COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In The Matter of:

THE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY, INC., FOR AUTHORITY TO 1) ADJUST NATURAL GAS RATES 2) APPROVAL OF A DECOUPLING MECHANISM 3) APPROVAL OF NEW TARIFFS; 4) ALL OTHER REQUIRED APPROVALS, WAIVERS, AND RELIEF

Case No. 2018-00261

MOTION FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY, INC. FOR CERTAIN RESPONSES TO COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Comes now Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. (Duke Energy Kentucky or Company), by counsel, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13 and other law, and respectfully requests the Commission to classify and protect certain information provided by the Company in its Responses to Commission Staff's First Request for Information issued on August 24, 2018, respectfully stating as follows:

1. On August 1, 2018 Duke Energy Kentucky filed a Notice of Intent to File an Application seeking adjustment of its gas rates and other approvals.

2. On August 31, 2018 Duke Energy Kentucky filed an Application seeking an adjustment of its natural gas rates and other approvals.

 On August 24, 2018 Commission Staff issued its First Request for Information to Duke Energy Kentucky.

1

4. In response to Commission Staff's First Request for Information, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing certain information for which it requests confidential treatment.

5. The information for which Duke Energy Kentucky seeks confidential treatment is contained in its Responses to Requests 8, 48a. (9), 50, 51, 53, 65, 67, 68, and 69, which is referred to herein as the "Confidential Information" and, broadly speaking, includes detailed information pertaining to the internal policies and procedures, personal compensation information of Duke Energy Kentucky employees, contracts with outside vendors and other information.

6. Request No. 8 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as follows:

Provide Duke Kentucky's internal accounting manuals, directives, and policies and procedures.

7. In its response to Request No. 8, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing copies of its internal accounting policies and procedures.

8. Request No. 48a. (9) of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as follows:

Provide the following tax data for the most recent calendar year:

a. Income taxes:

(9) A copy of federal and state income tax returns for the most recent tax year, including supporting schedules.

9. In its response to Request No. 48a. (9), Duke Energy Kentucky is providing copies of both its state and federal tax returns. This information is highly confidential and proprietary to the Company, and includes its Federal Tax Identification information. This information is historically considered confidential by the Commission.

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10. Request No. 50 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as

follows:

Provide the utility's written policies on the compensation of outside attorneys, auditors, consultants, and all other professional service providers. Include a schedule of fees, per diems, and other compensation in effect during the base period. Include all agreements, contracts, memoranda of understanding, and any other documentation that explains the nature and type of reimbursement paid for professional services. Indicate if any changes have occurred since the test year of the utility's last base rate case, the effective date of these changes, and the reason for these changes.

11. In response to Request No. 50, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing copies of contracts with outside vendors, internal policies and procedures as well as templates. This information is considered highly confidential by the Company and contains, among other things, the standard terms and conditions for services, and actual negotiated terms and compensation for services that the Company either insists of or negotiates with its vendors, which, if made publicly available would place the Company at a competitive disadvantage as it negotiates contracts in the future. The numerous contracts provided in this response include specific projects and scopes of work and the vendor pricing for providing these services. If this information was made publicly available, it would also place these vendors at a competitive disadvantage as they bid on and negotiate future work as their competitors would have insight into pricing for services that they otherwise would not have access too.

12. Request No. 51 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as follows:

Provide a detailed analysis of expenses for professional services during the most recent 12-month period for which information is available at the time the application is filed, as shown in Scbedule 51, and all work papers supporting the analysis. At a minimum, the work papers should show the payee, dollar amount, reference (i.e., voucher no., etc.), account charged,

hourly rates and time charged to the company according to each invoice, and a description of the services provided.

13. In its response to Request 51, Duke Energy Kentucky is filing sensitive vendor

information.

