial or industrial area," and "Commercial or industrial activities"; KRS 216.2925(2) addresses "business or industrial establishments"; and KRS 216B.020(2)(c) also addresses "business or industrial establishments."

example, the U.S. Energy Information Agency ("EIA") defines "industrial sector" as follows:

An energy-consuming sector that consists of all facilities and equipment used for producing, processing, or assembling goods. The industrial sector encompasses the following types of activity: manufacturing (NAICS codes 31-33); agriculture, forestry, and hunting (NAICS code 11); mining, including oil and gas extraction (NAICS code 221); natural gas distribution (NAICS code 2212); and construction (NAICS code 23). Overall energy use in this sector is largely for process heat and cooling and powering machinery, with lesser amounts used for facility heating, air conditioning, and lighting.⁵

This definition would obviously exclude Walmart (and refers to NAICS codes, to which Walmart also objects), but is in accordance with the Companies' proposed definition of "industrial." Notably, the EIA's definition of "commercial sector" clearly includes the energy service Walmart takes from the Companies. 6

Similarly, the American Gas Association defines "industrial service" to be "service to customers engaged primarily in a process which either involves the extraction of raw materials from the earth or a change of raw unfinished materials into another form or product." This is in contrast to the association's definition of commercial service, which would clearly include Walmart: "[S]ervice to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, agriculture, communications, finance, fisheries, forestry, government, insurance, real estate, transportation, etc., and to customers not

⁵ Energy Information Administration, Electric Power Monthly with Data for January 2018 (published March 2018), available at https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/current month/epm.pdf (accessed Mar. 29, 2018).

⁶ *Id.* ("Commercial sector: An energy-consuming sector that consists of service-providing facilities and equipment of: businesses; Federal, State, and local governments; and other private and public organizations, such as religious, social, or fraternal groups. The commercial sector includes institutional living quarters. It also includes sewage treatment facilities. Common uses of energy associated with this sector include space heating, water heating, air conditioning, lighting, refrigeration, cooking, and running a wide variety of other equipment.").

⁷ American Gas Association online glossary, available at https://www.aga.org/natural-gas/glossary/c/ (accessed Mar. 30, 2018).

directly involved in other classes of service." Again, these energy-sector definitions show the reasonableness of the Companies' proposed definition of "industrial" and that Walmart is clearly a commercial customer, not an industrial customer.

Finally, the Commission has repeatedly approved the Companies' definition of "industrial," both for DSM-EE and gas-rate purposes. The Companies' proposed definition of "industrial" for DSM-EE purposes, though it differs from its previous definition in that it removes the NAICS code references to which Walmart has previously objected, is fundamentally consistent with the Companies' previous Commission-approved definitions. Thus, rather than abandoning long-standing precedent to accept a definition of "industrial" that would include big-box retail stores, the Companies respectfully submit the Commission should accept the Companies' proposed definition, which accords with Kentucky statutes, standard energy-sector definitions, and the Commission's own orders.

Mr. Baker argues that the Commission has previously expressed concerns over using NAICS codes in defining "industrial," and the Companies' proposed definition of "industrial" is faulty because it eliminates the NAICS codes while retaining their content. How do you respond?

Q.

¹⁰ Baker at 8-9.

⁸ *Id*.

⁹ See, e.g., In the Matter of: Electronic Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric and Gas Rates and for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity, Case No. 2016-00371, Order (June 22, 2017); In the Matter of: Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company for Review, Modification, and Continuation of Existing, and Addition of New, Demand-Side Management and Energy-Efficiency Programs, Case No. 2014-00003, Order (Nov. 14, 2014); In the Matter of: Electronic Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric and Gas Rates, Case No. 2014-00372, Order (June 30, 2015); In the Matter of: Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Co. and Kentucky Utilities Co. for Review, Modification, and Continuation of Existing, and Addition of New Demand-Side Management and Energy Efficiency Programs, Case No. 2011-00134, Order (Nov. 9, 2011).

The Companies' proposed definition of "industrial" neither uses nor relies on NAICS
codes. As I demonstrated above, the Companies' proposed definition is reasonable and
consistent with other Kentucky statutes, energy-sector definitions, and Commission
orders. What those authorities show is that most people in most contexts would not
define the term "industrial customer" to include big-box retailers even when excluding
NAICS codes from the definition, and there is no reason at all to believe the General
Assembly intended to include them.

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Indeed, the Commission order to which Walmart cites as expressing concern over using NAICS codes to define "industrial customer" indicates the Commission did not believe a revised "industrial customer" definition, even absent NAICS codes, would encompass Walmart:

Walmart filed testimony and a post-hearing brief. Its argument was that it should not be subject to the select NAICS codes, and that customers who reach a benchmark level of 15 million kWh per year should be able to elect whether or not to participate in the Companies' DSM-EE programs and not be assessed a monthly commercial DSM charge. The industrial optout is available only for industrial customers, not commercial customers, even if those commercial customers are energy intensive and have implemented energy-efficiency measures. We nonetheless believe that Walmart has raised a legitimate concern about how the Companies use the NAICS codes. 11

Therefore, whatever the Commission's concern was at that time concerning the use of NAICS codes, it seems clear the Commission did not believe resolving that concern would result in Walmart being included in the definition of "industrial customer."

¹¹ In the Matter of: Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company for Review, Modification, and Continuation of Existing, and Addition of New, Demand-Side Management and Energy-Efficiency Programs, Case No. 2014-00003, Order at 26 (Nov. 14, 2014) (emphasis added).

