

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

**ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF)
LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC) CASE NO. 2019-00301
COMPANY FOR AN AMENDED)
GAS LINE TRACKER)**

**APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY FOR AN AMENDED GAS LINE TRACKER**

Applicant, Louisville Gas and Electric Company (“LG&E” or “Company”), pursuant to KRS Chapter 278.509, hereby applies to the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for authority to revise its Gas Line Tracker tariff to include three proposed transmission pipeline replacement projects and operation and maintenance expense for the development of a tool necessary for inline inspections.

In support of its Application, LG&E states as follows:

1. The full name and mailing address of LG&E is: Louisville Gas and Electric Company, Post Office Box 32010, 220 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202. LG&E may be reached by electronic mail at the electronic mail addresses of its counsel set forth below.

2. LG&E is a utility engaged in the electric and gas business. LG&E generates and purchases electricity, and distributes and sells electricity at retail in Jefferson County and portions of Bullitt, Hardin, Henry, Meade, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, and Trimble Counties. LG&E also purchases, stores, and transports natural gas and distributes and sells natural gas at retail in Jefferson County and portions of Barren, Bullitt, Green, Hardin, Hart, Henry, Larue, Marion, Meade, Metcalfe, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble, and Washington Counties.

3. LG&E was incorporated in Kentucky on July 2, 1913, and is currently in good standing in Kentucky. A copy of LG&E's good standing certificate from the Kentucky Secretary of State is attached as Exhibit 1.

4. Copies of all orders, pleadings, and other communications related to this proceeding should be directed to:

Robert M. Conroy
Vice President – State Regulation and Rates
LG&E and KU Services Company
220 West Main Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
robert.conroy@lge-ku.com

Allyson K. Sturgeon
Managing Senior Counsel, Regulatory and Transactions
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220 West Main Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
allyson.sturgeon@lge-ku.com
sara.judd@lge-ku.com

Kendrick R. Riggs
Lindsey W. Ingram III
Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC
500 West Jefferson Street, Suite 2000
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2828
Kendrick.riggs@skofirm.com
l.ingram@skofirm.com

5. LG&E supports its request with the verified testimony and exhibits of the following persons:

- Robert M. Conroy, Vice President, State Regulation and Rates
- John P. Malloy, Vice President, Gas Distribution

6. LG&E's Gas Line Tracker, initially approved in Case No. 2012-00222,¹ is a mechanism that allows the Company to recover its estimated costs relating to investment in natural gas pipeline replacement programs which are not recoverable in its existing rates. These costs are recovered through a separate line item, labeled Gas Line Tracker, on each gas customer's monthly bill. The current monthly Gas Line Tracker rates, which can be found in the Company's tariff at P.S.C. Gas No. 12, Original Sheet No. 84, consist of two charges. The first is a charge for distribution projects based upon the number of natural gas delivery points and the second is a charge for transmission projects based upon natural gas consumption measured in centum cubic feet (ccf). These monthly charges vary depending upon the customer's applicable rate schedule. The Gas Line Tracker tariff sheet also requires an annual filing that updates the projected program costs and that trues up the actual costs with the projected program costs for the previous year through a balancing adjustment. The Company makes that annual filing each February.

7. LG&E requests Commission approval to add three transmission pipeline replacement projects – (1) Western Kentucky A Line project; (2) Western Kentucky B Line project; and (3) Magnolia Lines project – to its Gas Line Tracker in order to meet the Company's safety, reliability, and regulatory compliance obligations. These projects will focus on the replacement of certain sections of transmission pipelines, as discussed in detail in Mr. Malloy's Testimony, which will result in an overall more uniform diameter pipeline system. LG&E has contracted with an inline inspection ("ILI") tool vendor (Rosen USA) for the design and subsequent use of a state-of-the-art tool that will enable cost-effective inspection of the remaining 16-inch and 20-inch pipelines. In addition to the capital cost of the projects, the

¹ *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 (Ky. PSC Dec. 20, 2012).

Company proposes that the contractual cost for the new ILI tool being developed by Rosen USA be included in the Gas Line Tracker mechanism.