14. Request No. 53 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as

follows:

Regarding Duke Kentucky's employee compensation policy:

- a. Provide Duke Kentucky's written compensation policy as approved by the Board of Directors.
- b. Provide a narrative description of the compensation policy, including the reasons for establishing the policy and Duke Kentucky's objectives for the policy.
- c. Explain whether the compensation policy was developed with the assistance of an outside consultant. If the compensation policy was developed or reviewed by a consultant, provide any study or report provided hy the consultant.
- d. Explain when Duke Kentucky's compensation policy was last reviewed or given consideration by the Board of Directors.
- 15. In its response to Request No. 53, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing a copy of

its internal presentation made to its Compensation Committee.

16. Request No. 65 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as

follows:

Provide the information requested in Schedule 65 for yearly salary and benefit information for each corporate officer and as a group in total by category of Directors, Managers, Supervisors, Exempt, Non-Exempt, Union, and Non-Union Hourly for the years 2013 through 2016 and the base period (in gross dollars-not hourly or monthly rates). Commission Staff will provide Schedule 65 in Excel format by electronic mail to Counsel for all parties.

- a. Regular salary or pay.
- b. Overtime pay.
- c. Excess vacation payout.
- d. Standby/Dispatch pay.
- e. Bonus and incentive pay.

- f. Any other forms of incentives (may include stock options or forms of deferred compensation).
- g. Other amounts paid and reported on the employees' W-2 (specify).
- h. Healthcare benefit cost for employees.

(1) Amount paid by the employer.

(2) Amount paid by the employee.

i. Dental benefits cost for employees. (1) Amount paid by the employer.

(2) Amount paid by the employee.

- j. Vision benefits cost for employees.
 - (1) Amount paid by the employer.
 - (2) Amount paid by the employee.
- k. Life insurance cost for employees.
 - (1) Amount paid by the employer.
 - (2) Amount paid by the employee.
- 1. Accidental death and disability benefits.
 - (1) Amount paid by the employer.
 - (2) Amount paid by the employee.
- m. Defined Contribution 401 (k) or similar plan cost for employees. Provide the amount paid by the employer.
- n. Defined Benefit Retirement cost for employees.
 (1) Amount paid by the employer.
 (2) Amount paid by the employee.
- o. Cost of any other benefit available to an employee (specify).

17. In its response to Request No. 65, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing sensitive compensation and benefit information for its employees. This information is considered highly confidential as its current employees and potential employees consider the value of its compensation information as part of their employment status decision. Duke Energy Kentucky and Duke Energy Corp compete for employees among a robust pool of employers, including other regional utilities. The level of benefits provided by the companies is instrumental in recruiting and retaining highly qualified employees. If competitors had ready access to this information, they could use it to place Duke Energy Corp and Duke Energy Kentucky at a disadvantage in recruiting and retaining employees.

18. Request No. 67 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as

follows:

Provide a listing of all health care plan categories, dental plan categories, and vision plan categories available to corporate officers individually, and to groups defined as Directors, Managers, Supervisors, Exempt, Non-Exempt, Union, and Non-Union Hourly employees (i.e., single, married no dependents, single parent with dependents, family, etc.) Include the associated employee contribution rates and employer contribution rates of the total premium cost for each category and each plan's deductible(s) amount.

19. In its response to Request No. 67, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing sensitive

benefit information for its employees.

20. Request No. 68 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as

follows:

Provide a listing of all life insurance plan categories available to corporate officers individually, and to groups defined as Directors, Managers, Supervisors, Exempt, Non-Exempt, Union, and Non-Union Hourly employees. Include the associated employee contribution rates and employer contribution rates of the total premium cost for each plan category.

21. In its response to Request No. 68, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing sensitive

benefit information for its employees.

22. Request No. 69 of Commission Staff's First Request for Information states as

follows:

Provide a listing of all retirement plans categories available to corporate officers individually, and to groups defined as Directors, Managers, Supervisors, Exempt, Non-Exempt, Union, and Non-Union Hourly employees. Include the associated employee contribution rates and employer contribution rates of the total premium cost for each plan category.

23. In its response to Request No. 69, Duke Energy Kentucky is providing sensitive benefit information for its employees.