Q.	What is the Companies' concern with the definition of "industrial" Walmart ha	ιS
	proposed for DSM-EE opt-out purposes?	

The Companies' concern is that Walmart's proposed definition has nothing at all to do with a customer's being industrial, and that, by Walmart's own admission, it would be over-inclusive. Finally, the criteria Mr. Baker proposes for "industrial" are also part of his proposed definition of "energy intensive," rendering superfluous the term "industrial" as used in KRS 278.285(3).

Mr. Baker proposes to define "industrial customer" solely by the electric rate schedule under which a customer takes service (he does not discuss DSM-EE as it relates to gas service):

[R]ather than limiting the opt-out to only certain industrial rate schedules, Walmart believes that all of the Companies' largest "industrial" rate schedules (i.e., Rates RTS, FLS, TODP, and TODS) should qualify for the opt-out set forth in KRS 278.285(3). This broad definition would capture all of the Companies' industrial energy users, as well as all of their largest users in general. 12

As I noted previously, the Companies do not have industrial electric rate classes, which presumably is why Mr. Baker enclosed "industrial" in quotation marks when describing Rates RTS, FLS, TODP, and TODS as industrial. In reality, none of those rate classes is defined by the purpose for which the customer is taking service; rather, each is delimited by peak demand or other service characteristics. Echoing Mr. Baker, if the General Assembly had intended the DSM-EE opt-out to be available to high-demand or high-usage customers irrespective of the nature of the customer's business, it could

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¹² Baker at 11 (emphasis added).

have done so. Instead, the General Assembly used the term "industrial customer," which the Companies believe should be given its plain and ordinary meaning.

In addition, note that even Mr. Baker appears to have another definition of "industrial" in mind when propounding this rate-class-based definition: "This broad definition would capture all of the Companies' industrial energy users, as well as all of their largest users in general." In other words, Walmart's proposed definition of "industrial customer" would include all actual industrial customers as well as large non-industrial customers, including big-box retailers, convention centers, and schools. Therefore, by Mr. Baker's own admission his proposed definition is over-inclusive and reveals there is another working definition of "industrial" Mr. Baker has not articulated but clearly is using.

Lastly, Mr. Baker defines "energy-intensive" to be a customer with a minimum average monthly load factor of at least 60% (with no explanation or support for choosing 60%) and with a demand sufficient to take service under Rates TODS, TODP, FLS, or RTS.¹⁴ Though similar in certain respects to the Companies' definition of "energy-intensive," Mr. Baker's definition has the significant detriment of including the entirety of his definition of "industrial," rendering the term "industrial customer" entirely superfluous in KRS 278.285(3). Here, Mr. Baker's strained definition of "industrial" is swallowed up in his somewhat plausible definition of "energy-intensive," which, in addition to the other reasons I discussed above, shows his

¹³ *Id*.

¹⁴ Baker at 12. Walmart's response to the Commission Staff's DR No. 1 provides no additional meaningful support for a 60% load-factor requirement, noting only that it is somewhat higher than the average load factor for customers taking service under Rate TODS according to data the Companies provided in the record of their 2016 rate cases. Why 60% is less arbitrary than 55% or 75% is something Walmart does not address.

1		definition of "industrial" is faulty because it renders "industrial" superfluous in the
2		statutory text.
3 4 5		The Companies' Proposed Definition of "Energy-Intensive Processes" Is Well-Supported and Aligns with the Historical Energy Intensities of the Companies' Industrial Customers
6	Q.	Mr. Baker states that the Companies have not offered support for their definition
7		of "energy intensive." How do you respond?
8	A.	Mr. Baker is incorrect. The DSM Advisory Group materials attached to the testimony
9		of Gregory S. Lawson document the discussions among the Companies and the rest of
10		the group about how to define "energy-intensive"; Walmart representatives
11		participated in those discussions, so Walmart should be aware of the support the
12		Companies provided for their proposed definition. ¹⁶ Among the items noted in those
13		materials that support of the Companies' proposed definition are bullet points noting
14		the definition's advantages:
15		Rate determines intensity level
16		Aligns with tariffs designed for large energy needs
17		• Eliminates subjectivity ¹⁷
18		In addition, the materials include a slide showing a significant difference in peak
19		demand and energy usage between industrial customers taking service under rate
20		schedules with peak demands up to and including Rate TODS and those taking service
21		under Rate TODP or higher demands: 18

¹⁵ *Id.* at 9. ¹⁶ Lawson Exh. GSL-1. ¹⁷ Lawson Exh. GSL-1 at 124. ¹⁸ *Id.* at 119.

		Average of kW or kVA	Max of kW or kVA	Min of kW or kVA	Average of FC Annual kWh
	GS	178	888	49	372,094
Energy Intensive	PS Sec	234	1,939	51	882,869
	PS Pri	336	2,470	58	1,030,353
	TODS	707	2,645	52	3,587,564
	TODP	3,831	76,238	250	19,751,749
	RTS & FLS	15,487	192,168	250	71,071,776

Finally, there is an inherent plausibility in having "energy-intensive" defined in terms of demand for electricity or gas that is markedly higher than non-industrial customers. In standard English, "intensive" is defined as "of, relating to, or marked by intensity or intensification: such as ... highly concentrated," and "intensity" is defined as "the quality or state of being intense; especially: extreme degree of strength, force, energy, or feeling." It is therefore sensible to define an "energy-intensive process" as one that requires a large amount of energy over any given short time interval. Any energy-consuming process will consume a large amount of energy over long time periods; presumably the General Assembly used the modifier "energy-intensive" to distinguish processes that use large quantities of energy over short time-spans from those that do not, making peak demands (and rate classes based on peak demands) a reasonable ground for defining "energy-intensive" in the Companies' DSM-EE tariff provisions. Therefore, the Companies believe their definition of "energy-intensive" is well supported.