8. LG&E proposes to revise its existing Gas Line Tracker tariff to those rates set forth in the proposed tariff sheet attached hereto as Exhibit 2. As shown, the proposed rates will be effective in 30 days. However, the Company recognizes that the Commission may suspend the proposed rates while it considers this case. In the event that happens, the Company requests a decision in this case no later than March 27, 2020 so that the decided rates can become effective no later than April 1, 2020. Also, as explained in Mr. Conroy's testimony, regardless of whether the requested rates are suspended, the Company will make its annual Gas Line Tracker update filing in February 2020 and any result from this case will be reconciled with the February 2020 filing at the earliest practical time.

9. Maps of the proposed projects are attached collectively as Exhibit 3. The Customer Notice of the proposed changes in Gas Line Tracker rates provided to all LG&E gas customers is attached as Exhibit 4, is being published in the required newspapers, and will be included in customer bill inserts. It shows the effect on the rates proposed to be charged to customers for the various applicable rate schedules.

10. Most recently, the Commission approved LG&E's proposal in Case No. 2016-00371² to update its Gas Line Tracker mechanism by implementing the Gas Service Line Replacement Program to replace steel customer service lines and the Transmission Pipeline Modernization Program to replace 45-60 year old transmission pipeline. The Stipulation in that case provided that the costs for these two programs would be recovered over a 5-year period,

² *In re 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 (Ky. PSC June 22, 2017).

ending on June 30, 2022. On that date, absent further action by the Commission, any remaining costs for such programs will be rolled into base rates.

11. In addition to the more cost-effective inspections that will result from the replacement projects, the proposed pipeline replacement projects are necessary to enhance pipeline safety and comply with the proposed PHMSA regulations regarding pipeline safety. LG&E will be required to validate the maximum allowable operating pressure (“MAOP”) of its pipelines. The best and safest way to validate a pipeline’s MAOP is to conduct ILIs. ILIs support compliance with PHMSA regulations by providing additional pipeline information prescribed by current regulations.

12. Permits considered for the project will include, but are not limited to:

Federal

- United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 12
 - Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act - Consult with Kentucky Heritage Council (KHC)/State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), required for state also
 - Endangered Species Act (Section 7) – Consult with United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IV for Stormwater discharges (permitting authority delegated to Kentucky Division of Water), SWPPP
- United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Construction Notification

State

- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection Division of Water (KDOW)
 - Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC)
 - Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (KPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Construction (KYR10)
 - Permit to Construction Across or Along a Stream

- Temporary Authorization to Withdraw Water Permit – if required for hydrotesting
- Hydrostatic Testing Wastewater Discharge Permit
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for State Highway Encroachments
- Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet Division of Air Quality (KDAQ) for Asbestos Abatement

Local

- Local permits including road encroachments and erosion protection

13. The Company does not finance individual projects. The projects proposed in this case are expected to be paid for out of the Company’s available cash flow.

14. Since the pipeline projects described above are mere replacements, excluding inspection costs, the annual cost of operating the pipelines after the replacements are complete will not be materially different than it is now. However, as described in Mr. Malloy’s testimony and in Exhibit JPM-1 to his testimony, completion of the projects will result in the lowest reasonable costs required to perform inline inspections.

15. The manner in which the pipeline replacement projects will be completed is set forth generally in Mr. Malloy’s testimony.

CPCNs Are Not Required for the Proposed Projects

16. These three projects are mere replacement projects for which Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) are not required. First, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(3), “extensions in the ordinary course of business” are exempt from the CPCN requirement. Each of the three proposed projects in this Application is in line with the Company’s ordinary course of business, and, in fact, are merely replacements.

17. KRS 278.020(1), 807 KAR 5:001, Section 15(3), and previous Commission decisions list three factors for review when considering the need to apply for a CPCN. A CPCN is not necessary “for facilities that do not result in the wasteful duplication of utility plant, do not

compete with the facilities of existing public utilities, and do not involve a sufficient capital outlay to materially affect the existing financial condition of the utility involved or to require an increase in rates.”³ The proposed projects do not meet any of these three factors.