24. Contemporaneous with the filing of this Motion, Duke Energy Kentucky is tendering documentation responsive to Commission Staff's Request Nos. 8, 48a. (9), 50, 51, 53, 65, 67, 68, and 69. The Confidential Information provided is proprietary information that is retained by Duke Energy Kentucky on a "need-to-know" basis. The Confidential Information is distributed within Duke Energy Kentucky only to the Chief Executive Officer, Senior Management and the Board, who must have access for business reasons, and it is generally recognized as confidential and proprietary in the energy industry and in business generally. Specifically, the Confidential Information contains internal accounting policies, compensation and benefit information for Duke Energy Kentucky employees along with surveys and studies provided by third party vendors under agreements for use and is used by Duke Energy Kentucky to determine compensation and benefit offerings, internal presentations regarding compensation and benefit offerings, and invoices from third party vendors. The Company's internal accounting procedures are considered proprietary and trade secret information as they contain sensitive business operations procedures, which if made available, would potentially harm Duke Energy and Duke Energy Kentucky. If released publicly, Competitors would have insight into the internal operations of Duke Energy Corp., which they could then use and incorporate into their own business strategies, to the detriment of Duke Energy and its customers. Duke Energy's procedures were developed over years of operation and its internal processes, procedures, and they should not be made public. Similarly, the information obtained from third party vendors was provided in accordance with licensing agreements or other contracts that should be protected. This information has value to these vendors and if publicly released would place Duke Energy Kentucky at a disadvantage in being able to procure such services in the future. Vendors may be unwilling to provide such services to Duke Energy Kentucky at the same or lower costs if it is

known that such costs would be made public. Releasing such vendor information will hinder their ability to provide similar services as their costs to Duke Energy Kentucky would be used against them in other negotiations. For these reasons, this information should also remain confidential.

25. The Kentucky Open Records Act and applicable precedent exempts the Confidential Information from disclosure. See KRS 61.878(1)(a); KRS 61.878(1)(c)(1); Zink v. Department of Workers Claims, Labor Cabinet, 902 S.W.2d 825 (Ky. App. 1994); Hoy v. Kentucky Industrial Revitalization Authority, 907 S.W.2d 766, 768 (Ky. 1995). The Confidential Information includes information regarding benefit amounts for Duke Energy Kentucky employees. Benefit information is personal and private information and should not be in the public realm. Furthermore, the surveys, studies and presentations used by Duke Energy Kentucky to determine compensation and benefit offerings are highly confidential and subject to proprietary protection of third party vendors. The Commission has previously granted confidential protection to these types of surveys, studies, etc.¹ Additionally, public disclosure of these sensitive documents would unnecessarily provide interested parties and Duke Energy Kentucky's competitors with access to exclusive information regarding employee compensation. By knowing what Duke Energy Kentucky compensates each of its employees, it would be very easy for other utilities to attempt to poach Duke Energy Kentucky's workforce and management. Such public disclosure could unfairly harm Duke Energy Kentucky's competitive position in the marketplace for utility management and a skilled workforce, to the detriment of Duke Energy

¹ In the Matter of the Application of Water Service Corporation of Kentucky for a General Adjustment of Rates, Order, Case No. 2015-00382 (Ky. P.S.C. Apr. 5, 2016). In the Matter of: Electronic Application of Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. for: 1) An Adjustment of the Electric Rates; 2: Approval of an Environmental Compliance Plan and Surcharge Mechanism; 3) Approval of New Tariffs; 4) Approval of Accounting Practices to Establish Regulatory Assets and Liabilities and 5) All Other Required Approvals and Relief, Order, Case No. 2017-00321 (Ky. P.S.C. May 4, 2018).

Kentucky and its customers. For these reasons, the Confidential Information satisfies both the statutory and common law standards for affording confidential treatment. Indeed, the Commission has already recognized the confidential nature of the Confidential Information and has afforded confidential treatment to similar compensation and wage documents in prior proceedings.²

26. Furthermore, some of the information for which Duke Energy Kentucky is seeking confidential treatment was either developed internally, or acquired on a proprietary basis, by Duke Energy Corporation and Duke Energy Kentucky personnel, is not on file publicly with any public agency, and is not publicly available from any commercial or other source. The aforementioned information is distributed within Duke Energy Kentucky only to those employees who must have access for business reasons, and is generally recognized as confidential and proprietary in the utility industry.