¹⁹ Taken from Merriam-Webster's online dictionary, available at https://www.merriam-webster.com/ (accessed Apr. 4, 2018).

Q. Do you have any concerns regarding Walmart's proposed definition of "energy intensive"?

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In addition to the concern I discussed earlier concerning the overlap between Walmart's definitions of "industrial" and "energy intensive," I have two other concerns. First, defining "energy intensive" in terms of a minimum monthly average load factor of at least 60% is not obviously sensible, particularly in the context of a statutory provision concerning "industrial customers with energy intensive processes." numerous low-load but high-load-factor processes, e.g., an LED light that is constantly lit, no one of which would reasonably be described as energy intensive, but a customer with enough such processes taking service through a single meter might take service under one of the rate schedules Walmart has proposed be included in the definition of "energy intensive." Typically a genuinely industrial customer would not have many processes of that kind, and certainly would not primarily or exclusively have processes of that kind, and such processes, even taken together, would not appreciably contribute to an industrial customer's peak load. Often, industrial customers have high peak loads and relatively low load factors due to the energy intensity of manufacturing or similar processes that demand high amounts of energy over relatively short timeframes. That is why the Companies' definition of "energy intensive" does not include a load-factor requirement.

Second, as I noted above, there is a significant difference between the peak load and energy use of industrial TODS customers and industrial TODP customers, whereas there is not nearly as dramatic a difference in peak load among TODS, Power Service, and even General Service industrial customers. Therefore, the Companies' definition

of "energy intensive" as including only those meters served under electric Rates TODP, FLS, and RTS appears more likely to include customers with genuinely energy-intensive processes than does Walmart's proposed definition.

Notably, Mr. Baker did not address LG&E's gas-related definition of "energy intensive." The Companies therefore assume Walmart does not object to it.

Mr. Baker further states, "Walmart recommends that the Commission grandfather all existing opt-out customers. Walmart would also not oppose a proposal that very large customers (e.g., above 5 MW) be able to opt-out regardless of load factor." How do you respond?

First, there are no "opt-out customers" today. The Companies do not currently offer DSM-EE programs to industrial customers, so Walmart's proposed grandfathering would grandfather no customers at all.

Second, Walmart cannot have it both ways: either load factor is a component of energy intensity or it is not. As I explain above, the Companies do not believe load factor is a sensible criterion to include in defining energy intensity. Plenty of energy-intensive industrial processes, such as arc furnaces, are exceedingly energy intensive in terms of peak demand but have relatively low load factors, yet it would not be credible to challenge the eligibility of an arc furnace for the industrial opt-out as the Kentucky General Assembly has formulated it. But the Companies respectfully suggest it makes no sense to define energy-intensive as sometimes having a load-factor requirement and sometimes not. The Companies therefore respectfully recommend that the Commission reject Walmart's position.

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²⁰ Baker at 12.

Walmart's Participation in the Companies' DSM-EE Programs Is Widespread and Would Prevent It from Opting Out

Q. Does Walmart's participation in the Companies' DSM-EE programs create any obstacles to Walmart's ability to opt out of the Companies' DSM-EE charges?

Yes. Mr. Baker does not address the opt-out criteria the Companies proposed to help ensure other customer classes do not subsidize an opting-out customer's energy-efficiency measures. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume Walmart does not object to those criteria.

But those criteria might create an obstacle to Walmart's ability to opt out of the Companies' DSM-EE charges. As Mr. Baker discusses in his testimony, Walmart participates in the Companies' DSM-EE programs at 35 locations in the Companies' service territories. The Companies' opt-out proposal would preclude any meter from being opted out that had participated in a DSM-EE program within the previous 36 full billing cycles. Therefore, at least with respect to those 35 locations, and possibly others that previously participated in DSM-EE programs, Walmart might not be able to opt out otherwise qualifying meters for a period of time (if the Commission approves the Companies' opt-out proposal in that regard) even if the Commission ultimately defines the industrial opt-out criteria to include Walmart.

²¹ Baker at 5.

²² See Lovekamp Direct Exhibits REL-8 and REL-9.

Walmart's "Self-Direct" Proposal Is Effectively a Commercial Opt-Out and Is Contrary to Statute

Q. Mr. Baker proposes a self-direct program as an alternative to including Walmart in the industrial opt-out.²³ Could the Commission approve such a program in this proceeding?

No, the Commission could not approve such a program in this proceeding for several reasons. First, the "program" as Mr. Baker describes it would essentially be an opt-out for commercial customers, which would be contrary to the clear statutory directive of KRS 278.285(3) that customer classes benefitting from DSM-EE programs should pay the costs of the programs: "The commission shall assign the cost of demand-side management programs only to the class or classes of customers which benefit from the programs." As Mr. Baker testifies, Walmart benefits from the Companies' DSM-EE programs for commercial customers not merely as a potential participant, but very much as an active participant. Therefore, it would be contrary to statute for Walmart to effectively opt out of the Companies' DSM-EE charges and programs for commercial customers.