18. In determining whether the proposed project will result in wasteful duplication of utility plant, the Company assesses several factors, the most important in this case being whether portions of the project replace, repair, or refurbish existing facilities. Because each of these projects replaces, repairs, or refurbishes already existing pipeline segments, the projects are not considered to be duplicative.

19. The second factor is not satisfied because these pipeline replacement projects will not compete with facilities of other utilities. Because the pipeline segments are only being replaced, LG&E is not expanding its service territory, thus the Company will not violate the territorial boundary law.

20. Lastly, the third factor does not apply because the capital outlay required for the proposed projects will not materially affect the Company’s existing financial condition. A comparison of each project’s proposed cost and the Company’s current Net Utility Plant is required. The estimated cost of the Western Kentucky A Line project is \$20.0 million. The estimated cost of the Western Kentucky B Line project is \$5.4 million. The estimated cost of the Magnolia Lines project is \$5.9 million. According to the 2018 Annual Report filed with the Commission, LG&E’s Company-wide Net Utility Plant is \$5,331,985,940 and its gas-only Net Utility Plant is \$933,915,296. Applying a reasonable “five percent test,” as set forth in the

³ *The Application of Northern Kentucky Water District (A) For Authority to Issue Parity Revenue Bonds in the Approximate Amount of \$16,545,000; and (B) A Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for the Construction of Water Main Facilities*, Case No. 2000-00481 (Ky. PSC Aug. 30, 2001).

Company's last rate case,⁴ the threshold per project if using Company-wide Net Utility Plant would be \$266.6 million⁵ and the threshold per project if using gas-only Net Utility Plant would be \$46.7 million.⁶ Because the estimated costs of each project do not even come close to these threshold amounts, whether Company-wide or gas-only Net Utility Plant is utilized, a CPCN is not required.

21. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, on August 28, 2019, LG&E filed with the Commission its Notice of Intent to file this Application along with its notice of election to use electronic filing procedures in this proceeding.

22. In addition to newspaper publication and inclusion as a bill insert, the Customer Notice has been physically posted at the offices of LG&E located at 820 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky, and electronically posted on the Company's website at www.lge-ku.com. The Company's website also contains a hyperlink to the Commission's website where the Customer Notice, Application, and other filings can be accessed by the public.

WHEREFORE, Louisville Gas and Electric Company respectfully requests the Kentucky Public Service Commission to enter an order:

1. Approving the revised tariff sheet for Louisville Gas and Electric Company's Gas Line Tracker mechanism and
2. Granting all other relief to which Louisville Gas and Electric Company may be entitled.

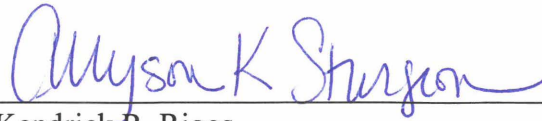
⁴ The Company's April 1, 2019 Post-Hearing Brief in its last rate case (Case No. 2018-00295) described the Company's reasonable CPCN Policy in detail (pp. 14-17) and provided references to the data responses the Company filed in that case explaining its CPCN Policy. Those data responses were to Staff 2-58, Staff 3-20, and Staff 4-17.

⁵ $\$5,331,985,940 \times 0.05 = \$266,599,297$

⁶ $\$933,915,296 \times 0.05 = \$46,695,764$

Dated: 09-27-2019

Respectfully submitted,



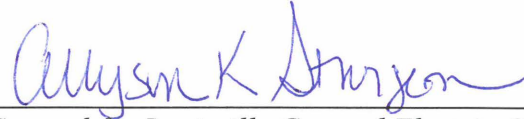
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Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric Company

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001 Section 8(7), this is to certify that Louisville Gas and Electric Company's September 27, 2019 electronic filing is a true and accurate copy of the Application being filed in paper medium; that the electronic filing has been transmitted to the Commission on September 27, 2019; that there are currently no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding; and that an original of the filing is being hand-delivered to the Commission on September 27, 2019.