27. Duke Energy Kentucky does not object to limited disclosure of the Confidential Information described herein, pursuant to an acceptable protective agreement entered into with any intervenors with a legitimate interest in reviewing the same for the sole purpose of participating in this case.

28. In accordance with the provisions of 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13(2)(e), the Company is filing one copy of the Confidential Information separately under seal, and the appropriate number of copies with the Confidential Information redacted.

29. Duke Energy Kentucky respectfully requests that the Confidential Information be withheld from public disclosure for a period of twenty years. This will assure that the

² Id., See also, In the Matter of the Application of Kentucky Utilities Company for an Adjustment of its Electric Rates, Order, Case No. 2014-00371 (Ky. P.S.C., Jan. 29, 2016).

Confidential Information – if disclosed after that time – will no longer be commercially sensitive so as to likely impair the interests of the Company if publicly disclosed.

30. To the extent the Confidential Information becomes generally available to the public, whether through filings required by other agencies or otherwise, Duke Energy Kentucky will notify the Commission and have its confidential status removed, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 13(10)(a).

WHEREFORE, Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc., respectfully requests that the Commission classify and protect as confidential the specific information described herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocco O. D'Ascenzo (92796) Deputy General Counsel Duke Energy Business Services, LLC 139 East Fourth Street, 1313 Main Cincinnati, Ohio 45201 Phone: (513) 287-4320 Fax: (513) 287-4385 E-mail: rocco.d'ascenzo@duke-energy.com

and

David S. Samford L. Allyson Honaker GOSS SAMFORD, PLLC 2365 Harrrodsburg Road, Suite B-325 Lexington, KY 40504 (859) 368-7740 Email: David@gosssamfordlaw.com Email: Allyson@gosssamfordlaw.com

Counsel for Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that the foregoing electronic filing is a true and accurate copy of the document being filed in paper medium; that the electronic filing was transmitted to the Commission on September 14, 2018; that there are currently no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding; and that a copy of the filing in paper medium is being delivered via 2^{nd} day delivery to the Commission on the 14th day of September, 2018 and a copy of the filing is also being mailed to the following:

Hon. Rebecca W. Goodman Hon. Larry Cook Hon. Kent Chandler

Counsel for Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.

<u>KYPSC CASE NO. 2018-00261</u> <u>STAFF FIRST SET</u> <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

DATA REQUEST WITNESS TAB NO. STAFF-DR-01-001 Amy B. Spiller1 STAFF-DR-01-002 Jeffrey Setser2 STAFF-DR-01-003 Michael Covington 3 STAFF-DR-01-004 STAFF-DR-01-005 STAFF-DR-01-006 STAFF-DR-01-007 Michael Covington7 **STAFF-DR-01-008** Michael Covington 8 STAFF-DR-01-009 **STAFF-DR-01-010** James E. Ziolkowski 10 STAFF-DR-01-011 Gary J. Hebbeler 11 STAFF-DR-01-012 Gary J. Hebbeler 12 STAFF-DR-01-013 Robert H. Pratt / Sarah E. Lawler......13 STAFF-DR-01-014 Cynthia S. Lee14 STAFF-DR-01-015 Sarah E. Lawler.....15