Second, KRS 278.285 provides that the Commission may consider and approve only those programs proposed by the applying utility. More specifically, KRS 278.285(1) limits the Commission's authority in this proceeding to reviewing for reasonableness the proposals made by the Companies: "The commission may determine the reasonableness of demand-side management plans *proposed by any utility under its jurisdiction.*" This limit on the Commission's authority means the

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²³ Baker at 16-18.

²⁴ Emphasis added.

Commission may not require the Companies to extend, expand, or even offer DSM-EE programs; the Commission must focus only on the proposal before it. ²⁵ Certainly the Commission may approve all, part, or none of a utility's DSM-EE proposal, and it may propose alternative programming for a utility to consider and accept, as the Commission did regarding LG&E's Home Energy Assistance proposal in Case No. 2001-00323. ²⁶ Thus, the Commission may approve or deny in whole or in part the Companies' Application, but may not grant Walmart's request by requiring the Companies to offer a "self-direct" program for commercial customers.

9 Q. Do you have any other concerns regarding Walmart's proposed "self-direct"10 approach?

Yes. Mr. Baker proposes a benchmark level of 15 million kWh per year aggregated across all sites in the particular utility territory as a criterion for participating in Walmart's proposed "self-direct" opt-out for commercial customers. 807 KAR 5:041 §9(2) states, "The utility shall regard each point of delivery as an independent customer and meter the power delivered at each point. Combined meter readings shall not be taken at separate points, nor shall energy used by more than one (1) residence or place

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²⁵ In 2009, SB 51 was introduced to expressly permit the Commission to order a utility to file a DSM plan. (*See* http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/09RS/SB51.htm, last visited Sept. 29, 2014). The General Assembly's refusal to enact this legislation is evidence of legislative intent to limit the Commission's authority to review DSM plans, not require them.

²⁶ In the Matter of: Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company, Metro Human Needs Alliance, People Organized and Working for Energy Reform, Kentucky Association for Community Action, and Jefferson County Government for the Establishment of a Home Energy Assistance Program, Case No. 2001-00323, Order (Jan. 29, 2002); Case No. 2001-00323, Order (Dec. 27, 2001). In that case, the Commission rejected LG&E's HEA proposal as not conforming to the requirements of KRS 278.285 and made another HEA proposal for LG&E to consider: "Accordingly, based on the evidence of record, the Commission will approve a modified HEA program, subject to acceptance by LG&E" Case No. 2001-00323, Order at 21 (Dec. 27, 2001). LG&E then filed a petition for rehearing that largely rejected the Commission's proposal and made a revised HEA proposal. Case No. 2001-00323, Order at 1-2 (Jan. 29, 2002). And it was LG&E's proposal on rehearing that the Commission approved; the Commission did not claim to exercise authority to impose upon LG&E the Commission's own HEA proposal, although the Commission did impose certain reporting and administrative requirements as a condition of approval. *Id.* at 2-3.

of business on one (1) meter be measured to obtain a lower rate." The proposal by Mr. Baker ignores this regulatory restriction and traditional rate-making principles by proposing to aggregate usage across customer sites, all in the service of a "self-direct" commercial opt-out that is contrary to statute irrespective of the criteria Walmart proposes.

Finally, the proposed "self-direct" program lacks some crucial characteristics that would distinguish it from a commercial opt-out. First, Walmart appears to be proposing to cease paying DSM-EE charges entirely: "The Commission should allow any non-residential customer who has electric usage above a benchmark level for all of its sites aggregated under one of the Companies to elect to not participate in KU's or LG&E's DSM program if it commits to achieve its own DSM/EE savings."27 According to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, the entity to which Walmart directed the Commission Staff in Walmart's response concerning selfdirect programs, ²⁸ genuine self-direct programs typically involve the continuing payment of DSM-EE charges with an opportunity for qualifying customers to obtain funds or credits for efficiency investments or results, while at least some of the funds remain with the utility to fund program administration and to support DSM-EE programs for other customers.²⁹ In addition, genuine self-direct programs tend to have more rigorous measurement and verification requirements than Walmart's proposed affidavit approach,³⁰ though Walmart says it is willing to entertain a reporting

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²⁷ Baker at 16.

²⁸ Walmart Response to Commission Staff DR No. 3 (Apr. 19, 2018).

²⁹ See American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, "Self-Direct Programs for Large Energy Users," available at http://aceee.org/sector/state-policy/toolkit/industrial-self-direct (accessed April 12, 2018).

³⁰ *Id.* ("[G]ood self-direct programs typically require customers to make their own cost-effective energy efficiency investments, and program administrators measure and verify energy efficiency savings.").

requirement if reports are required no more often than triennially.³¹ Therefore, Walmart's proposed "self-direct" program really is more of a commercial opt-out than a genuine self-direct program, and should be rejected under KRS 278.285(3) as an impermissible commercial opt-out and because the Companies have not proposed it.

Q. Based on the criteria you discuss above concerning genuine self-direct programs, do the Companies already offer a program that is similar to, and arguably superior to, self-direct programs?

Yes. The Companies' Nonresidential Rebates Program resembles a self-direct program in at least two important respects, and it arguably has the potential to provide greater benefits to participants. First, customers can choose among a prescribed list of preapproved energy-saving measures to implement, or they can seek incentives for any energy-efficiency project, subject to preapproval by the Companies and verification of expected energy savings, much like typical self-direct programs. Second, the maximum annual incentive per customer facility is \$50,000, which could easily exceed the DSM-EE charges paid related to that facility, making the Companies' program better than typical self-direct programs for some participants. Therefore, adding a genuine self-direct program to the Companies' DSM-EE portfolio is unnecessary because the Companies already have a tried, tested, and successful program of that type, namely the Nonresidential Rebates Program. What the Companies do not have, do not need, and indeed cannot have under Kentucky law is the "self-direct" program Walmart has proposed, which is largely indistinguishable from a commercial opt-out.

