

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In The Matter of:

THE ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF	)	
DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY, INC., FOR	)	
AUTHORITY TO 1) ADJUST NATURAL	)	Case No. 2018-00261
GAS RATES 2) APPROVAL OF A	)	
DECOUPLING MECHANISM 3)	)	
APPROVAL OF NEW TARIFFS; 4) ALL	)	
OTHER REQUIRED APPROVALS,	)	
WAIVERS, AND RELIEF	)	
	)	

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**MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF JOINT STIPULATION AND RECOMMENDATION  
AND  
MOTION TO SCHEDULE AN INFORMAL CONFERENCE  
AND  
MOTION TO RELIEVE CERTAIN WITNESSES  
FROM THE DUTY TO APPEAR FOR HEARING**

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Comes now Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. (Duke Energy Kentucky or Company), by counsel, and respectfully moves the Commission to: (1) approve the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation (Stipulation) filed contemporaneously herewith; (2) schedule an informal conference; and (3) relieve certain witnesses from the duty to appear for hearing, 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 electric 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.

3. The Attorney General was permitted to intervene in this case in an Order entered on October 2, 2018. There are no other intervenors.

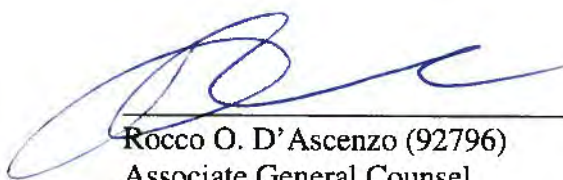
4. Following the completion of discovery, Duke Energy Kentucky and the Attorney General successfully negotiated an agreement by which all the issues presented in the Company's application are fully resolved. The agreement has been reduced to writing as set forth in the Stipulation filed contemporaneously herewith. Moreover, the Stipulation is filed along with the supporting testimony of Mr. William Don Wathen, Jr. The Stipulation produces an outcome that is fair, just and reasonable and, for the reasons set forth therein and in Mr. Wathen's supporting testimony, the Company moves for its approval as the full and final resolution of this matter.

5. Duke Energy Kentucky also moves the Commission to schedule an informal conference on Thursday, January 31, 2019 for purposes of allowing the Company and the Attorney General to discuss the terms of the Stipulation with Commission Staff. In light of this settlement, the Company also moves the Commission to consider whether certain witnesses could be excused from appearing at the hearing scheduled for February 5, 2019. The Company is prepared for all witnesses who have provided testimony or responses to data requests to appear at the hearing unless otherwise excused by this Commission. As was the case during Duke Energy Kentucky's fully-litigated electric base rate case in 2018, several of the Company's witnesses will be traveling the day before the hearing to Frankfort in order to appear. As part of that 2018 case, several of those out-of-town witnesses appeared only to have no questions posed by any intervenor, the Commission Staff or the Commission in cross-examination. In the interests of avoiding unnecessary travel expense by non-local witnesses and expediting the hearing, the Company requests that Commission consider excusing witnesses that will not be cross-examined by Staff or the Commission at the hearing. As part of the Stipulation, the Company and the Attorney General are waiving their respective rights of cross-examination except to the extent it is in support of the Stipulation. Additionally, several of the Company's witnesses did not file any testimony in the

record and only provided responses to information requests.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, the Company also requests that the Commission specify if these witnesses may, at a minimum, be excused hearing. The Company intends for its witnesses, Ms. Spiller, Mr. Wathen, Mr. Hebbeler, Ms. Lawler, Mr. Ziolkowski, and Mr. Sailers to be present at the hearing in any event as these witnesses are based out of our local offices. Accordingly, both the motion to schedule an informal conference and the motion to relieve certain witnesses from the obligation to appear at the hearing will clarify the issues to be heard, expedite the hearing and reduce the overall rate case expense to be incurred. Accordingly, Duke Energy Kentucky requests an informal conference to be scheduled for Thursday, January 31, 2019 and respectfully requests the Commission to advise by the close of business on Friday, February 1, 2019, whether any of the Company's witnesses might be excused from having to appear at the hearing.

WHEREFORE, Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc., respectfully requests that the Commission grant the motions set forth herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Chuck Session, Ms. Trisha Haemmerle, Mr. Jeff Kern and Ms. Retha Hunsicker are in this category of witnesses. Other witnesses filed testimony or provided responses to a small number of information requests.

and

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*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 January 30, 2019; 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 hand delivered to the Commission within two business days.

  
*Counsel for Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc.*