Counsel for Louisville Gas and Electric Company

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Alison Lundergan Grimes, Secretary of State

Alison Lundergan Grimes
Secretary of State
P. O. Box 718
Frankfort, KY 40602-0718
(502) 564-3490
<http://www.sos.ky.gov>

Certificate of Existence

Authentication number: 220628
Visit <https://app.sos.ky.gov/ftshow/certvalidate.aspx> to authenticate this certificate.

I, Alison Lundergan Grimes, Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby certify that according to the records in the Office of the Secretary of State,

LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY

is a corporation duly incorporated and existing under KRS Chapter 14A and KRS Chapter 271B, whose date of incorporation is July 2, 1913 and whose period of duration is perpetual.

I further certify that all fees and penalties owed to the Secretary of State have been paid; that Articles of Dissolution have not been filed; and that the most recent annual report required by KRS 14A.6-010 has been delivered to the Secretary of State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 20th day of September, 2019, in the 228th year of the Commonwealth.



Alison Lundergan Grimes

Alison Lundergan Grimes
Secretary of State
Commonwealth of Kentucky
220628/0032196

Louisville Gas and Electric Company

P.S.C. Gas No. 12, First Revision of Original Sheet No. 84
Canceling P.S.C. Gas No. 12, Original Sheet No. 84

Adjustment Clause

GLT Gas Line Tracker

APPLICABLE

Applicable to all customers receiving service under the Company's Rate Schedules RGS, VFD, CGS, IGS, AAGS, FT, SGSS, DGGs, and LGDS.

CALCULATION OF THE GAS LINE TRACKER REVENUE REQUIREMENT

The GLT Revenue Requirement includes the following:

- GLT related Plant In-Service not included in base gas rates minus the associated GLT related accumulated depreciation and accumulated deferred income taxes;
- Retirement and removal of plant related to GLT construction;
- The rate of return on the net rate base is the overall rate of return on capital authorized in the Company's latest base gas rate case, grossed up for federal and state income taxes;
- Depreciation expense on the GLT-related Plant In-Service less retirement and removals;
- Incremental Operation and Maintenance; and
- Property Taxes

GLT PROGRAM FACTORS

After the Company replaces a gas service riser or a gas service line under this program, it will assume ownership and responsibility for the plant and equipment. The allocation of the program cost to customers will be in proportion to their relative base revenue share approved in the Company's most recent general rate case.

A filing to update the projected program costs will be submitted annually. The filing will reflect the anticipated impact on the Company's revenue requirements of net plant additions expected during the current year. At the same time, the Company will submit a balancing adjustment to true up the actual costs with the projected program costs for the preceding year. Such adjustment to the GLT will become effective for services rendered on and after the first day of the following month after the effective date of such change.

RATES

The charges for the respective gas service schedules are:

	Distribution Projects (\$/delivery point)	Transmission Projects (\$/Ccf)	
RGS, VFD	\$ 1.02	\$0.02046	
CGS, SGSS	5.12	0.01656	
IGS, AAGS, DGGs	64.39	0.01002	
FT, LGDS	0.00	0.00098	

DATE OF ISSUE: September 27, 2019

DATE EFFECTIVE: Effective with Service Rendered
On And After October 27, 2019

ISSUED BY: /s/ Robert M. Conroy, Vice President
State Regulation and Rates
Louisville, Kentucky

**Issued by Authority of an Order of the
Public Service Commission in Case No.
2019-00301 dated XXXX**

The following aerial photos depict locations for the recommended 16-inch and 22-inch replacements on the Western Kentucky A pipeline:

Photo 1 – For the Western Kentucky A pipeline the photo depicts the approximately 2.44 miles of 22-inch pipeline.