³¹ Baker at 17.

Conclusion and Recommendation

2 Q. Do you have any concluding remarks?

A. Yes. To reiterate an important point I made at the beginning of my testimony, the Companies appreciate and applaud the energy-conserving efforts Walmart has made across the Companies' service territories. Walmart is indisputably a leader in this area.

But the Companies do not believe that Walmart's admittedly large retail operations make it an industrial customer in any sense that is consistent with the established meaning of "industrial" as used in Kentucky statutes, the energy sector, and by the Commission in its orders, precluding Walmart from availing itself of an industrial opt-out. And KRS 278.285(3) simply does not permit non-industrial opt-outs, requiring the members of each rate class to pay the costs of Commission-approved programs available to that class. Therefore, the Commission must deny all of Walmart's requested relief in this proceeding.

14 Q. What do you recommend to the Commission?

A. I continue to recommend that the Commission approve the Proposed DSM-EE Program Plan as filed. The Companies have engaged in rigorous DSM-EE analysis and planning to ensure programs are consistent with regulatory requirements, encourage customer participation, and provide opportunities for customers to equitably contribute to and benefit from the Companies' DSM-EE offerings.

O. Does this conclude your testimony?

21 A. Yes.

VERIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)	SS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)	

The undersigned, **Rick E. Lovekamp**, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is Manager Regulatory Strategy/Policy for Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company, an employee of LG&E and KU Services Company, and that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony, and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

Rick E. Lovekamp

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and

State, this April 2018.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
JUDY SCHOOLER
Notary Public, State at Large, KY
My commission expires July 11, 2018

Notary ID # 512743

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC JOINT APPLICATION OF)
LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC)
COMPANY AND KENTUCKY UTILITIES)
COMPANY FOR REVIEW, MODIFICATION,) CASE NO. 2017-00441
AND CONTINUATION OF CERTAIN)
EXISTING DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT)
AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS)

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF GREGORY S. LAWSON MANAGER, ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT LG&E KU SERVICES COMPANY

Filed: April 24, 2018

- Q. Please state your name, position and business address.
- 2 A. My name is Gregory S. Lawson. I am the Manager, Energy Efficiency Planning &
- 3 Development, for LG&E KU Services Company, which provides services to Louisville
- Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E") and Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU")
- 5 (collectively "Companies"). My business address is 220 West Main Street, Louisville,
- 6 Kentucky.

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7 Q. What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?

- 8 A. The purpose of my rebuttal testimony is to address the testimony of Cathy Hinko on
- 9 behalf of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition ("MHC"). In particular, I explain that
- the Companies' proposed demand-side management and energy-efficiency ("DSM-
- 11 EE") portfolio should be highly appealing to the interests represented by Ms. Hinko
- based on her expressed concerns about the collection of DSM-EE funds versus where
- program funding ultimately is spent. Also, I note that increasing the Companies' DSM-
- 14 EE programs in terms of funding or kind would likely exacerbate the very concerns
- Ms. Hinko expresses. Finally, I explain why it is impermissible to include externalities
- in DSM-EE cost-benefit analyses.
- 17 Q. Did the Companies consider low-income concerns when formulating their
- 18 **proposed DSM-EE Program Plan?**
- 19 A. Absolutely. The Companies have extensive experience in serving low- and fixed-
- income customers, and have made significant and ongoing efforts to understand and
- 21 address the issues such customers face. Among those efforts is including low-income
- representatives, including MHC, in the Companies' DSM-EE Advisory Group. The
- Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan shows the Companies' continuing

commitment to deploying the WeCare program in cost-effective ways to help low-income customers become more energy-efficient; indeed, as I discuss further below, WeCare is the largest program in the proposed DSM-EE Program Plan by a wide margin. Therefore, although the Companies have a number of concerns with Ms. Hinko's testimony, which I address below, we remain firmly committed to working together with MHC and other low-income advocates whenever reasonably possible to be of assistance to low- and fixed-income customers.

Ms. Hinko expresses concern that low- and fixed-income customers have difficulties paying their energy bills.¹ Will the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan tend to decrease bills for customers generally, including low- and fixed-income customers?

Yes. One of the benefits of the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan is that it requires significantly less revenue than the Companies' current DSM-EE portfolio, which means the Companies are proposing to collect less from customers through DSM-EE charges. To be clear, the Companies' current and previous Commission-approved DSM-EE portfolios are and were cost-effective and reasonable. But load conditions have changed significantly in recent years, requiring major changes to the Companies' DSM-EE programs going forward to ensure they continue to provide benefits that exceed their costs. As a result, the DSM-EE Program Plan presented in this proceeding is markedly smaller and has a lower revenue requirement than the Companies have requested in over a decade. One consequence of a small portfolio and revenue requirement is that all residential customers will enjoy a reduced DSM-EE rate

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¹ See Hinko at 4-6.

on their bills. This DSM-EE rate reduction should be particularly helpful to customers with low or fixed incomes, and should therefore be welcome news to MHC.