STAFF-DR-01-016	Robert H. Pratt / Sarah E. Lawler16
STAFF-DR-01-017	Robert H. Pratt / Cynthia S. Lee 17
STAFF-DR-01-018	Robert H. Pratt / Cynthia S. Lee 18
STAFF-DR-01-019	Cynthia S. Lee 19
STAFF-DR-01-020	Robert H. Pratt / Cynthia S. Lee 20
STAFF-DR-01-021	Robert H. Pratt / Cynthia S. Lee 21
STAFF-DR-01-022	Robert H. Pratt / Cynthia S. Lee 22
STAFF-DR-01-023	Cynthia S. Lee 23
STAFF-DR-01-024	Cynthia S. Lee 24
STAFF-DR-01-025	John J. Spanos 25
STAFF-DR-01-026	Michael Covington26
STAFF-DR-01-027	Bruce L. Sailers 27
STAFF-DR-01-028	Michael Covington28
STAFF-DR-01-029	James E. Ziolkowski 29
STAFF-DR-01-030	Gary Hebbeler / Michael Covington
STAFF-DR-01-031	Michael Covington31
STAFF-DR-01-032	Michael Covington32

STAFF-DR-01-033	Renee H. Metzler
STAFF-DR-01-034	Renee H. Metzler 34
STAFF-DR-01-035	Renee H. Metzler35
STAFF-DR-01-036	Renee H. Metzler 36
STAFF-DR-01-037	Renee H. Metzler
STAFF-DR-01-038	Robert H. Pratt / Michael Covington38
STAFF-DR-01-039	Renee H. Metzler 39
STAFF-DR-01-040	Renee H. Metzler 40
STAFF-DR-01-041	Renee H. Metzler 41
STAFF-DR-01-042	Renee H. Metzler 42
STAFF-DR-01-043	Renee H. Metzler 43
STAFF-DR-01-044	Jeffrey R. Setser / Michael Covington44
STAFF-DR-01-045	Jeffrey R. Setser / Cynthia S. Lee / Michael Covington45
STAFF-DR-01-046	Sarah E. Lawler 46
STAFF-DR-01-047	John R. Panizza 47
STAFF-DR-01-048	John R. Panizza 48
STAFF-DR-01-049	Michael Covington49
STAFF-DR-01-050	Legal 50

STAFF-DR-01-051	Michael Covington51
STAFF-DR-01-052	Michael Covington52
STAFF-DR-01-053	Renee H. Metzler 53
STAFF-DR-01-054	Renee H. Metzler 54
STAFF-DR-01-055	Renee H. Metzler 55
STAFF-DR-01-056	William Don Wathen Jr / Bruce L. Sailers 56
STAFF-DR-01-057	Michael Covington57
STAFF-DR-01-058	Sarah E. Lawler 58
STAFF-DR-01-059	Jeffrey R. Setser 59
STAFF-DR-01-060	Jeffrey R. Setser / Michael Covington60
STAFF-DR-01-061	William Don Wathen Jr61
STAFF-DR-01-062	James E. Ziolkowski 62
STAFF-DR-01-063	Robert H. Pratt / Gary Hebbeler 63
STAFF-DR-01-064	Robert H. Pratt / Sarah E. Lawler / Cynthia S. Lee
STAFF-DR-01-065	Renee H. Metzler65
STAFF-DR-01-066	Renee H. Metzler 66
STAFF-DR-01-067	Renee H. Metzler 67
STAFF-DR-01-068	Renee H. Metzler 68

STAFF-DR-01-069	Renee H. Metzler 69
STAFF-DR-01-070	Renee H. Metzler70
STAFF-DR-01-071	Sarah E. Lawler / Benjamin Passty / Bruce L. Sailers / William Don Wathen Jr / John Panizza / Tyler Barbare

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA SS:) **COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND**)

The undersigned, John J. Spanos, Senior Vice President, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Spanos Afflant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by John J. Spanos on this 30 day of _, 2018.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: Tebroary

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA NOTARIAL SEAL Cheryl Ann Rutter, Notary Public East Pennaboro Twp., Cumberland County My Commission Expires Feb. 20, 2019 MEMEER, PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NOTARIES

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA))SS:COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)

The undersigned, Robert H. "Beau" Pratt., Director, Regional Financial Forecasting, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Robert H. "Beau" Pratt Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Robert H. "Beau" Pratt on this <u>30</u> day of <u>Augusz</u>, 2018.