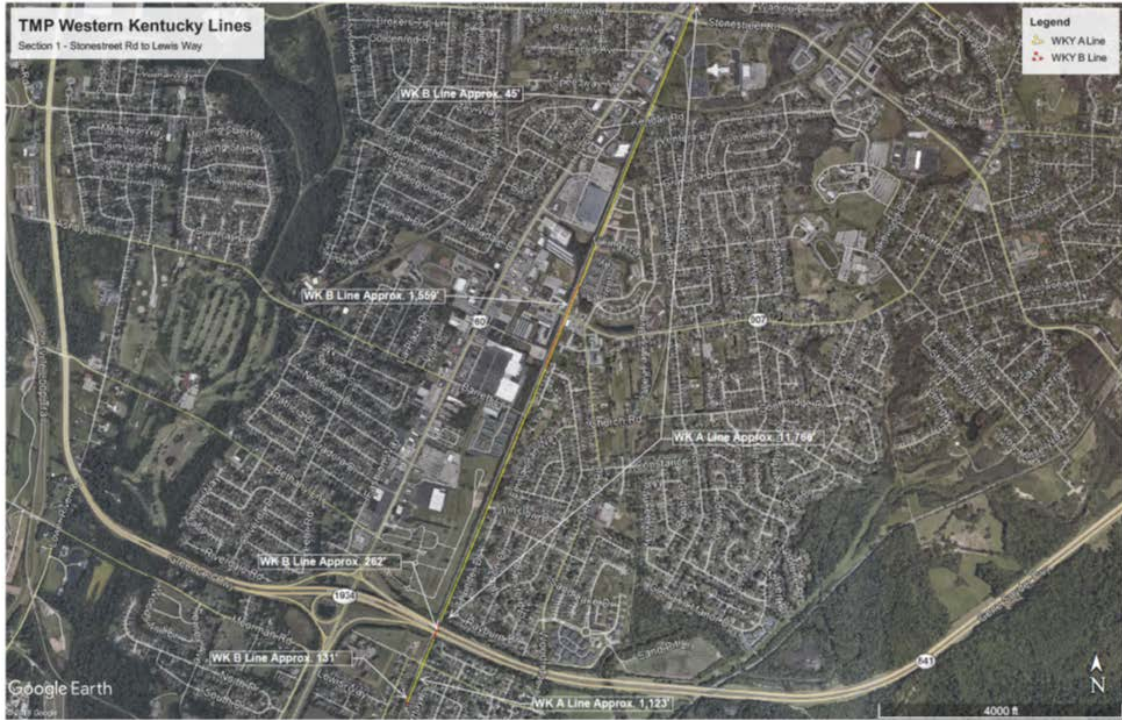
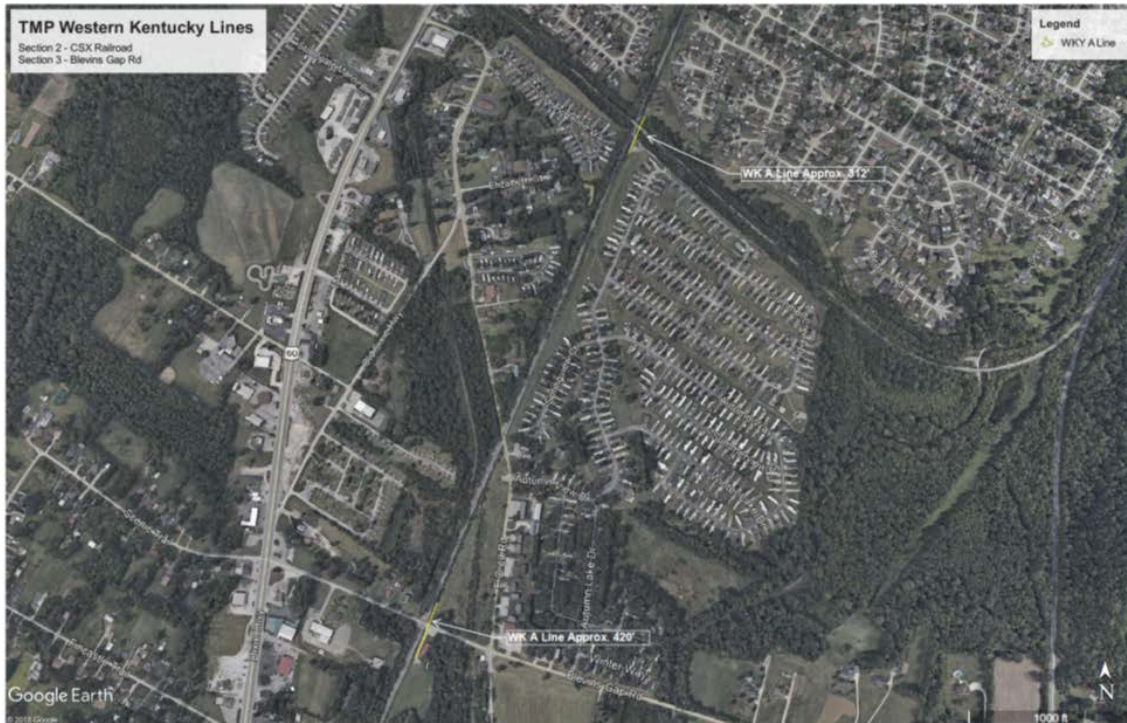