Ms. Hinko states, "Demand Side Management is one way of making sure that families, the elderly and disabled and low-wage workers can be stable by controlling cost." How will the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan help the customers about whom Ms. Hinko is concerned?

In addition to reducing their DSM-EE rate, the proposed DSM-EE Program Plan revises the Companies' DSM-EE portfolio so that the WeCare program, which targets low-income customers, moves from being one of the largest programs in the portfolio to being the largest single program in the residential portfolio by a wide margin. Indeed, WeCare's budget is well more than double than the next-largest residential DSM-EE program for all plan years except 2019, when it is nearly double.³ In addition, the Companies are requesting in this proceeding to increase the maximum income requirement of the WeCare program so that it matches that of the Weatherization Assistance Program, which is 200% of the federal poverty level. This will allow more low-income customers to participate in the program. The Companies have also proposed to allow master-metered multifamily buildings to qualify for WeCare program services, broadening the scope of low-income customers who can receive benefits from WeCare. The Companies have proposed these changes as a result of working with, and receiving input from, low-income groups about how to better serve these customers. Therefore, the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan aligns

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² *Id.* at 6.

³ See Lawson Direct at 20.

1	well with MHC's expressed interest in having DSM-EE programming help "elderly
2	and disabled and low-wage workers be stable by controlling cost."

Ms. Hinko testifies that low-income areas have larger proportions of older housing stock, are segregated by race, and have higher percentages of single-parent households.⁴ She further states, "Investing in these areas to bring down cost is imperative." How do you respond?

The Companies agree that the challenges faced by their low- and fixed-income customers are real and significant, and believe that their proposed residential DSM-EE portfolio, with its heavy emphasis on WeCare, is particularly targeted toward helping reduce energy costs for those most in need.

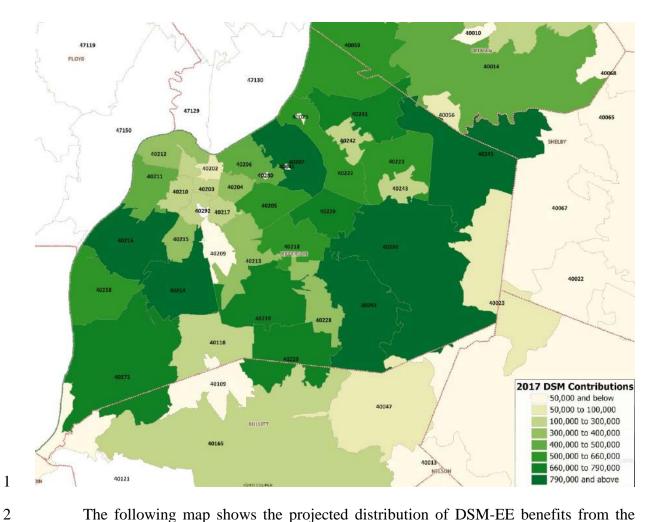
But the Companies want to be exceedingly clear that they do not discriminate in rates or service among customers based on race, sex, national origin, ethnicity, marriage status, age, or any other non-utility-service-related characteristic. Such discrimination would be prohibited by KRS 278.030(3) and KRS 278.170(1).

Indeed, the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan, due to its heavy emphasis on WeCare, has a residential revenue collection versus benefit distribution pattern in Jefferson County that would appear favorable from MHC's perspective. The map below shows the DSM-EE residential revenues LG&E collected in Jefferson County and some surrounding areas during calendar year 2017, which should be roughly representative of the relative concentrations of revenue collections across the proposed DSM-EE Program Plan period (2019-2025):

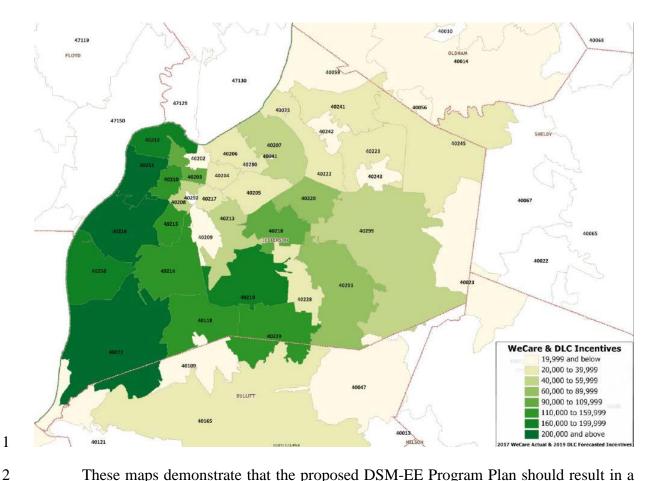
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⁴ See Hinko at 6-10.

⁵ *Id*. at 7.



The following map shows the projected distribution of DSM-EE benefits from the WeCare and Residential and Small Nonresidential Demand Conservation Programs for 2019 (using actual 2017 WeCare data and projected 2019 demand conservation data):



These maps demonstrate that the proposed DSM-EE Program Plan should result in a geographic distribution of residential revenues collected versus benefits distributed that aligns with MHC's argument. Notably, these distributions are not guided by the Companies, but solely by customer consumption and program participation patterns, as has always been true of the Companies' DSM-EE programs.

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Q. Have the Companies sought to inform all customers, including low- and fixed-income customers, about the Companies' DSM-EE program offerings?

