

**PPL** companies

Linda C. Bridwell Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40601

December 11, 2020

LG&E and KU Energy LLC State Regulation and Rates 220 West Main Street PO Box 32010 Louisville, KY 40232 www.lge-ku.com

Rick E. Lovekamp Manager Regulatory Strategy/Policy T 502-627-3780 rick.lovekamp@lge-ku.com

RE: Electronic Investigation of Home Energy Assistance Programs Offered by Investor-Owned Utilities Pursuant to KRS 278.285(4)

Case No. 2019-00366

Dear Ms. Bridwell:

On September 17, 2020, Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("LG&E") and Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") filed their contracts with Community Action Kentucky, Inc. ("CAK") regarding the Companies' Home Energy Assistance ("HEA") programs to be administered by CAK in accordance with the Commission's May 4, 2020 Order in this proceeding. In their cover letters, LG&E and KU laid out the details of each of their programs. One component that was set forth was the eligibility requirements for each program. Specifically, each participant:

- must have a household income of 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or less,
- must use electricity as the household's primary heat source,
- must have an arrearage of no more than \$700, and not have a credit balance at the time of enrollment.

In addition, HEA subsidies cannot be used to pay down arrearages.

Recently, LG&E and KU have discussed concerns with CAK that the arrearage cap limitation may limit the Companies' ability to provide assistance to their customers with the greatest need. Due to the pandemic resulting in large balances and emergency monthly payment plans, the Companies and CAK will use only poverty levels to prioritize program participants for the 2021 program year.

Linda C. Bridwell, Executive Director December 11, 2020

Specifically, we have decided to temporarily waive the \$700 arrearage limit or account credit balance restriction for the 2021 program year.

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, I certify that the electronically filed document is a true and accurate copy of the same document being delivered in paper medium; that the electronic filing has been transmitted to the Commission on December 11, 2020; that there are currently no parties in this proceeding that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means; and that the original, will be filed with the Commission within 30 days of the lifting of the state of emergency.

Should you have any questions regarding the enclosed, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Marty J. Reinert for REL

Rick E. Lovekamp