Photo 2 – For the Western Kentucky A pipeline the photo depicts the approximately 0.14 miles of 16-inch pipeline recommended to be replaced made up of 2 segments.



The following aerial photos depict locations for the recommended 16-inch and 22-inch replacements on the Western Kentucky B pipeline:

Photo 1 – For the Western Kentucky B pipeline the 262-feet of 22-inch pipeline and approximately 0.33 miles of 16-inch pipeline in (4 segments).

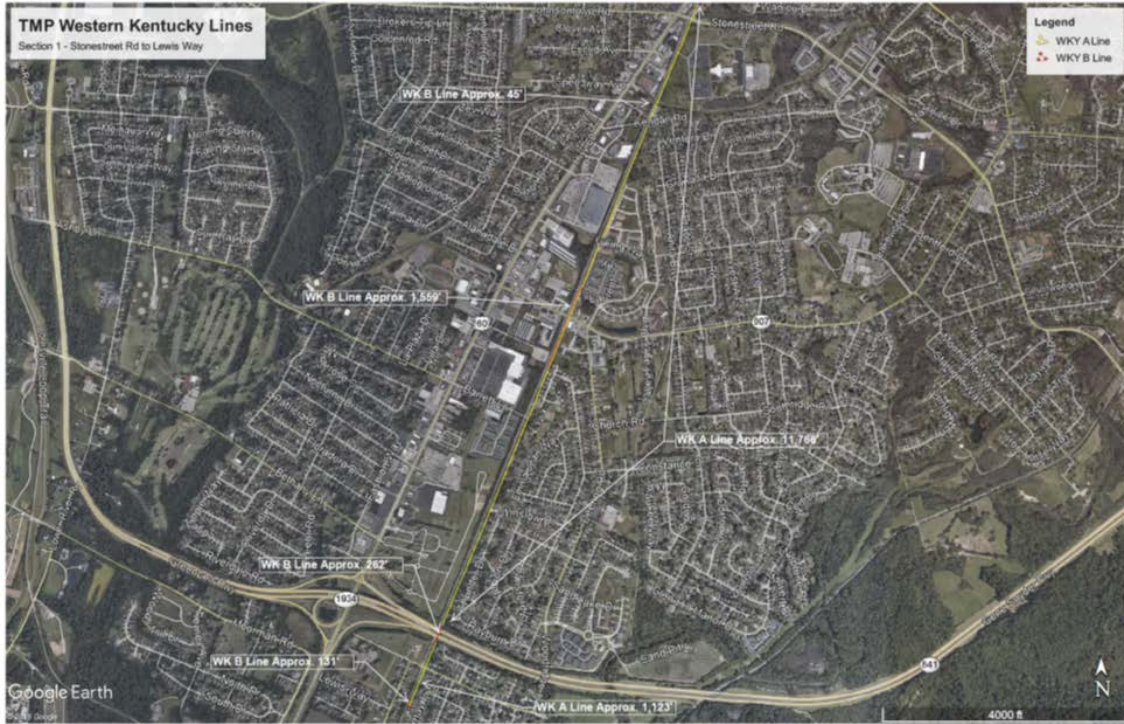


Photo 2 – For the Western Kentucky B pipeline the photo depicts approximately 0.19 miles of 16-inch pipeline recommended to be replaced.