Yes. The Companies' advertising and customer education efforts have extended across all geographies in their service territories and used multiple advertising and education media to attempt to reach all customers. Those efforts have included direct mail campaigns, city bus and bus shelter advertisements, billboards, newspaper, television

and radio advertisements, and other efforts designed to reach customers of all kinds across the Companies' entire service territory. The Companies have made special efforts to reach out to and include low-income customers in their programs, including working with low-income groups to aid in enrolling such customers and inviting MHC and other low-income advocates to participate in the Companies' DSM-EE Advisory Group. In addition, the Companies made special customer outreach and education efforts through the WeCare program that included holding or attending almost 200 events in calendar year 2017 that resulted in 1,200 WeCare enrollments. In short, the Companies have made significant efforts to ensure all customers, including low-income customers, are aware of the Companies' DSM-EE programs.

Ms. Hinko criticizes the Companies for not providing gas data in its response to Question No. 9 of MHC's Second Set of Data Requests and "posits that areas of high poverty and racial segregation (and for which we have zoning maps showing the square footage to be considerably less per residence than in affluent areas that are 98% white) and where gas heat predominates, are the areas disproportionately in need of programs lowering energy usage." How do you respond?

Not providing gas data in response to MHC's request was an oversight that first came to the Companies' attention through Ms. Hinko's testimony; it was not an intentional withholding of information. The Companies filed on April 9, 2018, a supplemental response to MHC's request containing gas data responsive to MHC's request, presented by zip code and over the same time period as the electric data the Companies previously

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⁶ Hinko at 11.

provided.⁷ The data does not obviously support MHC's hypothesis. First, it is important to observe from Ms. Hinko's data that gas heat predominates across the entirety of LG&E's Jefferson County service territory.⁸ Second, looking again to the Companies' data on gas usage, certainly it is true that some of the highest percentage reductions in usage between 2011 and 2017 occurred in wealthier zip codes, e.g., 40025 and 40027. But most zip codes across Jefferson County were very close to the countywide average decrease of 19%. Indeed, the three zip codes Ms. Hinko identified in her testimony as not being in wealthier parts of Jefferson County, namely 40210, 40211, and 40212, all had above-average gas-usage decreases from 2011 to 2017 of 21%, 21%, and 20%, respectively.

That being said, the Companies do not doubt that low- and fixed-income customers could benefit from DSM-EE programs targeted to their needs. As I said above, WeCare is the program aimed at such needs, and the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan is heavily weighted toward WeCare. Presumably, therefore, MHC should support the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan.

- Ms. Hinko argues that the Commission should "[m]oderniz[e] the [DSM-EE] cost/benefit analysis to include externalities," in part because "[u]tilities costs have skyrocketed," making "DSM programs ... essential." Do you agree with Ms. Hinko's assertions?
- 20 A. The Companies agree that cost-effective DSM-EE programs are important to help customers contain their utility costs. But I do not agree that utility costs have

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⁷ Supplemental Response of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company to Metropolitan Housing Coalition's Second Set of Data Requests dated February 21, 2018 (Apr. 9, 2018).

⁸ *See* Hinko at 11 (Map 15).

⁹ Hinko at 12.

skyrocketed, at least with respect to the LG&E data Ms. Hinko presents. The "15-year cost comparison" tables presented at the top of page 12 of Ms. Hinko's testimony show that a combined LG&E electric and gas customer with the usage levels shown (1,000 kWh and 70 Ccf) would have had a bill of \$209.71 in August 2008 based on the charges shown. The same usage levels applied to the same charges LG&E billed for usage in the month of February 2018 would have resulted in a total bill of \$194.46. In other words, without adjusting for inflation, the combined electric and gas bill in August 2008 was higher in nominal dollar terms than the bill for the same amount of consumption in February 2018 by more than \$15.00. Adjusting for inflation, the August 2008 bill expressed in February 2018 dollars would be \$238.34, more than \$40 higher than the actual February 2018 bill would have been for that level of electric and gas usage. Decreased charges for the same consumption in both real and nominal terms across almost ten years do not constitute "skyrocketing" utility bills.

Even if August 1998 were deemed to be the appropriate date for comparison, the inflation-adjusted bill for the same usage would have come to \$161.62 in February 2018 dollars, meaning a roughly 1% real annual increase in cost between August 1998 and February 2018. If January 2013 were deemed to be the appropriate date for comparison, the inflation-adjusted bill for the same usage would have come to \$173.56 in February 2018 dollars, meaning a roughly 2.3% real annual increase in cost between January 2013 and February 2018. Though the increases using these points of comparison are real, they cannot reasonably be described by any objective measure as "skyrocketing."

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¹⁰ All inflation calculations were conducted using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI Inflation Calculator available at https://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl (accessed April 3, 2018).

More importantly, they do not provide any basis for the Commission to exceed its legal bounds by including externalities in DSM-EE cost-benefit calculations. The Commission has previously recognized that its jurisdiction extends only to the rates and service of utilities, ¹¹ and in the Companies' 2014 DSM-EE proceeding declined to take into account so-called non-energy benefits. ¹²

Finally, as I discussed above, the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan will reduce, not increase, DSM-EE rates. If MHC is concerned about "skyrocketing" utility bills, it would seem consistent to applaud decreasing DSM-EE rates, not to seek to include externalities in cost-benefit analyses, which presumably would result in increased DSM-EE programs, costs, and rates without commensurate utility rate or service benefits.