Hda NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 10

10/2/21

STATE OF OHIO)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	

The undersigned, Sarah E. Lawler, Director Rates & Regulatory Planning, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

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Subscribed and sworn to before me by Sarah E. Lawler on this 441 day of September, 2018.

vie Rall

My Commission Expires: July 8,2022



E. MINNA ROLFES-I Notary Public, State of Ohio **Ny Commission Expires** July 8, 2022

STATE OF OHIO)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	

The undersigned, James E. Ziolkowski, Director, Rates & Regulatory Planning, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Jame E. Ziolkowski Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by James E. Ziolkowski on this 400 day of SEPTEMBER, 2018.

Jdelin Trisch

ADELE M. FRISCH

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 1/5/2019

Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires 01-05-2019

STATE OF OHIO)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	

The undersigned, Amy B. Spiller, State President of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. and its subsidiary, Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc., being duly sworn, deposes and says that she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

Amy B. Spiller, Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Amy B. Spiller, on this $4\pi + 4\pi + 4$ day of SEPTEMBER, 2018.

Addle Frisch NOTARY PUBLIC My Commission Expires: 1/5/2019

ADÈLE M. FRISCH Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires 01-05-2019

STATE OF OHIO)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	

The undersigned, William Don Wathen Jr., Director of Rates & Regulatory Strategy, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

William Don Wathen Jr., Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by William Don Wathen Jr., on this 477day of SEPTEMBER, 2018.

Udelle M. Frisch NOTARY PUBLIC My Commission Expires: 1/5/2019

ADELE M. FRISCH Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires 01-05-2019

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)))SS:)COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)

The undersigned, Benjamin Walter Bohdan Passty, Lead Load Forecasting Analyst, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Benjamin Walter Bohdan Passty Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Benjamin Walter Bohdan Passty on this <u>30</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2018.

MOTARY PUBLIC / Advide

My Commission Expires: 04/07-/202/



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)) SS: COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)

The undersigned, Cynthia S. Lee, Director, Asset Accounting, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

Cynthi ee Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Cynthia S. Lee on this <u>4</u> day of <u>Septemb2918</u>.



PUBLIC NOT

My Commission Expires: 10/8/81

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)	

The undersigned, Michael Covington, Director, Gas Utilities & Infrastructure Accounting, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

ovinate Michael Covington., Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Michael Covington on this $\underline{5}$ day of \underline{Sept} , 2018.

PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: October 24, 2019



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)	

The undersigned, John R. Panizza, Director, Tax Operations, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therin are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by John R. Panizza on this <u>30</u> day of Augost, 2018.

My Commission Expires:

My Commission Expires 05-30-2023

STATE OF OHIO)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	

The undersigned, Bruce L. Sailers, Pricing and Regulatory Solutions Manager, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Bruce Z. Sailers Bruce L. Sailers, Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Bruce L. Sailers, on this $10^{\frac{1}{10}}$ day of SEPTEMBER, 2018.

ADELE M. FRISCH Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires 01-05-2019

adel M. Frisch NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 1/5/2019

STATE OF OHIO)	
)	SS:
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)	

The undersigned, Gary J. Hebbeler, Vice President Gas Operations, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Jay J. Hebbeler, Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Gary J. Hebbeler on this 1014 day of Serrouber, 2018.

Adele M. Frisch

NOTARY PUBLIC

ADELE M. FRISCH Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires 01-05-2019

My Commission Expires: 1/5/2019

SS:

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)) COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)

The undersigned, Renee Metzler, Managing Director – Retirement and Health and Welfare, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therin are true and correct to the best of ber knowledge, information and belief.

Kenee Metzler Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Renee Metzler on this <u>10</u> day of <u>September</u>, 2018.

Kome Deborah S. Rome

My Commission Expires: January 24, 2020

No.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)) SS: COUNTY OF MECKLENBURG)

The undersigned, Jeffrey R. Setser, Director of Allocations and Reporting, being duly sworn, deposes and says that be has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing data requests and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Jeffrey R. Setser Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Jeffrey R. Setser on this <u>1</u> day of Septemb2018.



n. Adam NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 10/2/2/