The following aerial photos depict locations for the recommended oversized road crossing replacements on the Magnolia Lines:

Photo 1: The photo depicts crossings on both Magnolia Lines to be replaced under Lincoln Pkwy, south of Roundtop Rd.



Photo 2: The photo depicts crossings on both Magnolia Lines to be replaced under Lincoln Pkwy, north of Harvest Dr



**NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
MODIFICATION TO LOUISVILLE GAS AND ELECTRIC'S GAS LINE TRACKER**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E") is filing with the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") on September 27, 2019 in Case No. 2019-00301, an Application pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 278.509 for the purpose of recovering capital costs associated with three natural gas transmission line replacement projects and contractual cost for development of an inline inspection tool that promote natural gas pipeline safety and reliability through an increase on customers' bills effective on and after October 27, 2019 under LG&E's Gas Line Tracker. The three projects will replace pipeline that will result in a more consistent diameter thereby allowing for cost-effective and thorough inspections.

The current and proposed rates are provided in the following table. The proposed projects impact the Gas Line Tracker Transmission Projects (\$/Ccf) charge only. The Gas Line Tracker Distribution Projects (\$/delivery point) remains unchanged as a result of this request.

Transmission Projects	Current (\$/Ccf)	Proposed (\$/Ccf)
RGS, VFD	\$0.00839	\$0.02046
CGS, SGSS	\$0.00681	\$0.01656
IGS, AAGS, DGGS	\$0.00408	\$0.01002
FT, LGDS	\$0.00048	\$0.00098

The estimated monthly bill impact on LG&E's natural gas customers is displayed in the following table.

Rate	Average Monthly Usage (Ccf)	2020		2021		2022	
		\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
RGS & VFD	54	\$0.65	1.1%	\$0.54	0.9%	\$0.64	1.1%
CGS	331	\$3.23	1.1%	\$2.68	0.9%	\$3.14	1.1%
SGSS	1,248	\$12.17	0.3%	\$10.10	0.3%	\$11.84	0.3%
IGS	5,967	\$35.44	1.0%	\$29.42	0.8%	\$34.49	0.9%
AAGS	35,984	\$213.74	1.3%	\$177.40	1.0%	\$207.99	1.2%
DGGS	4	\$0.02	0.0%	\$0.02	0.0%	\$0.02	0.0%
FT	143,850	\$71.93	1.0%	\$58.98	0.8%	\$69.05	1.0%
LGDS	No customers are currently served under this Rate Schedule						

The monthly residential gas bill increase due to the proposed rates will be 1.1% in 2020, or approximately \$0.65, for a customer using 54 Ccf of gas (the average consumption of a LG&E residential customer).

The rates described in this Notice are proposed by LG&E. However, the Public Service Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from the proposed rates contained in this Notice or otherwise issue an order modifying or denying LG&E's Application. Such action may result in a surcharge for customers that is different from the surcharge described in this Notice.

Comments regarding LG&E's Application may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

Any corporation, association, body politic or person may, by motion within thirty (30) days after publication, request leave to intervene in Case No. 2019-00301. That motion shall be submitted to the Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Blvd., P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40602, and shall set forth the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. Intervention may be granted beyond the thirty (30) day period for good cause shown, however, if the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of initial publication of this Notice, the Commission may take final action on the application. Any person who has been granted intervention may obtain copies of the Application and testimony by contacting Louisville Gas and Electric Company at 220 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky, 40202, Attention: State Regulation and Rates.

A copy of the Application and testimony will be available for public inspection on LG&E's website (<http://www.lge-ku.com>), on the Commission's website (<http://psc.ky.gov>), and in paper medium, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the office of Louisville Gas and Electric Company, 820 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky or the Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, after September 27, 2019.

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