- Q. Do you agree with MHC's arguments in favor of including externalities in DSM-EE cost-benefit analyses based on actions taken by Metro-Louisville?
- A. No. None of what Ms. Hinko testifies about concerning Louisville's hiring of a Chief Resilience Officer or forming a Department of Sustainability alters this Commission's jurisdiction. Whatever the merits of Urban Heat Island Project and its reports and conclusions, or those of the Louisville Metro Department of Health and Wellness concerning health equity, they do not affect the Companies' cost to provide service,

¹¹ In the Matter of: Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company for an Adjustment of Its Electric and Gas Rates, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, Approval of Ownership of Gas Service Lines and Risers, and a Gas Line Surcharge, Case No. 2012-00222, Order at 4 (Oct. 17, 2012) (quoting Enviro Power, LLC v. Public Service Commission of Kentucky, 2007 WL 289328 at 3 (Ky. App. 2007) (not to be published) ("'[R]ates' or 'service' ... are the only two subjects under the jurisdiction of the PSC.")).

¹² In the Matter of: Joint Application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company for Review, Modification, and Continuation of Existing, and Addition of New, Demand-Side Management and Energy-Efficiency Programs, Case No. 2014-00003, Order at 26 (Nov. 14, 2014) ¹³ See Hinko at 13.

and therefore are not jurisdictional to the Commission and cannot be included in DSM-EE cost-benefit analyses.

In addition, Ms. Hinko does not specify which externalities she believes the Commission should require the Companies and other utilities to include in their DSM-EE cost-benefit analyses, or how such externalities should be included. She also does not address whether increasing DSM-EE charges would have externality-costs that might exceed externality-benefits; presumably both kinds of externalities would need to be included to avoid having misleading and inaccurate cost-benefit studies. Therefore, MHC has not presented a developed proposal upon which the Commission could act, which is another reason for the Commission to refuse to do so.

Ms. Hinko cites to two maps attached to her testimony concerning cancer and asthma in Jefferson County analyzed by race and sex, and asserts, "Failing to include externalities has a disproportionately negative impact on people in fair housing and public accommodation protected categories and m[a]y transgress federal law using the analysis of ... [a] 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision"

Do you agree?

No. Yet again, the effect of the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan, as shown in the maps I provided above, will be to direct the lion's share of residential DSM-EE benefits to the areas Ms. Hinko believes most need them, including the areas shown in her maps related to asthma and cancer. Moreover, this will occur without any accounting for the externalities Ms. Hinko supports but has not described, which would appear to eliminate any concern about possible transgressions of federal law to which

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¹⁴ Hinko at 14.

Ms. Hinko alludes. Therefore, MHC should support the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan.

This point applies with equal force in response to Ms. Hinko's assertions that MHC desires to see DSM-EE funds used geographically in proportion to the areas from which DSM-EE funds are collected, and that "MHC believes that an assessment should be done to determine the amount of money coming from low-income neighborhoods in DSM charges with a concomitant study on where the DSM money is spent." The analysis Ms. Hinko requests is provided in the maps in my testimony above, and what it shows would appear to be favorable from MHC's perspective.

- Q. Ms. Hinko states, "The new program that allows people to track usage on their computer seems to ignore the technology gap in low income households." To which "new program" is Ms. Hinko referring?
- A. I assume Ms. Hinko is referring to the Companies' AMS Customer Offering, which the Companies proposed and the Commission approved in Case No. 2014-00003, a case in which MHC intervened and Ms. Hinko testified. Although it is true the AMS offering has not been as well subscribed in the areas of Ms. Hinko's concern, about 1/5 of the residential AMS meters deployed to date in Jefferson County have been installed in zip codes with higher concentrations of low-income customers. Therefore, the customers about whom MHC are concerned have participated in the offering to an appreciable extent.
- Q. Ms. Hinko then states, "That new program [presumably the AMS Customer Offering], combined with rebates for appliances beyond the financial capability

¹⁵ Hinko at 15.

¹⁶ *Id*.

of low-income people and not used by landlords of lower-rent areas, may result in

2 inequity."¹⁷ Are the Companies offering an appliance-rebate program as part of

3 their proposed DSM-EE Program Plan?

4 A. No. It is not clear why Ms. Hinko addresses a program not included in the Companies'

5 proposed DSM-EE Program Plan.

6 Q. Ms. Hinko concludes her testimony by arguing, "Other programs should be

7 considered as well." 18 Did the Companies consider other DSM-EE programs or

measures before filing their proposed DSM-EE Program Plan?

9 A. Yes. As I described in my direct testimony and as shown in the DSM Program Review

attached to my direct testimony as Exhibit GSL-2, the Companies and their vendor,

11 Cadmus, reviewed and evaluated numerous possible DSM-EE programs and measures.

Ultimately, the only programs and offerings that were cost-effective were included in

the Companies' proposed DSM-EE Program Plan.

14 Q. What do you recommend to the Commission?

15 A. I continue to recommend that the Commission approve the proposed DSM-EE Program

Plan as filed. The Companies' Proposed DSM-EE Program Plan will achieve cost-

17 effective demand and energy savings and is the product of thorough analysis, cost-

benefit testing, and collaboration with the DSM-EE Advisory Group, of which MHC

is a member and participant.

20 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

21 A. Yes.

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¹⁷ *Id*.

¹⁸ *Id.* at 15.

VERIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)	SS:
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON)	

The undersigned, Gregory S. Lawson, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is Manager Energy Efficiency Planning and Development for Louisville Gas and Electric Company and Kentucky Utilities Company, an employee of LG&E and KU Services Company, and that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony, and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge and belief.

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